

CASE STUDY

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BNSF Logistics Relocates Satellites for Aerospace Company

Company Profile

Global aerospace company with a broad range of technology systems, products, and services.

Business Challenge

The client needed to move two satellites in the United States—one on the west coast and one on the east coast—to French Guiana in South America. Due to the sheer size of the satellites and the ground support equipment, an Antonov and two trips were necessary to complete the move.

Solution

BNSF Logistics proposed moving both satellites in an Antonov together, and moving all accompanying equipment in a much smaller and less costly 747 aircraft. This allowed the satellites to arrive at the same time and significantly reduced costs.

Process/Procedure

An Antonov picked up the first satellite and all accompanying ground support equipment (in sea freight containers) on the west coast, then flew to the east coast. There, the team offloaded the sea freight containers from the Antonov to make room for the second satellite. The ground support equipment for both satellites was loaded on the 747. Both satellites were transported on the Antonov, while the equipment was flown via 747 simultaneously to the destination.

Benefits Achieved

- The customer gained a savings of \$500,000
- The move was completed three days ahead of schedule
- Transporting two satellites at the same time, instead of in two separate shipments, saved the cost and time of personnel