24 April 2024

(ACS3; Picture credits: NASA Ames)

Rocket Lab Electron Launch

Space agency/country: Rocket Lab

Mission: ACS3 & NeonSat-1

On 24 April 2024, Rocket Lab launched the *ACS3 & NeonSat-1* missions from Onenui Station (Mahia Peninsula), New Zealand. The launch vehicle carried NASA's Advanced Composite Solar Sail System (*ACS3*) and South Korea's *NeonSat-1*. The *ACS3* payload will help future solar missions maximize their results thanks to the lightweight carbon fiber sail booms used (instead of the more traditional metal booms). *NeonSat-1* is a high-resolution optical satellite developed by South Korea's Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) which will be deployed as a technology demonstration for a planned future Earth observation constellation.

For more information:

https://www.asdnews.com/news/aerospace/2023/12/08/rocket-lab-signs-deal-launch-south-korean-satellite
Rocket Lab Prepares to Launch Mission for KAIST and NASA to (asdnews.com)