NEWS RELEASE

BlackSky's Fifth Gen-3 Attains First Light in Hours, Expanding Constellation Capacity and Decision-Making Speed for Customers

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Rapid commissioning operations unlock scarce, very high-resolution imaging capacity as global demand for responsive, tactical space-based intelligence accelerates

HERNDON, Va.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- BlackSky Technology Inc. (NYSE: **BKSY**) collected and processed first light imagery from its fifth Gen-3 satellite in less than 20 hours after liftoff, demonstrating a consistent launch-to-launch pattern of rapid data delivery timelines that significantly outpace the industry standard. Rapid commissioning means customers gain immediate access to mission-ready, very high-resolution imagery amid fast-moving operational environments that demand real-time situational awareness to see, understand and act with confidence.

This very high-resolution satellite image, captured just hours after launch by BlackSky's fifth Gen-3 satellite, showcases the tactical-level clarity of the new spacecraft and the power of rapidly deployed AI-enabled analytics. The image, taken at 23:25 UTC on September 11, 2026, (7:25 a.m. local time on September 12, 2026) displays H-6 bombers through early morning haze at an air base near Nanning, China.

By closing the gap between launch and initial operations with every new Gen-3 satellite, BlackSky adds vital new 35-centimeter imagery supply where capacity remains scarce, often forcing customers to prioritize which missions are tasked and which have to wait. Quick access to new capacity directly leads to faster, better-informed decisions when moments matter.

"The Gen-3 constellation continues to deliver exceptional performance, and each new satellite we rapidly bring online shortens the time between an event on the ground and delivery of actionable intelligence necessary to effectively respond," said Brian O'Toole, BlackSky CEO.

"We're not just adding satellites, we're adding decision-making speed for customers operating in contested, fast-moving environments, at incredibly competitive economics. Each Gen-3 on orbit comes in at about one-fifth the cost of legacy platforms, while exponentially increasing available capacity," said O'Toole. "Increased capacity translates directly into more available, time-diverse imagery and analytics data – and thus, faster and clearer operational situational awareness - for defense and intelligence agencies, when and where they need it most."

Gen-3 best-in-class 35-centimeter resolution imagery provides sharp visual clarity while BlackSky's AI-enabled analytics automatically detect an expanding array of vehicles, aircraft, and vessels. With Gen-3, decision makers can better evaluate tactical conditions and minimize operational ambiguity under pressing tactical timelines.

BlackSky maintains a steady deployment schedule for Gen-3 with plans for additional satellites on orbit by the end of 2026. As BlackSky successfully incorporates additional Gen-3 satellites into its dual constellation framework, Gen-2 remains foundational to real-time, space-based intelligence capabilities, monitoring rapidly unfolding events on Earth and objects on orbit.

BlackSky's vertically integrated satellite manufacturing and AI-driven software architecture offers secure, flexible access to data via On-Demand and Assured subscription-based services or full sovereign systems.

About BlackSky

BlackSky is a real-time, space-based intelligence company that delivers on-demand, high frequency imagery, analytics, and high-frequency monitoring of the most critical and strategic locations, economic assets, and events in the world. BlackSky owns and operates one of the industry's most advanced, purpose-built commercial, real-time intelligence systems that combines the power of the BlackSky Spectra® tasking and analytics software platform and our proprietary low earth orbit satellite constellation.

With BlackSky, customers can see, understand and anticipate changes for a decisive strategic advantage at the tactical edge, and act not just fast, but first. BlackSky is trusted by some of the most demanding U.S. and international government agencies, commercial businesses, and organizations around the world. BlackSky is headquartered in Herndon, VA, and is publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange as BKSY. To learn more, visit **www.blacksky.com** and follow us on **X**.

Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements in this press release may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws with respect to BlackSky. These forward-looking statements generally are identified by the words “believe,” “project,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “estimate,” “intend,” “strategy,” “future,” “opportunity,” “plan,” “may,” “should,” “will,” “would,” “will be,” “will continue,” “will likely result,” and similar expressions. Forward-looking statements are predictions, projections, and other statements about future events that are based on current expectations and assumptions and, as a result, are subject to risks and uncertainties. Many factors could cause actual future events to differ materially from the forward-looking statements in this document. If any of these risks materialize or underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results could differ materially from the results implied by these forward-looking statements. In addition, forward-looking statements reflect our expectations, plans, or forecasts of future events and views as of the date of this communication. We anticipate that subsequent events and developments will cause their assessments to change. Accordingly, forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing our views as of any subsequent date, and we do not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date they were made, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable securities laws. Additional risks and uncertainties are identified and discussed in BlackSky’s disclosure materials filed from time to time with the SEC which are available at the SEC’s website at **http://www.sec.gov** or on BlackSky’s Investor Relations website at **https://ir.blacksky.com**.

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