

## Artemis 1 – “Failure is not an option”



On September 3<sup>rd</sup> NASA was going to launch the first Artemis 1 mission, an uncrewed rocket into space. NASA has been working on the Artemis program since 2017 and the purpose is to send a crew to the moon for exploration. The first mission was

scrubbed due to a hydrogen leak that delayed fueling. The engineers constantly kept trying to repair the leak during the Artemis 1 countdown. They attempted to repair it three times, but all three attempts failed.

Even NASA has failures. However, they do not see them as failures but as setbacks and learning experiences. “This is not a letdown,” Astronaut Victor Glover told reporters after the scrub. “This is understanding how these things work, these really incredibly complex machines that we want to try to integrate human beings in.”



Failure is part of the learning experience. It teaches us not just about the project but also about ourselves. When we first learn to walk, we constantly fall and sometimes we cry and sometimes we don’t but what we always get back up. This teaches us strength and determination. This is only a setback because we try again. It is only failure if we no longer keep trying.

NASA kept working hard at trying to resolve the problem. They have replaced the leaking seals on two fuel lines. This Saturday, 17 September 2022, they will have a refueling test. Engineers also replaced smaller seals on the liquid hydrogen “discharge line” that also leaked



during the August 29 launch attempt. This test will allow the engineers to inspect the new seals. The team found the problem, came up with solutions, and is now testing the solutions before attempting to launch Artemis 1.

"We'll go when it's ready. We don't go until then, and especially now on a test flight," NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said in televised comments after the scrub. "This is part of the space business."

Failure is part of success!

## **References**

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