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Dewa eyes still higher levels of service with new satellite

LAUNCH HAD SEEN 3 PREVIOUS POSTPONEMENTS DUE TO BAD WEATHER

DUBAI

BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN
Senior Reporter

After three postponements due to bad weather, Dubai's Earth observation nanosatellite Dewa-SAT 2 was launched on a SpaceX rocket from California yesterday.

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (Dewa)'s 6U nanosatellite was among 51 spacecraft that were launched into orbit by the Transporter-7 ride-share mission on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.

The launch took place from the Vandenberg Space Force Base in California at 10.48am UAE time. The launch took place four days after the originally planned date following three stand-downs due to bad weather.

The launch of Dewa SAT-2 underlines Dewa's leadership in using space technologies to improve the operations, maintenance and planning of electricity and water networks. The nanosatellite was designed and developed by Emiratis at Dewa's Research and Development Centre, in collaboration with NanoAvionics in Lithuania.

Saeed Mohammad Al Tayer, MD and CEO of Dewa, said Dewa is keen to use the latest technologies in exchanging



The SpaceX rocket carrying the Dewa-SAT 2 nanosatellite blasts off from California.

information through satellite communications and earth observation technologies. "Dewa's Space-D programme, which was launched by His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, in January 2021, aims to improve the operations, maintenance and

planning of Dewa's networks through nanosatellites and remote sensing technologies. The programme also seeks to train Emiratis specialised in the use of space technologies in electricity and water networks."

Dewa SAT-2 features a high-resolution camera (4.7 metres) that will be used for Earth observation missions. The camera

provides continuous line-scan imaging in seven spectral bands from an approximately 500km orbit.



Watch a video on the launch of Dewa's nanosatellite and read the article in full