



Advent Resource

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IN THE NEWS

Data from
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Carmakers Form Joint Venture

To reduce development costs, Ford, Renault, Nissan and PSA Peugeot-Citroen will form a joint venture to create navigation and other telematics systems for cars in Europe, say media reports. The plan is to create a shared European infrastructure to provide efficient and affordable services.

Japan Works On Cleaner Fuel

Two Japanese joint ventures hope to commercialize a new fuel by 2006 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help Japan become less reliant on Middle East oil imports, Reuters reports. One venture is led by Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Inc. and the other by Japanese steelmaker NKK Corp. Both are focusing on mass producing dimethyl-ether (DME), which is made from natural gas and emits no sulphur oxide and only small amounts of carbon dioxide. DME could eventually replace liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) as a fuel for some vehicles and power generators.

BMW Cashes In On Mini Cachet

BMW is offering accessories and clothing as part of its sales program for the new Mini in the U.S. Dealers install accessories such as spoilers and offer a full line of clothing. The carmaker hired a former Harley-Davidson staffer to develop marketing and a former staff member of the MaxMara clothing brand to create the apparel. Dealers are urged to add a changing room in their showrooms. BMW is using non-traditional advertising. Print advertising is limited and there are no national TV spots. The car will be featured in AOL Time Warner's next Austin Powers film that debuts in July. BMW plans to sell 20,000 Minis annually in the U.S.

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Power User of the Month

Jarrold Murphy
IS/Facility Manager,
Mercedez-Benz of
Laguna Niguel



Our latest Power User of the Month is **Jarrold**

Murphy, Information Services/Facility Manager at Mercedes-Benz of Laguna Niguel in Laguna Niguel, California. Jarrold has only been on the job for a few months but has already won praise from our staff for his skill and helpful attitude. Not only is Jarrold responsible for maintaining the Advent software and hardware but also their ADP system and much of the physical plant for his dealership. He's got his hands full but Jarrold seems to be the one to have if you only have one! 🌴

Advent Welcomes



Advent extends a warm welcome to **Carl Chevrolet** of San Jose, one of the premiere dealerships in Northern California. We are also delighted to welcome **Will Tiesiera Ford** of Tulare, one of our stars in Central California.

We are very happy to have you join our Advent Client family and look forward to a long and productive relationship. 🌴

Tongue in Cheek

Problem Solvers

Never let it be said that ground crews and engineers lack a sense of humor.



Here are some actual logged maintenance complaints and problems, as submitted by QUANTAS pilots and the solution recorded by maintenance engineers. (By the way

Quantas is the only major airline that has never had an accident.)

P = The problem logged by the pilot.
S = The solution and action taken by the engineers.

- P:** Left inside main tire almost needs replacement.
- S:** Almost replaced left inside main tire.
- P:** Test flight OK, except autoland very rough.
- S:** Autoland not installed on this aircraft.
- P:** No. 2 propeller seeping prop fluid.
- S:** No. 2 propeller seepage normal. Nos. 1, 3 and 4 propellers lack normal seepage.
- P:** Something loose in cockpit.
- S:** Something tightened in cockpit.
- P:** Dead bugs on windshield.
- S:** Live bugs on backorder.
- P:** Autopilot in altitude-hold mode produces a 200-fpm descent.
- S:** Cannot reproduce problem on ground.
- P:** Evidence of leak on right main landing gear.
- S:** Evidence removed.
- P:** DME volume unbelievably loud.
- S:** DME volume set to more believable level.
- P:** Friction locks cause throttle levers to stick.
- S:** That's what they're there for!
- P:** IFF inoperative.
- S:** IFF always inoperative in OFF mode.
- P:** Suspected crack in windscreen.
- S:** Suspect you're right.
- P:** Number 3 engine missing.
- S:** Engine found on right wing after brief search.
- P:** Aircraft handles funny.
- S:** Aircraft warned to straighten up, fly right, and be serious.
- P:** Target radar hums.
- S:** Reprogrammed target radar with words.
- P:** Mouse in cockpit.
- S:** Cat installed. 🌴

Email Hell

Just Shoot Me




I personally want to apologize for the blizzard of emails which resulted from the improper addressing of our distribution list for our newsletter. This is a great example of what happens when you put powerful technology in the hands of someone who does not realize the impact of an action. Unfortunately, that individual was me. So, with my hat in hand, I ask your forgiveness and promise not to do it again. On the upside, many of those who know me had an extended laugh over my situation and I received about 200 phone calls expressing their delight at my plight.

For those of you who asked to be taken off of the list, we have tried to accomplish this. However, if you receive this in error, please respond to the newsletter you receive via email by typing 'remove' in the subject line and we will accommodate you.

Again, sorry for the email snow storm.

Tim Gill

CFO

Advent Resources Inc. 


Bilingual

Engineering Project

Management Explained

Ours is the age of high tech engineering marvels, produced by cadres of brilliant engineers slaving away in the back rooms of corporate giants. Between the engineers and upper management stand the Engineering Managers, bilingual translators between engineerese and executiveese. For your edification, here is a phrase book which gives you a translation from one language to another.

- A number of different approaches are being tried.
We are still whistling in the wind.
- Extensive report is being prepared on a fresh approach to the problem.
We just hired three kids fresh out of college.
- Close Project Coordination
We know who to blame.

- Major Technological Breakthrough
It works OK, but looks very hi-tech.
- Customer Satisfaction Assured
We are so far behind schedule the customer is happy to get it delivered.
- Preliminary operational tests were inconclusive.
The darn thing blew up when we threw the switch.
- Test results were extremely gratifying.
We are so surprised that the stupid thing works.
- The entire concept will have to be abandoned.
The only person who understood the thing quit.
- All New
Parts not interchangeable with the previous design.
- Rugged
Too damn heavy to lift!
- Lightweight
Lighter than Rugged
- Years of Development
One finally worked.
- Low Maintenance
Impossible to fix if broken. 

By the Numbers

Sad but True?

Ever wonder about those people who say they are giving more than 100%? We have all been to those meetings where someone wants over 100%. How about achieving 103%? Here's a little math that might prove helpful. What makes life 100%?

If: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q
R S T U V W X Y Z is represented as:
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

Then:

H A R D W O R K
8 1 18 4 23 15 18 11 = 98%

K N O W L E D G E
11 14 15 23 12 5 4 7 5 = 96%


But,

A T T I T U D E
1 20 20 9 20 21 4 5 = 100%

And,

B U L L S H I T

2 21 12 12 19 8 9 20 = 103%

So, it stands to reason that hard work and knowledge will get you close, attitude will get you there, but bullshit will put you over the top. 

Athletes as Role Models

Maybe We Should Try the Science Club

- ✓ New Orleans Saint RB George Rogers when asked about the upcoming season:
"I want to rush for 1,000 or 1,500 yards, whichever comes first."
 - ✓ Shaquille O'Neal on whether he had visited the Parthenon during his visit to Greece:
"I can't really remember the names of the clubs that we went to."
 - ✓ Football commentator and former player Joe Theismann 1996:
"Nobody in football should be called a genius. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein."
 - ✓ Bill Peterson, a Florida State football coach:
"You guys line up alphabetically by height, and you guys pair up in groups of three, then line up in a circle."
 - ✓ Stu Grimson, Chicago Blackhawks left wing, explaining why he keeps a color photo of himself above his locker:
"That's so when I forget how to spell my name, I can still find my clothes."
 - ✓ Shelby Metcalf, basketball coach at Texas A&M, recounting what he told a player who received four F's and one D:
"Son, looks to me like you're spending too much time on one subject."
- And our personal favorite:
- ✓ Asked by Bob Costas why he takes his wife on all road trips, Oiler coach Bum Phillips responded:
"Because she is too damn ugly to kiss good bye." 