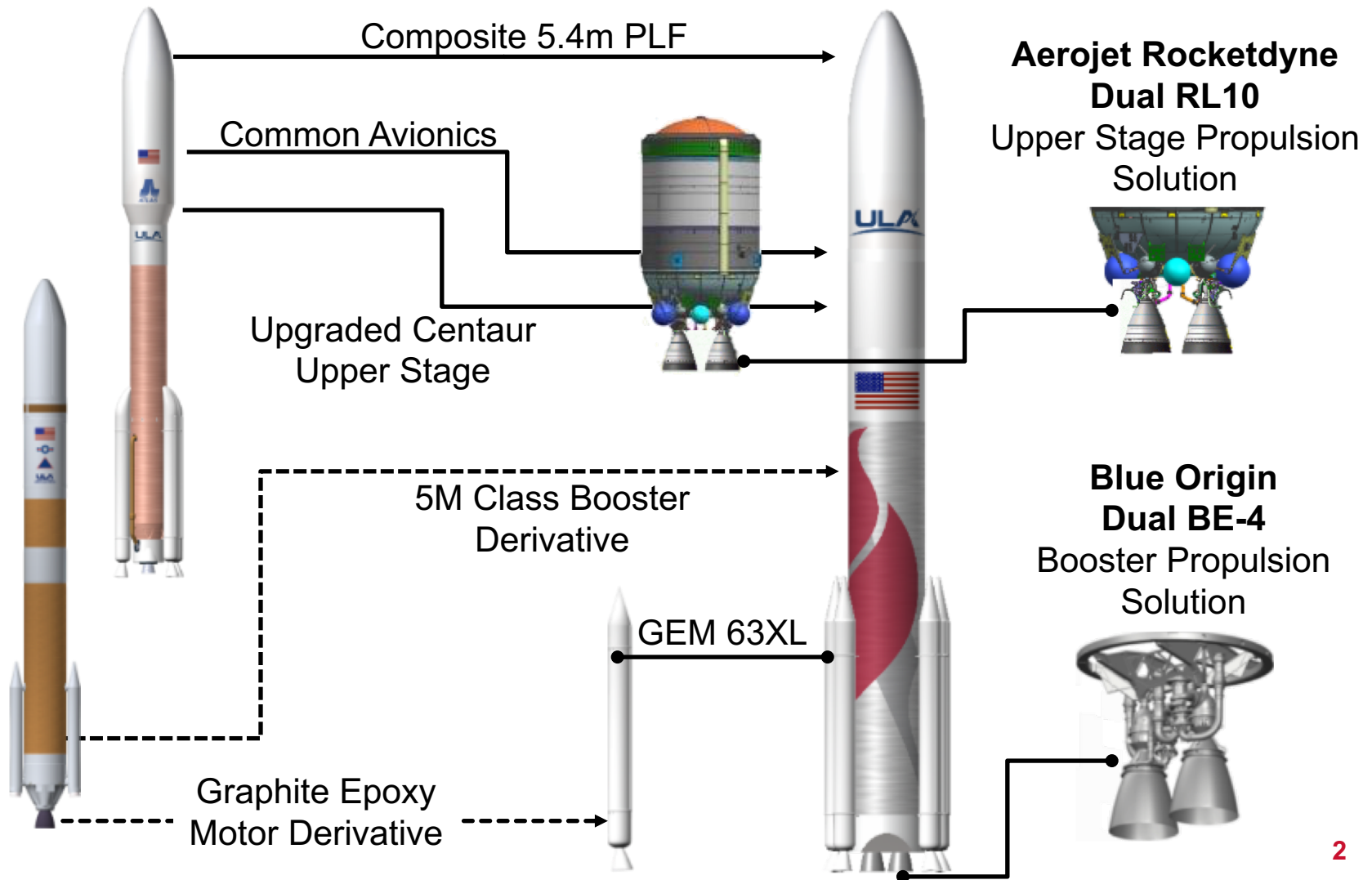


# CUBESAT LAUNCH TO HIGH ENERGY ORBITS

**April 2019**



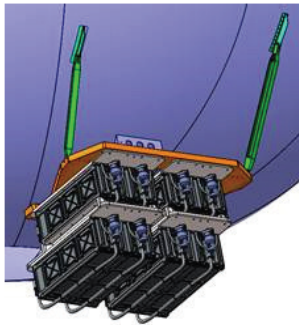
# VULCAN CENTAUR EVOLUTION



# MULTI-MISSION CAPABILITY OVERVIEW

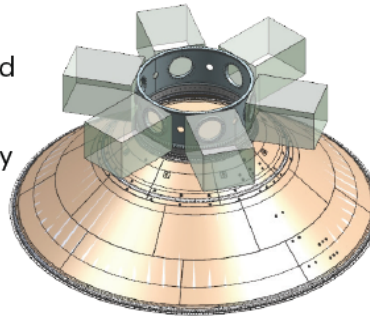
## AFT BULKHEAD CARRIER (ABC)

Interface located at the aft end of the Centaur upper stage



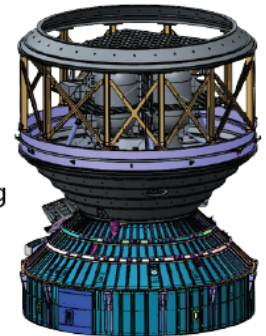
## SECONDARY PAYLOAD ADAPTER (ESPA)

Adapter located between the upper stage and the primary payload



## MULTI-PAYLOAD CANISTER SYSTEM

Load-bearing separating canister supporting forward traditional large satellite and enclosing aft small satellite

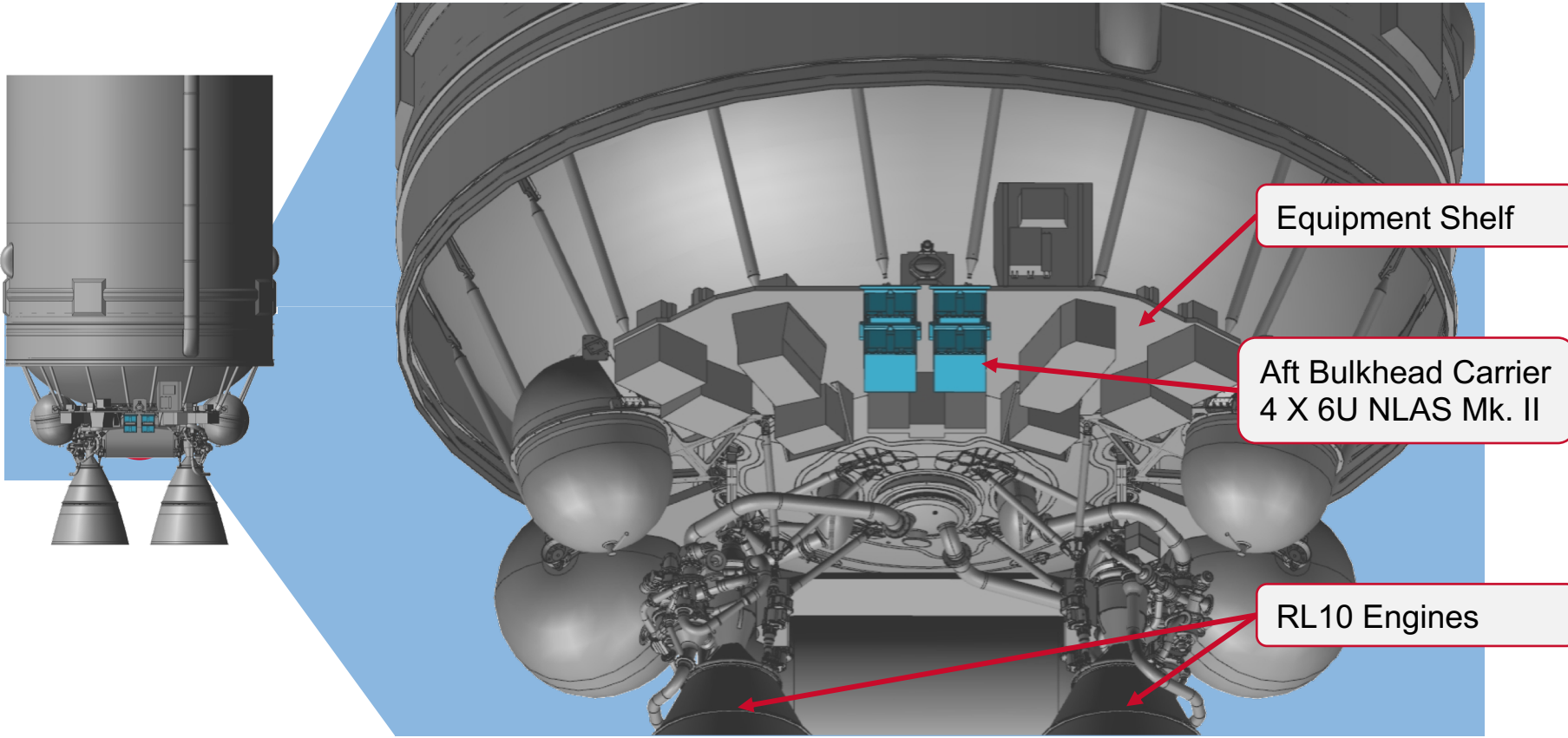


CubeSats	
Capacity	24U CubeSats
Interface	CubeSat Dispenser
Mass	80 kg (176 lb)

CubeSats to Small Satellites	
Capacity	4-6 payload modules per ESPA ring
Interface	15 in or 24 in bolted
Payload Mass	181-318 kg (400-700 lbs)
Volume (5-m PLF)	ESPA: 61 cm x 71 cm x 96 cm (24 in x 28 in x 38 in) Grande: 100 cm x 115 cm x 125 cm (39 in x 45 in x 49 in)

Small Satellites	
Capacity	Canister and forward payload volume
Interface	Fwd: 1575 standard interface Internal: 62 in bolted
Payload Mass	Small satellite masses exceeding ESPA capability
Canister Volume	218 cm-dia x 195 cm (86 in-dia x 77 in)

# VULCAN CENTAUR CUBESAT LAUNCH – AFT BULKHEAD CARRIER



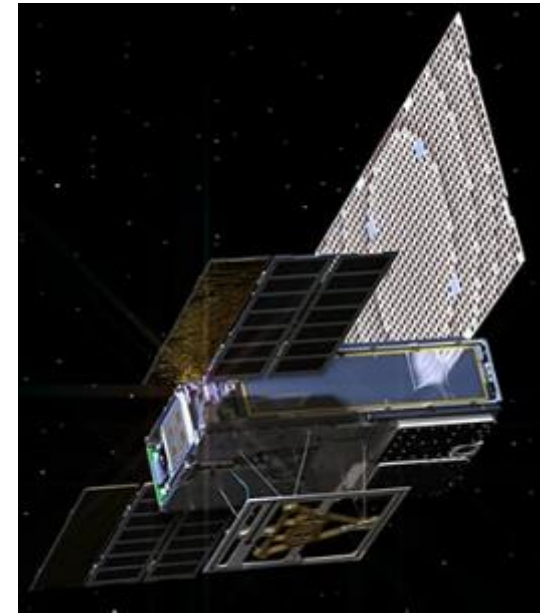
Equipment Shelf

Aft Bulkhead Carrier  
4 X 6U NLAS Mk. II

RL10 Engines

# CUBESAT LAUNCH SOLUTIONS TO HIGH-ENERGY ORBITS

# MARCO - FIRST INTERPLANETARY CUBESATS



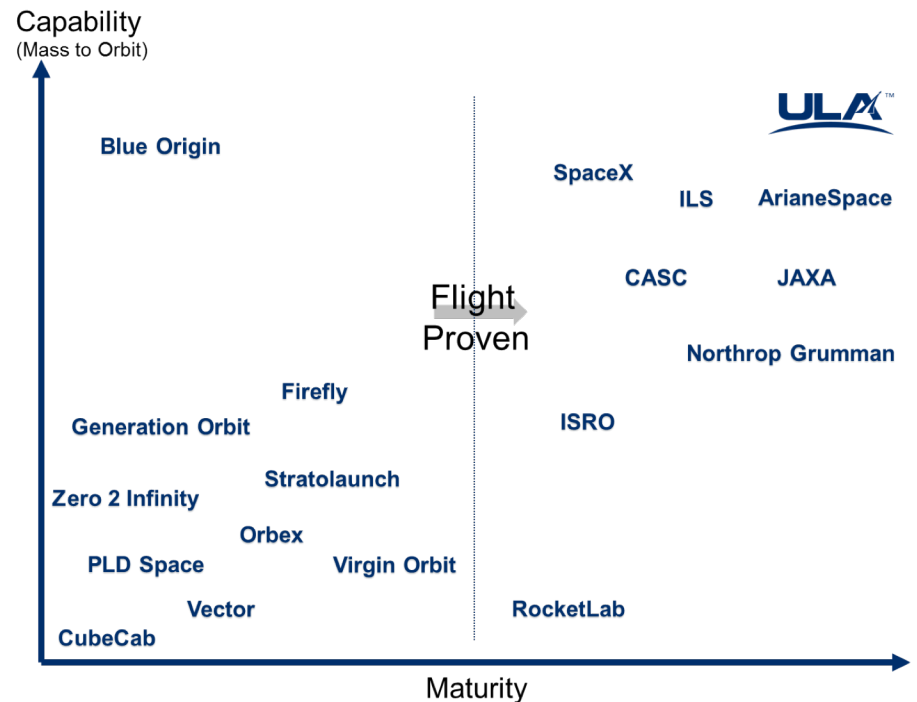
**Launched on Atlas V May 5, 2018**  
**Supported EDL of InSight**



Photo from  
Marco-B  
cubesat, 1M  
km from  
Earth

# CUBESAT LAUNCH HIGH ENERGY ORBITS

- High energy orbits
  - MEO
  - GTO
  - GSO
  - Lunar
  - Earth Escape / Interplanetary
- Unique mission opportunities
  - Mission augmentation and support
  - Tech development
  - Science
  - Exploration



Requires high performance launch vehicle

# LAUNCH MARKET COMPARISON

## Dedicated Small Rockets

- High cost per kilogram
- Ability to choose launch window
- Capability limited to LEO orbits
- New entrants developing innovative solutions

## Large Multi Launch

- Low cost per kilogram
- Launch timeline driven by primary spacecraft requirements
- Options for high energy orbits
- Providers enhancing capabilities to provide new and unique solutions

Trade-off between small and large launch vehicles



**THANK  
YOU**

