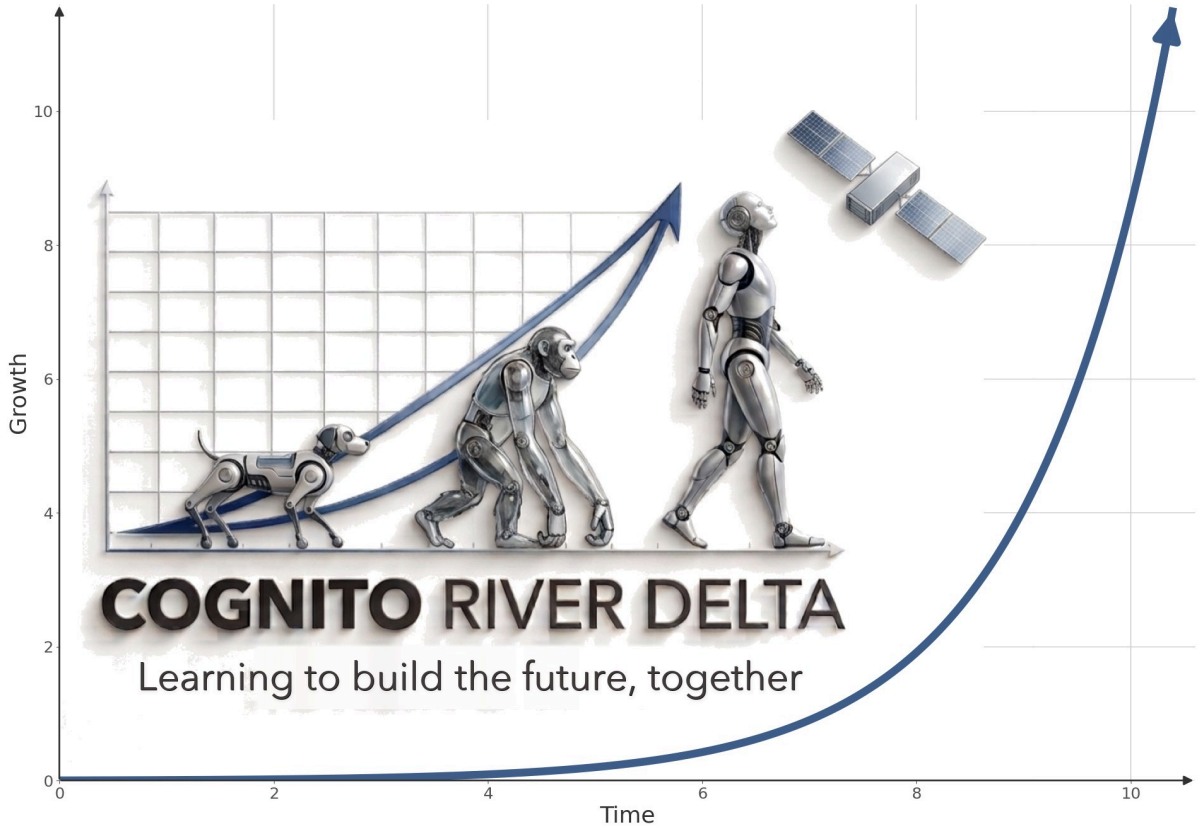


CATEGORY ROLLUP

Global connectivity - 2026-W46

Week of November 9, 2026

The overarching narrative of this week is the radical identity shift of SpaceX from a launch and satellite provider into a vertically integrated, space-based AI and telecommunications infrastructure titan. The central th

CATEGORY ROLLUP

Global connectivity - 2026-W46

Week of November 9, 2026 · 17 min read

Global connectivity

Global connectivity · week 2026-W46: Nov 07 - Nov 13, 2026 · 1 subtopic(s) covered · 2393 words · expanded

Overview

The overarching narrative of this week is the radical identity shift of SpaceX from a launch and satellite provider into a vertically integrated, space-based AI and telecommunications infrastructure titan. The central thread connecting every development this week—from the Qualcomm partnership to the "StarMind" orbital compute proposals—is the realization that Starlink is being positioned as the foundational layer for a post-terrestrial economy.

The week's developments demonstrate a massive convergence of three distinct technological pillars: the heavy-lift capacity of the Starship launch vehicle, the ubiquitous connectivity of the Starlink constellation, and the emerging "StarMind" orbital compute paradigm. We are seeing the blueprint for a massive, self-reinforcing feedback loop: Starship provides the high-volume, low-cost "upmass" required to deploy massive, high-performance satellite architectures; these architectures, in turn, provide the bandwidth and compute necessary to power an automated, AI-driven global economy. This is not merely a story of faster internet; it is the movement of the very engines of digital civilization—data centers, cellular networks, and AI training clusters—off-planet to bypass the physical and regulatory bottlenecks of Earth.

Starlink

The developments this week suggest that Starlink is currently undergoing a dual-track expansion: a "downward" expansion into the consumer and mobile mass market, and an "upward" expansion into the high-margin, high-complexity realm of orbital AI infrastructure.

The Mobile and Telecom Pivot: From Niche to Ubiquitous

A significant portion of this week's intelligence centers on Starlink's aggressive move to capture the terrestrial mobile market. The partnership with Qualcomm is a critical strategic pivot. By leveraging Qualcomm's DragonWing platforms to build out a "Starlink Mobile" nationwide 5G network, SpaceX is attempting to bridge the gap between space-based connectivity and the standard cellular experience. This move, which is expected to begin seeing US cell site deployment in 2027, targets a transition from being a satellite ISP to a comprehensive Mobile Network Operator (MNO) that integrates directly with existing 5G ecosystems.

The strategic significance of this shift is underscored by recent regulatory movements. The FCC's 3-0 vote to advance direct satellite-to-phone proposals, combined with SpaceX's acceptance of a bid for 800 MHz spectrum, signals that the regulatory path for Starlink to act as a carrier is being cleared. This move allows SpaceX to target the "dead zones" that terrestrial carriers currently cannot reach, but the long-term goal is much broader: total market penetration. This is further evidenced by the pursuit of international licenses, such as the reported interest in an Australian mobile license and ongoing discussions regarding a massive $1.6 billion contract with Italy.

Even at the consumer level, the "consumerization" of the technology is accelerating. The launch of the Starlink Mini 2, featuring a swappable battery providing up to 4.5 hours of power and a $999 price point (which includes one year of Roam Unlimited), indicates that SpaceX is moving toward high-volume, portable hardware. The report that SpaceX is working to allow convenience stores to sell Starlink dishes for commission suggests a strategy of building a massive, diverse user base to generate the immediate revenue required to fuel their more ambitious, high-capital infrastructure projects.

The Orbital Compute Ambition: StarMind and the AI Connection

While the mobile pivot targets the masses, the "StarMind" proposal targets the very core of the digital economy: compute. This week, the concept of "orbital AI computers" moved from a

theoretical long-shot to a central pillar of the SpaceX strategic narrative. The proposal—co-designed with NVIDIA—suggests that the next frontier of AI development will not happen in terrestrial data centers, but in orbit.

The rationale for this shift is the need to bypass terrestrial constraints. Terrestrial data centers are increasingly hamstrung by the "NIMBY" (Not In My Backyard) phenomenon, where local opposition to massive power consumption and cooling requirements stalls growth. Furthermore, the energy requirements for training next-generation AI models are straining aging terrestrial power grids. By moving the compute to orbit, SpaceX aims to leverage direct solar energy and utilize the vast, unencumbered space of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) to house what could eventually be a network of one million orbital data centers.

However, this ambition faces a significant scientific and economic debate. There is a fundamental tension between the thermodynamic reality of operating high-performance compute in space and the economic reality of launch costs. This has created a divide between "thermodynamic skeptics" like astrophysicist Joseph Farah, who argues that the heat dissipation and solar energy requirements make orbital data centers fundamentally impractical, and "economic optimists" like Jo Bhakdi. Bhakdi contends that the radical reduction in launch costs via Starship will render the math favorable by 2028. If Starship can drive launch costs down toward the $300/kg or even the $100/kg mark, the "upmass" of heavy, high-performance compute modules becomes a viable and potentially dominant business model.

The Infrastructure Loop: Starship as the Enabler

The success of both the mobile and the compute pivots is entirely dependent on the industrialization of the Starship launch vehicle. This week, Starship transitioned in the public consciousness from a "test ship" to a "true mission" vehicle following the successful deployment of 26 Starlink V3 satellites. This marks the critical point where SpaceX's heavy-lift capacity moves from experimental to operational.

The relationship between Starship and Starlink is symbiotic and cyclical. The V3 satellites, which are reportedly ten times more performant than their V2 predecessors, require the high-cadence, high-capacity launch capabilities that only Starship can provide. This cycle is expected to scale dramatically; Elon Musk's vision of a 100,000-satellite V4 constellation is intended to do more than just increase coverage—it is designed to "outcompete undersea cables" and provide the massive bandwidth required for an era of "agent-driven" internet demand. As AI agents begin to consume bandwidth at scales orders of magnitude higher than

human users, the need for the massive throughput offered by a V4-scale constellation becomes an existential requirement for the network's survival.

Geopolitics, Defense, and the Risks of Ubiquity

As Starlink becomes a critical piece of global infrastructure, it is increasingly entangled in geopolitical friction. The reports from Ukraine regarding disruptions to Starlink and Starshield services highlight the dual-use nature of the constellation. It is both a tool for democratic defense and a target for electronic warfare. The fact that U.S. Democratic senators have ordered the preservation of records regarding Starlink access in Ukraine underscores that Starlink is no longer just a commercial service; it is a matter of national security and international scrutiny.

Furthermore, the competitive landscape is shifting. In the aviation sector, while United Airlines CEO Scott Kirby views Starlink as a "biggest competitive advantage," the decision by Delta to opt for Amazon’s Project Kuiper suggests that the market is not yet a monolith. The competition between Starlink and other LEO players (like Amazon's Kuiper or sovereign projects like Europe's IRIS²) will likely determine which constellation becomes the "standard" for global connectivity and, eventually, orbital compute.

Cross-cutting themes

The primary cross-cutting theme this week is **Convergence**. We are witnessing the folding of separate industries—aerospace, telecommunications, semiconductor manufacturing, and AI compute—into a single, vertically integrated ecosystem.

1. **The Launch-Data-Power Nexus:** There is a clear tension between the need for massive amounts of data/compute and the limitations of terrestrial energy and land. The solution being proposed is a closed loop where Starship (the transport) enables Starlink (the connectivity) to carry the payloads for StarMind (the compute), all powered by the very solar energy the satellites harvest in orbit. This addresses the "NIMBY" and power grid bottlenecks simultaneously.
2. **The Demand Shift:** There is a visible transition in the definition of a "customer." The industry is moving from a focus on *human-centric* demand (people browsing the web) to *agent-centric* demand (AI agents and autonomous systems requiring constant, high-bandwidth, low-latency connections). This shift—projected to involve a 1,000-fold

increase in bandwidth demand in the next 3-5 years—is what drives the requirement for the V4 constellation and the orbital data center models.

3. **The Disruptive Monopoly Risk:** A recurring theme is the threat Starlink poses to established monopolies. It threatens terrestrial telcos (via 5G integration), undersea cable operators (via V4 density), and terrestrial data center providers (via StarMind). This creates a tension between the rapid technological advancement being championed by SpaceX and the regulatory/geopolitical pushback from the nations and industries being displaced.

Where sources agree

- **The Transition to Mobile:** There is a strong consensus among analysts and news outlets that Starlink is pivotally moving toward a direct-to-cell/5G mobile model, particularly through its strategic integration with Qualcomm's DragonWing platforms.
- **The Necessity of Starship:** Sources align on the fact that the scalability of the entire Starlink ecosystem—both for connectivity and for future orbital AI—is fundamentally tethered to the successful, high-cadence deployment of the Starship launch vehicle.
- **The Bandwidth Explosion:** There is general agreement that the demand for bandwidth is not just growing, but is about to undergo an exponential shift driven by the rise of AI agents and autonomous workflows.
- **The Value of Orbital Compute:** Many sources agree that the terrestrial constraints of power, cooling, and land-use regulation (NIMBYism) will eventually drive a significant portion of digital compute into orbit.

Where sources disagree or differ

- **The Feasibility of Space-Based AI:** This is the most significant area of contention. A fundamental divide exists between the "thermodynamic skeptics" (like Joseph Farah), who argue that the physics of heat dissipation and solar energy in space make orbital data centers impractical, and the "economic optimists" (like Jo Bhakdi), who argue that the radical reduction in Starship launch costs will make the math work by 2028.
- **Revenue Projections and Valuation:** There is a massive discrepancy in how the market values SpaceX. Projections vary wildly: Elon Musk has claimed a run rate of over $500B

by Dec 2026, while Adam Jonas projects $175B by 2027, and JP Morgan provides a more conservative $254B model for 2027.
- **The Competitive Landscape in Aviation:** While United Airlines views Starlink as a "biggest competitive advantage," the decision by Delta to partner with Amazon's Project Kuiper shows that the market for inflight connectivity is still contested.
- **The Magnitude of the Compute Shift:** Some analysts focus on the incremental growth of user subscribers, while others, like Jeff Lutz, argue that a much more aggressive shift is coming, predicting that 99.99% of all digital compute will be located in space within ten years.

Numbers and claims to verify

- **Revenue Targets:** Verify the delta between Elon Musk's >$500B (Dec 2026) projection, Adam Jonas's $175B (2027) estimate, and JP Morgan's $254B (2027) model.
- **Subscriber Counts:** Confirm the reported 13.6 million subscribers as of September/November 2026.
- **The $8 Billion Spectrum Deal:** Investigate the status and legitimacy of the Benzinga report regarding this massive spectrum acquisition.
- **The $1.6 Billion Italy Contract:** Verify the status of contract negotiations between SpaceX and the Italian government.
- **The "99.99% Compute" Claim:** Evaluate the technical and economic basis for Jeff Lutz's claim that nearly all digital compute will reside in space within a decade.
- **The 1,000x Bandwidth Demand:** Assess the feasibility of Farzad Mesbahi's claim that bandwidth demand will increase 1,000-fold in the next 3-5 years due to AI agents.
- **Starlink Satellite Ownership:** Verify the claim that Starlink owns 66% of active satellites (11k of 16.8k).

Investment and strategic implications

- **From Logistics to Infrastructure:** Investors should view SpaceX not as a transport company that happens to have a satellite business, but as a foundational infrastructure company. The "upmass" capability of Starship is the most critical metric for long-term valuation, as it enables the deployment of the high-performance V3/V4 hardware.

- **The AI Hardware Play:** The pivot toward StarMind and the partnership with NVIDIA, combined with the mention of TerraFab for chip manufacturing, suggests SpaceX is positioning itself to be a primary provider of the physical infrastructure—the "hardware" layer—of the AI revolution.
- **Telecom Disruption Risk:** For terrestrial telecommunications companies, the integration of Starlink with Qualcomm and the potential acquisition of 800 MHz spectrum represents a direct and existential threat to traditional mobile revenue models, particularly in the enterprise and "dead zone" segments.
- **The Vertical Integration Advantage:** SpaceX's ability to control the launch (Starship), the network (Starlink), the hardware (Mini 2/V3/V4), and potentially the compute (StarMind) creates a level of vertical integration that competitors like Amazon or sovereign projects may struggle to match in terms of cost efficiency and speed of deployment. This creates a potential unassailable monopoly in orbital AI infrastructure.

What to watch next week

- **Starship Flight 15:** Monitor for mission success, specifically regarding the deployment of the 26 Starlink V3 satellites targeted for mid-November 2026.
- **Regulatory Updates:** Watch for any developments regarding the FCC's stance on the 800 MHz spectrum bid or updates on the Australian mobile license.
- **International Contract Status:** Look for confirmation or further details regarding the $1.6 billion Italian contract.
- **Ukraine Oversight:** Monitor for any new reports from US lawmakers/senators regarding the preservation of records and the use of Starlink/Starshield services in conflict zones.

Appendix: Individual perspectives

We see further because we stand on the shoulders of giants. The people in this appendix are some of those giants: their public work, followed and studied every day and every week, is how CognitoRiverDelta brings the world's AI knowledge and concerns together, so that, in time, our expert panel can help shape real solutions and paths forward for all of us. We learn by observing them, and we think of them as kindred spirits: people helping humanity and AI educate each other and contribute to solutions. Together they form a much larger community

of minds, a worldwide panel; ours is a small copy of it. Most people don't want to become expert kayakers, reading rocks and rapids every day; yet that is how this fast-flowing river of change feels to many of us, and the evidence that could ease those fears, the grounded ones and the imagined ones, is still being gathered. That is the work. We credit their ideas here with gratitude; they are not affiliated with us and do not endorse this report.

- **Gwynne Shotwell:** Views Starlink as having significant untapped potential in the wireless market, aiming to capture demand from connected vehicles, robotics, and superintelligence through mobile services and proprietary spectrum. She has projected that Starlink technology could eventually support approximately half of all internet traffic on Earth.
- **Peter Diamandis:** Views Starlink as a disruptive force in telecommunications that generates the necessary revenue to drive the utility and launch cadence of Starship. He reported that Starlink added 1.6 million subscribers in the last quarter and is planning a 15,000-satellite constellation for direct-to-cell service.
- **Tim Dodd:** Reports that Starlink V3 satellites will be deployed as the payload for the SpaceX Starship Flight 15 mission, targeted for mid-November 2026, expected to deploy 26 satellites.
- **Farzad Mesbahi:** Emphasizes the transition of Starlink into an AI infrastructure provider, noting the strategic importance of solving data movement bottlenecks and the absolute necessity of Starship for scaling orbital compute.
- **Jo Bhakdi:** Contends that decreasing Starship launch costs will make space-based compute cheaper than terrestrial options by 2028.
- **Joseph Farah:** Argues from an astrophysical perspective that thermodynamics and solar energy requirements make orbital data centers impractical.
- **Jeff Lutz:** Predicts an aggressive long-term shift where 99.99% of all digital compute will be located in space within ten years.
- **Cern Basher:** Views Starlink as a foundational tool for a broader economic shift from wage-earning to ownership-based wealth.

Sources

- A New Cybercab Detail Just Dropped 👀 The Best-Selling Car in the World Did It Again - No O — BestInTESLA, Nov 10
- After Qualcomm, who else might get a piece of Starlink Mobile's 5G network? — Fierce Network (via Google News), Nov 11

- Another WORLD FIRST for Tesla 🤯 Cybertruck might get a second lifeline 👀 NEW FSD Approval — BestInTESLA, Nov 12
- BT Holds Back Starlink Launch Over Ukraine Controversy — TeslaNorth.com (via Google News), Nov 11
- BT cools on Starlink — Advanced Television (via Google News), Nov 11
- BT delays Starlink partnership amid recent Ukrainian disruption - report — Data Center Dynamics, Nov 11
- Brussels Airlines Launches Free Starlink Wi-Fi — TeslaNorth.com (via Google News), Nov 09
- Convenience stores can sell Starlink dishes for commission — Notebookcheck (via Google News), Nov 08
- Could The Texas Freeze Actually Help SpaceX? — Brighter with Herbert, Nov 10
- Democratic US senators order Musk to preserve records on Ukraine Starlink access — Reuters (via Google News), Nov 13
- Did Qualcomm leak SpaceX's Starlink Mobile terrestrial cell site plan? — SDxCentral (via Google News), Nov 08
- Did Qualcomm leak SpaceX's Starlink Mobile terrestrial cell site plan? — SDxCentral (via Google News), Nov 09
- Does SpaceX's $2Trillion Bet have a Physics Problem? — Jo Bhakdi, Nov 07
- Elon Just Admitted Grok Is Behind. Then He Did This! — Brighter with Herbert, Nov 11
- Elon Just Reposted This After Tesla's 11% Crash — Brighter with Herbert, Nov 08
- Elon Musk Believes SpaceX's ~100,000 V4 Starlink Satellites Are Enough To "Outcompete Unde — Wccftech (via Google News), Nov 08
- Elon Musk Predicted Trouble For Delta Over SpaceX Starlink Snub: CEO Ed Bastian Says Airli — Benzinga (via Google News), Nov 13
- Elon Musk Says Starlink Capacity Could Surge 100 Times in Just Three Years — Coinpaper (via Google News), Nov 09
- Elon Musk Stuns Billionaire — Farzad Mesbahi, Nov 07
- Elon Musk spotlights the Starlink rescue that got through where no cell tower could — Teslarati (via Google News), Nov 08
- Elon Musk's Starlink Mobile to Challenge US Phone Networks as SpaceX Signs Major Qualcomm — UKNIP (via Google News), Nov 07
- Elon Musk's Starlink pushes for Australian mobile licence — The Australian (via Google News), Nov 09
- Elon's Insane Super Intelligence Plan — Farzad Mesbahi, Nov 12

- Exclusive | Democrats Order Musk to Preserve Records Over Ukraine Starlink Access — WSJ (via Google News), Nov 13
- FCC Accepts SpaceX Bid for 800 MHz Spectrum, Clearing Starlink Mobile's Path to Carrier St — Tesla Accessories (via Google News), Nov 10
- Fibocom Demonstrates Starlink Direct-to-Cell Connectivity with Standard LTE Cat.1 bis Modu — IoT Business News (via Google News), Nov 12
- Fibocom modules connect to Starlink Direct to Cell in New Zealand — TNGlobal (via Google News), Nov 09
- Fully Reusable Rockets With Stoke Space's Devon Papandrew — ARK Invest (Cathie Wood), Nov 12
- Google Owns $74 Billion of SpaceX. So Why Leave? — Brighter with Herbert, Nov 11
- How SpaceX Becomes the Most Profitable Company Ever — Farzad Mesbahi, Nov 09
- How SpaceX Makes Money: AI Revenue Grew 9.3x to Top Starlink — FourWeekMBA (via Google News), Nov 11
- How Ukraine blinded Russia’s drones: Operation Vivaldi explained | The Economist — The Economist, Nov 12
- How much is the Starlink Mini 2? $999 with a year of service in invite-only preorders — Nacionale (via Google News), Nov 10
- In February 2022, SpaceX launched 49 Starlink satellites into a solar storm so mild that f — Google News, Nov 11
- Is Qualcomm (QCOM) Stock a Buy After the SpaceX Starlink 5G Deal? — Blockonomi (via Google News), Nov 12
- Musk Says 100,000 V4 Starlink Satellites Could Outrun Undersea Cables as Gulf Threats Moun — BigGo Finance (via Google News), Nov 09
- Musk unveils another bold target: SpaceX's annualized revenue will reach $500 billion next — Google News, Nov 10
- Musk's Starlink Mobile ambitions draw telecom industry attention — samaa tv (via Google News), Nov 08
- NEW INTERVIEW: Elon Just Put Odds on $1 Trillion SpaceX Revenue — Brighter with Herbert, Nov 07
- Not Starlink. Not Starship. This Is the Real Reason SpaceX Stock Could Soar Before 2027 Ar — The Motley Fool (via Google News), Nov 12
- Not Starlink. Not Starship. This Is the Real Reason SpaceX Stock Could Soar Before 2027 Ar — Yahoo Finance (via Google News), Nov 12
- Rural Canadian internet provider Xplore enters creditor protection amid growing Starlink c — Drive Tesla Canada (via Google News), Nov 12

- Russia Already Using Its Own Starlink Rival Over Ukraine, Kyiv Intelligence Says — UNITED24 Media (via Google News), Nov 07
- Russia Using Starlink Rival for Military Comms Over Ukraine: Report — The Defense Post (via Google News), Nov 09
- SK Telecom, LG Uplus Play Down Starlink Threat as SpaceX Pushes Satellite Phones — Seoul Economic Daily (via Google News), Nov 08
- STARLINK IS THE UNDERSUNG HERO — Peter H. Diamandis, Nov 07
- Senate Democrats Demand Musk Preserve Records on Starlink Limits in Ukraine — BigGo Finance (via Google News), Nov 14
- Slate Aviation Adding Starlink to All-Bombardier Fleet — FLYING Magazine (via Google News), Nov 11
- Slate Aviation brings Starlink to its entire fleet, starting in December — Drive Tesla Canada (via Google News), Nov 10
- SpaceX Clears First FCC Hurdle on $8 Billion Spectrum Purchase for Starlink 5G — BigGo Finance (via Google News), Nov 11
- SpaceX Just Made A Huge Announcement — Farzad Mesbahi, Nov 07
- SpaceX Launches Portable Starlink Mini 2 - Root-Nation.com — Google News, Nov 11
- SpaceX Lets Convenience Stores Sell Starlink Dishes for Commission — news.lavx.hu (via Google News), Nov 08
- SpaceX Opens Starlink Mini 2 Preorders at $999 With a Year of Roam Unlimited — BigGo Finance (via Google News), Nov 10
- SpaceX Plans Starlink Mobile as a Major Carrier — KeepTrack (via Google News), Nov 08
- SpaceX Releases Starlink Mini 2 With a Clip-On Battery Pack — The Mac Observer (via Google News), Nov 11
- SpaceX Scores Key FCC Breakthrough in $8 Billion Spectrum Deal: Starlink Moves Closer to N — Benzinga (via Google News), Nov 11
- SpaceX Selects Qualcomm to Accelerate Starlink Mobile’s Nationwide 5G Network — WebWire (via Google News), Nov 07
- SpaceX Stock Fell Hard. SpaceX Business Kept Winning! — Brighter with Herbert, Nov 09
- SpaceX Taps Qualcomm for Starlink Mobile's Nationwide 5G Network ... — eeNews Europe (via Google News), Nov 11
- SpaceX Taps Qualcomm to Supply Infrastructure for Starlink Mobile 5G Network — Electronic Design (via Google News), Nov 11

- SpaceX To Provide Over 500 Starlink Kits To Childcare Institutions In Nine African Countri — Forbes Africa (via Google News), Nov 12
- SpaceX Unveils Starlink Mini 2 – Portable Terminal With Swappable Battery and Built-In Wi- — Mezha (via Google News), Nov 11
- SpaceX Wants Australia’s 2 GHz Band as Starlink Hits 552,000 — FourWeekMBA (via Google News), Nov 09
- SpaceX backs child protection initiative with 750 free Starlink kits — Drive Tesla Canada (via Google News), Nov 12
- SpaceX discussing a $1.6B Starlink contract with Italy — Teslarati (via Google News), Nov 08
- SpaceX discussing a $1.6B Starlink contract with Italy — Teslarati (via Google News), Nov 11
- SpaceX introduces Starlink Mini 2 with swappable battery and USB-C charging — FoneArena.com (via Google News), Nov 11
- SpaceX is building its OWN mobile network. 5G on the ground, Starlink in space, and 6G alr — Google News, Nov 07
- SpaceX offers 50% off Starlink in Vermilion Parish — KLFY.com (via Google News), Nov 11
- SpaceX partners with Qualcomm for nationwide US 5G expansion as Starlink plans thousands o — Business Upturn (via Google News), Nov 09
- SpaceX picks Qualcomm to power Starlink Mobile's nationwide US 5G network, with tens of th — Dealroom (via Google News), Nov 10
- SpaceX posts $14.58 billion quarter as AI revenue overtakes Starlink — Crypto Briefing (via Google News), Nov 07
- SpaceX selects Qualcomm to accelerate Starlink Mobile’s Nationwide 5G Network — Cyprus Shipping News (via Google News), Nov 10
- SpaceX unveils Starlink Mini 2 satellite broadband terminal with built-in battery and Wi-F — Tesla Oracle (via Google News), Nov 10
- SpaceX unveils Starlink Mini 2 with a removable battery that can last up to 4.5 hours — Digital Trends (via Google News), Nov 10
- SpaceX was paid millions by the U.S. government for its Starlink 'donation' to Ukraine — Mashable (via Google News), Nov 07
- SpaceX's Starlink Could Build a Nationwide Cell Network. Here's What Investors Need to Kno — AOL.com (via Google News), Nov 09
- SpaceX's Starlink Could Build a Nationwide Cell Network. Here's What Investors Need to Kno — The Motley Fool (via Google News), Nov 09

- SpaceX’s AI Business Now Outsells Starlink, as Starlink’s Revenue per User Falls to $69 Fr — TIKR.com (via Google News), Nov 10

🪶 ORBIT LAB · THE ROAD TO ORBIT, HANDS-ON

Launch a rocket, link satellites with lasers, beam power down and fly to the sun →

- Why one Starship launch of V3 satellites adds 20× or more the bandwidth of a Falcon 9 launch - about 10× per satellite, about 3× as many per launch
- Cooling in space: how a computer in orbit radiates its heat away - set the radiator temperature yourself
- **New, iteration 2:** See it from the Moon - a rail gun fires compute satellites into a ring around the sun (our forecast, not to scale)
- **Iteration 3:** Real scale - Earth and the Moon to scale, and the round-spheres fix a real-phone tester found
- How much of the sun do we use? - and why AI compute follows the sun

An interactive planet and solar system, built with an AI coding partner in a morning. How we built it

Related reports

CATEGORY ROLLUP

Global connectivity - 2026-W40

This week marked a fundamental pivot in the Starlink narrative, transitioning from a story about high-speed satellite internet to one about the foundational infrastructure of a space-based AI economy. The successful exec

Week of September 28, 2026 · Global connectivity

CATEGORY ROLLUP

Global connectivity - 2026-W45

The defining narrative of this week is the aggressive, multi-front pivot of Starlink from a niche satellite internet provider into a vertically integrated, AI-native global utility. This is not merely a story of subscrib

Week of November 2, 2026 · Global connectivity

Everything here is free, and reader-supported. Join free on Patreon to get the weekly digest by email, or become a member to get each morning's briefing by email before it reaches the site, request custom analysis, and get early access to new research tools. What members get

♥ Join or support on Patreon

Informational analysis synthesized by AI from sourced, dated material, curated by a human. Treat specific claims as unverified until checked. Not financial advice.

About · How this is made · Corrections