

Launch Services Program

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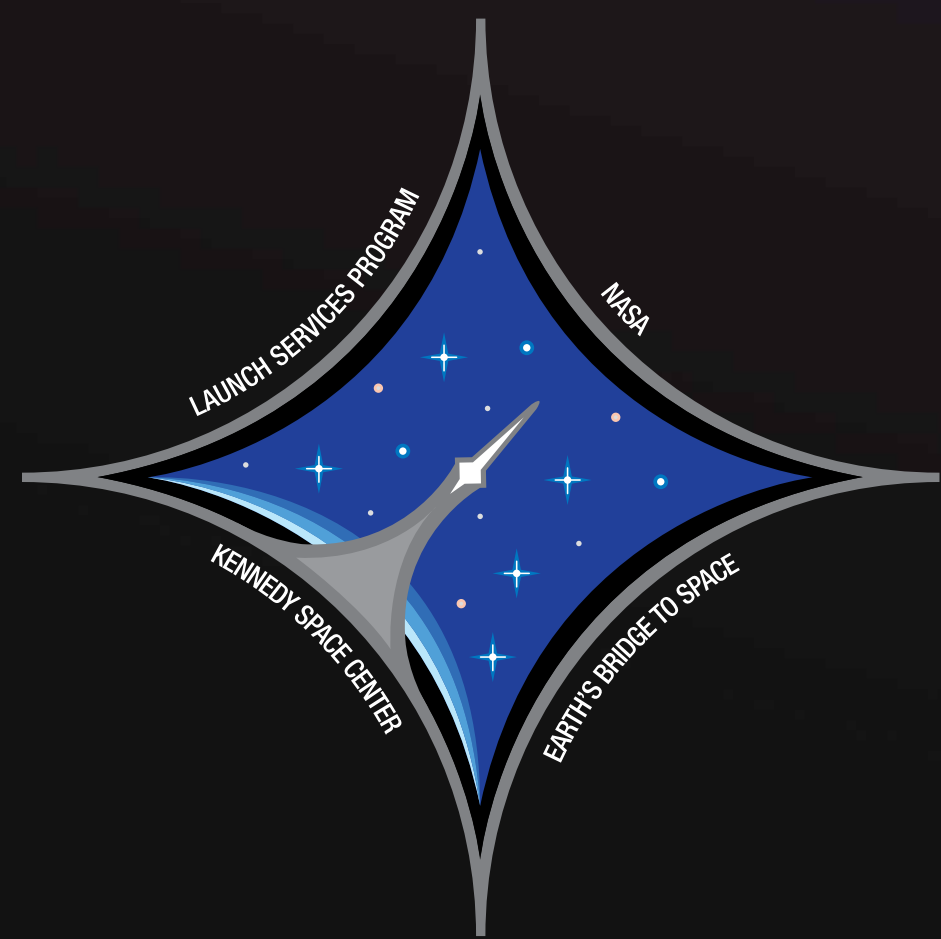
# Double Asteroid Redirection Test



**NASA's First  
Planetary Defense Mission**



The binary near-Earth asteroid (65803) Didymos is the target for the **DART** demonstration. The secondary body or moonlet is named Dimorphos. The **DART** spacecraft will achieve the kinetic impact deflection by deliberately crashing itself into the moonlet at a speed of approximately 6.6 km/s, with the aid of an onboard camera (named DRACO) and sophisticated autonomous navigation software. The collision will change the speed of the Dimorphos in its orbit around Didymos by a fraction of one percent, but this will change the orbital period of the moonlet by several minutes - enough to be observed and measured using telescopes on Earth.



Launch Date:  
**November 2021**

Launch Vehicle:  
**Falcon 9 FT**

Launch Location:  
**Vandenberg Space Force Base, CA  
SLC-4E**

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