

Shortly after the Challenger accident in 1986, when the US government decided to offload commercial payloads from the Space Shuttle, Martin Marietta announced plans to develop a Titan III commercial launch vehicle with its own funds. The commercial Titan III is derived from the Titan 34D with a stretched second stage and a bulbous shroud for dual or dedicated payloads. The first commercial Titan III was launched with two communications satellites in December 1989. Table 44 shows a summary of Titan space-vehicle configurations since Gemini.^[10]

Table 44. Summary of Titan Vehicle Configurations

Configuration	Description
II Gemini	Titan II ICBM converted to a man-rated vehicle
IIIA	Same as Titan II Gemini except stretched stages 1 and 2, and an integral Transtage upper stage
IIIB	Same as IIIA except Agena upper stage instead of Transtage
34B	Same as IIIA except stretched stage 1
IIIC	Same as IIIA with added 5-segment SRMs
IIID	Same as IIIC except no upper stage
IIIE	Same as IIID except Centaur upper stage and 14-foot diameter PLF
34D	Same as 34B with added 5½-segment SRMs. Uses either Transtage or IUS upper stage
II SLV	Refurbished II ICBM with 10-foot diameter PLF
III Commercial	Same as 34D except stretched stage 2, single or dual carrier, enhanced liquid-rocket engines, and 13.1-foot diameter PLF. Can use PAM-D2, Transtage, or TOS upper stage
IV	Same as 34D except stretched stages 1 and 2, 7-segment SRM or 3-segment SRMU, and 16.7-foot diameter PLF. Can use IUS or Centaur upper stage