Company Risk Snapshot

Rocket Lab Corporation (Nasdaq: RKLB)

PREPARED FOR Product Sample | **ASSESSMENT CUTOFF** September 6, 2026

DECISION Assess company-level risks relevant to continued long-term investment consideration

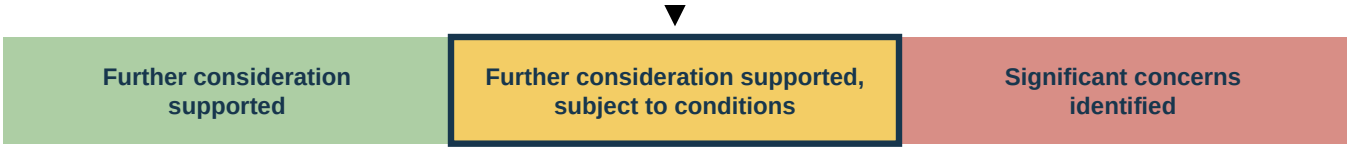
Overall assessment

Risk level



Moderate reflects execution, financing, dilution and concentration exposures identified in this historical review. It is not a probability of loss, default or investment success.

BCI assessment conclusion



Continued evaluation is supported, subject to verification and monitoring of acquisition financing, Neutron qualification, cash use, dilution and customer concentration. Risk level and assessment conclusion are separate judgments.

Executive summary

Financial capacity requires context. The historical review reports about $2.39 billion in cash and marketable securities at June 30, but first-half operations used $134.4 million and ATM equity offerings raised $1.53 billion gross. Liquidity supports continued consideration; it does not establish a self-funding business. [1, 7]

Operating evidence is program-specific. The report records 94 Electron launches by the cutoff. That is a positive indicator for the existing business, while Neutron remained in qualification. Electron’s record does not establish Neutron’s readiness, repeatability or economics. [1, 2, 9]

Further consideration depends on specific conditions. Review the permanent financing mix and remaining approvals for the proposed Iridium acquisition. Track Neutron qualification, operating cash use, share issuance, backlog conversion and customer concentration before relying on the growth case. [1, 4–8]

A documented basis for discussion. Pages 2–5 connect supporting evidence, analytical judgments and unresolved questions. The material gaps concern acquisition financing and approvals, future program execution, customer relationships and integration. These are not assumed resolved.

Historical portfolio exercise. Rocket Lab was not a BCI client and did not commission, participate in or endorse this report. This October 20 editorial revision preserves the September 6 cutoff; it is not refreshed research or a recommendation to buy, sell or hold RKLB.

Scope and method

Decision question: Does currently available public-source information identify material business, financial, operational, governance, competitive, legal, or regulatory risks that should affect a prospective investor's decision to continue considering Rocket Lab as a long-term investment?

This Company Risk Snapshot (CRS) review is limited to one company and one principal business decision. It uses lawful public sources, with priority given to Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) filings, official transaction filings, and official operational records. It does not include valuation, price targets, portfolio suitability, contract-level verification, interviews, paid databases, or non-public information.

Analytical convention: Bracketed citations support factual statements. Sentences beginning with “BCI assesses” or “BCI judgment” are analyst conclusions drawn from the cited record rather than conclusions stated by the source.

Company profile and financial snapshot

Headquarters	Long Beach, California	**Ticker**	RKLB
Reportable segments	Launch Services / Space Systems	**Electron launches**	94 as of assessment cutoff
H1 2026 revenue	$434.4M	**H1 2026 net loss**	$(94.3)M
Cash + marketable securities	$2.388B at June 30	**Backlog**	$2.356B at June 30

Financial figures are from Rocket Lab's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2026. Electron launch count is updated through the assessment cutoff. [1, 9]

Priority Information Requirements

Priority Information Requirements (PIRs) are the key questions and information needs this research must address to support the client’s decision. They define what we will examine and help keep the assessment focused on the issues that matter most.

PIR 1 - Financial position and sustainability

Rocket Lab reported $434.4 million of first-half revenue, up about 63% from the comparable 2025 period, but remained loss-making. Net loss was $94.3 million and operating activities used $134.4 million of cash. At June 30, cash was $2.129 billion and marketable securities were $258.1 million. The company also reported $13.4 million of outstanding principal under its convertible senior notes due 2029. [1]

The liquidity position must be read together with equity issuance. Rocket Lab received $1.53 billion of gross proceeds from ATM offerings in the first half. Outstanding common shares increased from 543.6 million at December 31, 2025 to 598.2 million at June 30, 2026 - about 10%. That increase was not solely attributable to ATM sales; convertible-note conversions, acquisition consideration, employee equity activity, and other issuances also affected the share count. The company later established a replacement ATM program with up to $1.944 billion of remaining capacity, intended in part to finance the Iridium cash consideration and reduce bridge commitments. [1, 7]

BCI assesses: Current liquidity reduces near-term funding risk, but dilution and prospective leverage are material. The final permanent financing mix for Iridium remains a key information gap.

PIR 2 - Business model and revenue quality

Rocket Lab now operates a materially diversified business. For the first six months of 2026, Space Systems generated $326.2 million of revenue and $113.7 million of gross profit; Launch Services generated $108.2 million of revenue and $47.3 million of gross profit. Backlog was $2.356 billion, including $1.416 billion in Space Systems and $940.2 million in Launch Services; approximately 45% was expected to be recognized within 12 months. [1]

Revenue quality is tempered by concentration and contract execution. One government customer represented 42% of first-half revenue. Rocket Lab disclosed delayed deliveries under its 17-spacecraft MDA Space Ltd. (MDA) contract and possible liquidated damages whose net amount could not yet be determined. Mynaric, acquired in April 2026, contributed about $13.2 million of Q2 revenue and a similar operating loss. [1]

BCI assesses: Space Systems reduces Rocket Lab's dependence on launch revenue. Government concentration, backlog termination rights, fixed-price program execution, and acquisition integration remain material risks requiring monitoring.

PIR 3 - Operational and technology execution

Electron provides meaningful operating evidence. Rocket Lab reported 87 successful Electron missions through June 30 and had completed 94 Electron launches as of the assessment cutoff, including 15 launches in 2026. The flight history reduces technical uncertainty associated with the company's existing small-launch business. [1, 9]

Neutron is different. A Stage 1 tank ruptured during a January 2026 hydrostatic qualification test, moving the first-launch target to Q4 2026. In the August 10-Q, Rocket Lab said production of the replacement Stage 1 tank remained aligned with delivery to the launch pad in Q4, but the window for an end-of-year launch was narrowing and depended on first-stage qualification and other critical tests. [1, 2]

BCI assesses: Electron execution is a positive operating indicator; Neutron remains unproven. A first successful flight would reduce but not eliminate risk because production rate, repeatability, reliability, economics, and customer adoption would still need to be demonstrated.

PIR 4 - Competitive position

Rocket Lab identifies SpaceX, United Launch Alliance, Firefly Aerospace, Blue Origin, and other domestic and international providers as launch competitors. It identifies flight heritage, reliability, schedule, customization, performance, price, and customer experience as principal competitive factors. [2]

In small launch, Rocket Lab has demonstrated a long Electron flight history and offers dedicated missions, which can provide schedule and orbital-control advantages for some customers. SpaceX advertises rideshare service beginning at $350,000 for 50 kg to sun-synchronous orbit. That published rideshare price creates substantial price competition for payloads whose schedule, orbit, and integration requirements are compatible with rideshare; dedicated launch remains a differentiated service. Firefly's current Alpha Payload User's Guide lists 630 kg to a 500 km sun-synchronous orbit and 1,030 kg to a 300 km low Earth orbit. [10, 11]

Neutron would place Rocket Lab into a more demanding competitive tier against larger launch providers with greater resources and operating histories. The CRS does not attempt to forecast market share or launch pricing. It also does not independently benchmark the full competitive set across Rocket Lab's Space Systems businesses.

BCI assesses: Rocket Lab has a credible operating position in dedicated small launch and a materially broader Space Systems portfolio, but its medium-lift competitive position is prospective until Neutron becomes operational.

Competitive context - decision relevance

Area	Rocket Lab evidence	Decision implication
Small launch	94 Electron launches; dedicated service	Established flight heritage; rideshare pricing constrains some addressable missions.
Space Systems	75% of H1 2026 revenue; $1.416B backlog	Reduces launch dependence, but full competitive benchmarking is outside this CRS.
Medium lift	Neutron still in qualification	Competitive position is prospective, not demonstrated.

PIR 5 - Governance, leadership, and ownership

The 2026 proxy states that every director except Peter Beck is independent under Nasdaq and SEC standards. Beck serves as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, while Merline Saintil serves as lead independent director and independent directors meet in executive session. [3]

Founder influence remains material. The proxy reported Beck with 7.5% voting power as of March 30, 2026, principally through Series A Preferred Stock held by the Equatorial Trust. While any Series A Preferred Stock remains outstanding, its holders have a separate right to designate at least one board director; Beck is the initial designee. Rocket Lab also states in its 10-K that it is highly dependent on Beck's services. [2, 3]

BCI assesses: The independent-board structure provides a governance counterweight, but founder and key-person dependence remain material, particularly while Rocket Lab is developing Neutron and pursuing a transformational acquisition.

Assessment conditions and information gaps

PIR 6 Legal regulatory and government exposure

Rocket Lab reported no pending claim or action that management believed could have a material adverse effect. A 2025 securiti es class action concerning alleged Neutron -development misstatements was dismissed with prejudice on April 16, 2026; plaintiffs did not appeal. Related derivative litigation was dismissed May 28. Management also concluded that disclosure controls were effective at June 30, 2026. [1] The Iridium transaction is the principal current regulatory event. The Hart -Scott-Rodino waiting period expired August 12, the S -4 became effective August 26, and the filed proxy statement/prospectus schedules the Iridium stockholder vote for September 24. FCC consent and specified foreign telecommunications, investment, and national -security approvals remain closing requirements. [5, 6, 8] BCI assesses: No current legal or regulatory condition identified in the bounded review independently warrants a conclusion of significant concerns on that basis alone. Regulatory timing and conditions attached to Iridium remain material monitoring items.

Conditions supporting further consideration

The assessment conclusion depends on verification and monitoring of the following issues. These conditions clarify the historical decision posture; they do not establish that the uncertainties have been resolved.

Iridium financing and integration

Before relying on the transaction as a positive factor, review the permanent debt/equity mix, pro forma leverage, final share issuance, closing approvals, and management integration plan.

Neutron execution

Treat first-stage qualification and first flight as monitoring triggers. Do not assume launch cadence, reliability, or economics until demonstrated.

Cash use and dilution

Track quarterly operating cash flow, ATM issuance, share count, stock-based compensation, and whether growth is moving toward self-funding.

Government and program concentration

Track the top government customer, backlog conversion, MDA delivery status, liquidated-damages exposure, and fixed-price contract performance.

Acquisition integration

Monitor GEOST, Mynaric, Motiv, and—if it closes—Iridium for margin, retention, integration cost, and management-bandwidth effects.

Information gaps and further diligence

• Final permanent financing and pro forma capital structure for the Iridium acquisition, including debt service, equity issuanc e, and any amendments to Iridium debt. • Outcome of the September 24 Iridium stockholder vote and remaining FCC, foreign regulatory, investment, and national -security approvals. • Final Neutron Stage 1 qualification results, actual first -launch date, post-flight findings, and evidence of repeatable production and launch cadence. • Identity, durability, and contract characteristics of the government customer representing 42% of first -half 2026 revenue. • Net financial effect of MDA delivery delays and any liquidated damages or supplier recoveries. • Longer-term integration and profitability of recent acquisitions, particularly Mynaric, and the combined -company integration plan if Iridium closes. • Full valuation, security-price sensitivity, portfolio suitability, a detailed competitive -market forecast, and a full Space Systems competitor benchmark. These are outside this CRS.

How to read BCI assessments

Risk level

Low Risk: No material company-level risk was identified that is likely, on the reviewed record, to significantly affect this decision. Normal uncertainty remains. Moderate Risk: Material risks, uncertainties or dependencies require verification, monitoring or mitigation before commitment. High Risk: Material risks or unresolved conditions could substantially impair the decision or relationship and require deeper diligence or mitigation.

BCI assessment conclusion

Further consideration supported: The findings support continued evaluation. Normal diligence still applies. Further consideration supported, subject to conditions: Continued evaluation is supported, with specific unresolved issues materially affecting the assessment. The report identifies those conditions. Significant concerns identified: The findings materially weaken the case for moving forward. The report explains the concerns and their implications.

Separate judgments

Risk level describes the assessed exposure; the assessment conclusion describes what the findings support. They are separate judgments, not automatic equivalents.

Selected sources

The source register below is retained from the historical assessment.

[1] Rocket Lab Corporation, Form 10-Q for quarter ended June 30, 2026, filed Aug. 10, 2026, SEC Accession No. 0001819994 -26-000062.

[2] Rocket Lab Corporation, Form 10-K for year ended Dec. 31, 2025, filed Feb. 26, 2026, SEC Accession No. 0001819994-26-000013.

[3] Rocket Lab Corporation, Definitive Proxy Statement (DEF 14A), filed Apr. 6, 2026, SEC Accession No. 0001628280 -26-023922.

[4] Rocket Lab Corporation, “Rocket Lab to Acquire Iridium in Historic Deal, Creating a Fully Vertically Integrated Space Pow erhouse Primed for Growth,” June 29, 2026.

[5] SEC Notice of Effectiveness, Form S-4, File No. 333-298287, effective Aug. 26, 2026, SEC Accession No. 9999999995-26-002771.

[6] Rocket Lab Corporation, Form 424B3 Proxy Statement/Prospectus, filed Aug. 26, 2026, Registration No. 333 -298287, SEC Accession No. 0001753926-26-001639.

[7] Rocket Lab Corporation, “Dollar-for-Dollar Replacement At-The-Market Equity Program,” Aug. 13, 2026.

[8] Rocket Lab Corporation, “Progress on Iridium Acquisition: HSR Period Lapses; Form S -4 Filed; FCC Applications Filed; Capital Strategy Underway,” Aug. 13, 2026.

[9] Rocket Lab Corporation, “MISSION SUCCESS: Rocket Lab Launches 94th Electron Mission,” Sept. 2, 2026.

[10] SpaceX, Smallsat Rideshare Program, published pricing and service information, accessed Sept. 6, 2026.

[11] Firefly Aerospace, Alpha Payload User’s Guide v5.2, payload capability and dedicated -launch information.

Limitations

This is a bounded public-source screening assessment, not enhanced due diligence and not investment advice. Source availability, reporting lags, confi dential contract terms, and events after September 6, 2026 may change the assessment. Company statements and filings are treated as attributable disclosu res, not independent verification of every underlying operational claim. The absence of an adverse finding should not be interpreted as proof that no adverse informatio n exists.