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International Flight Test News



Boeing Launches Successful Pad Abort Test Of Starliner Crew Capsule Ahead Of First Human Flight To Space In 2020 – White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico

Boeing performed a successful pad abort test of its Starliner crew capsule, a key step towards launching humans into space in 2020 – although the vehicle experienced a problem with its parachutes during the test. On Monday, November 4, the Starliner CST-100 vehicle lifted off from Launch Complex 32. The goal of the test was to practice how the capsule would quickly escape from a rocket malfunction during a launch, using its thrusters to carry any astronauts on board to safety. For this flight lasting just a little more than a minute there were no people on board. The capsule used its thrusters to quickly launch from the ground, experiencing 5Gs for about five seconds reaching a speed of 1,050 kilometers per hour, the vehicle then pitched around about 15 seconds after taking off, so that it was travelling with its nose facing backwards. It reached a maximum altitude of more than 1,200 meters before beginning its descent. The vehicle deployed a set of drogue parachutes before its main parachutes then deployed, which are designed to bring the vehicle back to a safe landing with the use of airbags. However, only two of the three main parachutes on the vehicle deployed. About half way through the flight the vehicle detached its service module as planned, which is attached to the bottom and will provide life support for the crew in space. Then, after its airbags had inflated, the vehicle came in for a relatively soft landing in the desert under its two parachutes. The company is now hoping to send it on an uncrewed test flight to the ISS on 17 December. [Forbes](#)



Israel's 'Air Force One' successfully completes first test flight – Tel Aviv, Israel

Israel's own "Air Force One" aircraft, which will serve both the prime minister and president on official trips abroad, successfully executed its first test flight on 3 November. The Boeing 767-300ER airliner, which arrived here in the summer of 2016 from Australian carrier Qantas and has since been retrofitted by Israel Aerospace Industries, took off from and returned to Ben-Gurion Airport after a four-and-a-half-hour flight. All key systems operated successfully during the flight. Further test flights and additional checks will be carried out before the state-owned aircraft enters into service. The aircraft, IAI said, contains sophisticated technological systems designed and assembled by the company to enable reliable service for decades to come. To date, Israel's national carrier, El Al, has transported the country's leaders and official delegations on foreign visits. It is also equipped with sophisticated and encrypted communication systems, enabling confidential conversations with contacts in Israel or with international leaders. The aircraft, IAI said, is capable of flying non-stop to China and Japan in the East or the United States and Brazil in the West. [The Jerusalem Post](#)



Tech Council Webinar

20 November 2019

1300 EST

4th and Final Webinar - Flight Test Safety Lessons

Webinar Link to Follow

Ranger 2000 Mishap

Followed by discussion of all 7 mishaps reviewed this year to divine common threads that could serve as Red Flags for future testers.

Chapter News



North Texas Chapter



Acro Sport II

Bernie Olson

13 November, 2019

7:00pm CST

University of Texas at Arlington



SR-71

USAF Col. (Ret.) Rich Graham

19 November, 2019

7:30pm CST

University of Texas at Dallas

Col. Graham flew the SR-71 for the seven years, amassing 756 hours in the world's fastest and highest-flying aircraft. He has written four books on the SR-71 Blackbird and will have a few books available for purchase and signing afterwards.

SFTE Live Feed: <rtmp://71.170.72.11/PlayCentral/SR71>

If your device has flash installed:

<http://71.170.72.11/SFTE.html?url=rtmp://71.170.72.11/PlayCentral/SR71>

Instructions on how to use rtmp link:

http://71.170.72.11/playcentral/How_to_play_RTMP_streams_with_media_player_on_Windows_or_Mac.pdf



UTA Aero Mavs to Compete at NASA Marshall Space Flight Center

The UT Arlington Aero Mavs have been accepted into the prestigious [NASA Student Launch Competition](#) to be held next spring in Huntsville, Alabama. The UTA student team completed their preliminary design review with NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center on 4 November and will progress towards Critical Design Review in January, Flight Readiness Review in March, and then full-scale launch in Huntsville on 4 April, 2020. They also plan to compete again in the annual Spaceport America Cup competition in New Mexico next June. The SFTE/AIAA North Texas chapters sponsor the team by providing hotel rooms annually in New Mexico for the week of competition.



Fall Private Pilot Ground School Graduates 45 at LM

SFTE and AIAA again sponsored a private pilot ground school at Lockheed Martin for employees in the LM training center. Taught by CFII Greg EngelTM, 45 members of the class earned the instructor's endorsement on 5 November to allow them to take the FAA written exam and begin flight training. A spring ground school class is planned to be offered next year due to the high level of interest.

Congrats to the SFTE graduates!



Canadian Chapter



8th Annual Flight Test Seminar

12-13 December, 2019

International Test Pilots School

London, Ontario, Canada

FREE to Canadian SETP and SFTE Members

Contact Kelly Morrison kelly@itpscanada.com for registration



Giuseppe Afruni

Keynote Speaker

Chief Test Pilot & Head of Flight Test Leonardo Helicopters



Andreas Artono

Transport Canada

TCCA Flight Test activities



John Turner (F)

ITPS



1. *Helmet Mounted Display Testing in Combat Aircraft*
2. *Direct Voice Input Controls Testing in Combat Aircraft*



Gökhan Virlan, Ilker Uysal
Turkish Aerospace
T625 Gökbey Helicopter Flight Test Update



Don Grove^M (M)
Bell
V-280 Valor: Highly Successful Results from a High-Performance Team



Dr. Panos VitsasSM
ITPS
Flight Testing Stealth - Guidelines for Radar Cross Section (RCS) testing



Terry Lutz^M (F)

Crosswind Testing of Transport Aircraft



Dan Canin (AF)

Lockheed Martin

F-35 High Angle of Attack Flight Control Development and Flight Test Results



David Mitchell^M

ITPS

Defining Pilot Gain



Maurice Girard (F)

Bombardier

High Speed – High Risk Flight Testing: A 25 Year Perspective and Lessons Learned.



Claude Lelaie

Airbus (Ret.)

Flight Displays on Large Aircraft



Lars Peter, Amazilia Aerospace

Giorgio Clementi ^M (M), ITPS

5STA and ACE, tools for 5th gen. fighter test pilot training



Jean-Philippe Cotett

Airbus

Beluga XL Development Flight Tests Campaign



SFTE Technical Paper Database

Toulouse tech papers are now available in the database

Also, to get to the paper download the search must return only one response (so narrow the search if you get multiple responses).

Non-members can purchase tech papers for \$15 each at: <https://www.123signup.com/register?id=rszxv>



Flight Test Society of Australia Provides Access to their Tech Paper Database

The Flight Test Society of Australia (FTSA), a united organization Australian FTEs and test pilots, and SFTE share the vision of improving flight test safety and lessons learnt through enhanced cooperation between these professional flight test organisations. As part of this objective, FTSA and SFTE have reached a reciprocal agreement to share our technical papers between our respective memberships. There are currently 21 technical papers in the FTSA database.

Membership

Members by Chapter

At Large - 288

Europe - 202

Antelope Valley - 150

Seattle - 124

Patuxent River - 119

North Texas - 82

Wichita - 65

Emerald Coast - 41

Rocket City (Huntsville) - 32

South Florida - 29

Los Angeles - 27

Coastal Empire - 25

Wright - 24

St. Louis - 15

Canada - 6

Virginia Tech Student Chapter - 6

New Mexico - 5
Central Florida - 4
China Lake - 3

50th Anniversary Member Renewal Items for 2019!

Make sure you renew your membership this year to receive the following member items to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of SFTE.

Don't worry, if you would like to renew early to receive your items early your membership will be extended from its annual due date.



50th Anniversary Patch for all Members



50th Anniversary Personalized Member Certificate for Members, Senior Members, and Fellows

This classic format from the beginning of SFTE returns but with the special 50th Anniversary logo designed by the SFTE Coastal Empire Chapter.

Join/Renew SFTE membership

SFTE Member Level denoted as Exponent (SETP in parenthesis)

ST - Student Member

AL - Affiliate Member

AS - Associate Member

M - Member

SM - Senior Member

F - Fellow

(HF) - Honorary Fellow

(PAM) - Provisional Associate Member

For more info on SFTE member grades & to apply for upgrade:

<http://www.sfte.org/membership-individual/>

2019 Calendar

13 November

North Texas Chapter/SETP/AIAA – [Acro Sport II](#), Bernie Olson, UT Arlington

14 November

South Florida Chapter – Monthly Meeting at Yard House in Palm Beach Gardens

19 November

North Texas Chapter/SETP/AIAA – SR-71 by Rich Graham, UT Dallas **SFTE Live Feed**

20 November

Tech Council Webinar **SFTE Live Feed**

21 November

Pax River Chapter Beer Call

6 December

North Texas Chapter/SETP/AIAA - 1st Friday at the Flying Saucer, Fort Worth, 6pm

12-13 December

SFTE Canadian Chapter - 8th Annual ITPS Flight Test Seminar London, Ontario, FREE to Canadian SETP and SFTE Members. Contact Kelly Morrison kelly@itpscanada.com for registration and info.

2020 Calendar

4-7 May

SFTE/SETP/AIAA Flight Test Safety Workshop, Denver, CO

19-22 Oct.

51st Annual SFTE Symposium – St. Louis, MO



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Have some Flight Test news or Chapter Events to share?

Just send as a reply to this email. Make sure it is public-released information and/or reference a news release. Include names of SFTE members contributing to the events.

