

NASA launches its mega Artemis I moon rocket 50 years after Apollo program

BREVARD, Fla. NASA launched its massive Artemis I moon rocket early Wednesday, bringing the United States a step closer to landing on the lunar surface for the first time in 50 years since the end of the Apollo program.

NASA teams proceeded to fuel the 322-foot Space Launch System rocket with liquid hydrogen and oxygen at 3:50 p.m. ET — just over nine hours ahead of liftoff. The Artemis I launch was scheduled to start at 1:04 a.m. ET Wednesday, giving NASA a two-hour window to send the rocket into orbit, but technical issues delayed the launch time.

After no constraints were reported and all elements were polled a “go,” the new moon rocket launched at 1:47 a.m. ET.

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