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Scholarships awarded valued \$ 600,000

Whirly-Girls International Female Helicopter Pilots, a non-profit organization, awarded scholarships to female pilots and maintenance engineers worth \$600,000.

"I'm so proud of our Whirly Girl Scholarship program, which continues to attract and inspire many women; some are just beginning their journey, and some have many years of experience in need of advancing their career.

"The caliber of women applying to these scholarships is impressive, and it's very satisfying to see the long-term effects on the growth of female helicopter pilots and maintainers," says Annie Paya, Whirly-Girls International Scholarship Director, recalling her own experience as a recipient of the Whirly-Girls scholarship and the impact it had on her career as helicopter pilot.



Photograph: Whirly-Girls

Book Recommendation



"Lola Reid Allin's memoir, Highway to the Sky, transcends genres to mix aviation history, the author's journey, and the feminist experience...a compelling testament to the power of perseverance and the pursuit of one's dreams, offering inspiration to readers facing similar struggles in their own lives."

—Readers Favorite, FIVE STARS



NEWSLETTER

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The launch of Grain to Green

Terraces on the Loess plateau covered with layers of green wheat seedlings and dotted with golden rape flowers in Yuncheng, Shanxi province. Photograph: CFoto/Future Publishing/Getty | Guardian

Once eroded, the Loess plateau became 11,500 sq miles of forest or grassland.

The transformation of China's Loess plateau, which spans three provinces, more than 245,000 sq miles, and sustains around 100 million people, is undoubtedly one of the most long-lasting undertakings.

Helen Davidson, journalist for the Guardian, wrote the article titled 'All the birds returned: How a Chinese project led the way in water and soil conservation'. She discusses the project start-up of the three-year duration planning through the World Bank, and they team up with experts, farmers, and communities.

According to the article, the success was based on grain and monetary subsidies for people who converted eroded land into grassland and economic forest. Another was tax breaks and perks to offset farming losses, long-term land use agreements, and transition to more sustainable farming practices.



Renate Buchner
Editor
Beyond Journal

Fake news, a weapon of political power

The US Administration described the Times as "a propaganda machine that should immediately retract its lies."

"Lies" is a powerful term that should be handled with caution. Trump stated in the meeting (25. Feb.) with French President Macron to the press on the Ukraine conflict that Europe would receive its aid back. His counterpart, French President Emmanuel Macron, interrupted and corrected President Trump. "No, to be honest, we paid. We paid 60% of the total aid," Macron said.

But is this fake news? Trump gave inaccurate facts, but fake news is more insidious.

For example, in Austria, a Bulgarian woman disseminated false information, implying that pro-Ukrainian activists were behind it to make it more russia-friendly.

People are fast-paced, and they tend to believe what they want to hear and don't take the time to interpret the content: Is this article balanced, fair, and reasonable?

A Daily Tribune investigation found that "Influence operations are aimed at intentionally skewing how people see recent political events, usually through hyperpartisan narratives offering wildly different interpretations of political issues."

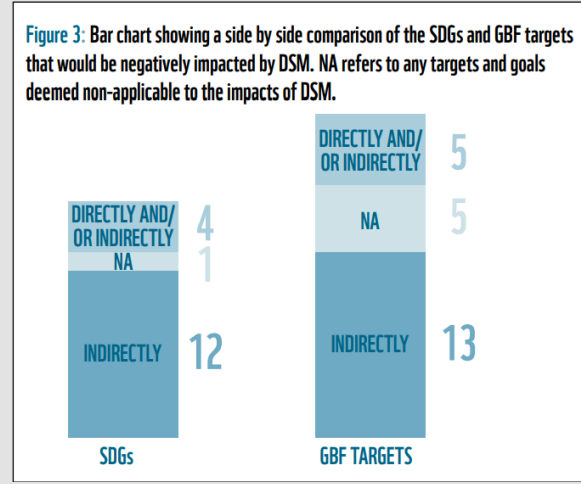
Fake news is a weapon used to mislead people into backing their viewpoint and agenda. But, we people have the choice to identify fake information. NOAA created a worksheet to identify fake information, one of the clues to look at the web domain, biased content, or make outrageous claims.

WWF urges a worldwide moratorium on deep seabed mining

Energy, digital, and other sectors are transitioning to a low-carbon economy to meet global climate goals, which is driving a significant spike in demand for critical minerals. The potential source of deep seabed mining (DSM) raises questions about its promises for economic, environmental, and socio-economic benefits.

WWF's latest report, published in March, highlights how deep-seabed mining undermines global commitments to safeguard ocean biodiversity and climate stability.

"The deep sea is one of the last untouched ecosystems on Earth, playing a crucial role in regulating our climate and supporting marine life. We cannot afford to sacrifice it for short-term commercial interests," said Jessica Battle, WWF Lead, in a press release statement, referring to the conclusion from the WWF report that DSM is not a sustainable solution.



WWF analysis showcases in their figure that DSM could negatively impact 16 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 18 of the 23 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) targets | Source: WWF

Based on these findings, WWF believes that deep-seabed mining (DSM) could cause extensive marine pollution and physical destruction of deep-sea ecosystems and habitats.

These include biodiversity loss, further disparities between low-income and high-income countries, and unequal access to resources.

The DSM's projected supply of cobalt by 2050 is only about 8% of global supply, leaving local capacity underdeveloped.

Papua New Guinea, one of the Pacific SIDS (Small Island Developing States), was left with a USD 125 million debt after the Canadian mining company Nautilus declared bankruptcy. Nautilus was the first to receive a DSM exploration licence.

Due to climate change susceptibility, Pacific SIDS are hampered by weak legal and institutional frameworks, posing increased risks in managing DSM's environmental and economic implications.

The Solwara-1 project (deep seabed mining) was the subject of a Nautilus-commissioned environmental and social benchmarking report released in 2015, but it was later revealed that the report ignored issues raised by the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) of the project.

Before the start of the DSM project, the Nautilus study claimed that there would be no impact on communities because it was located at sea. But this wasn't the case. Coastal neighbors reported dead fish washing up on the beach, as well as excessive sediment levels.

Photo of the day



A fallow deer shakes water from its coat following a hail shower in Phoenix park, Dublin

Photograph:
Brian Lawless/PA
published: The Guardian

Stunt film pilot showcases his mentoring program

The Fred North Helicopter Safety Mentorship Program debuted in March during VERTICON in Dallas.

The program is consists of a network of helicopter-specific ambassadors who curate a pool of mentors.

Its purpose is to provide mentors, decision-making guidance, and an improved safety standard to pilots at all levels of their careers.

This free program matches mentors and mentees, provides regular check-ins, and encourages knowledge exchange.



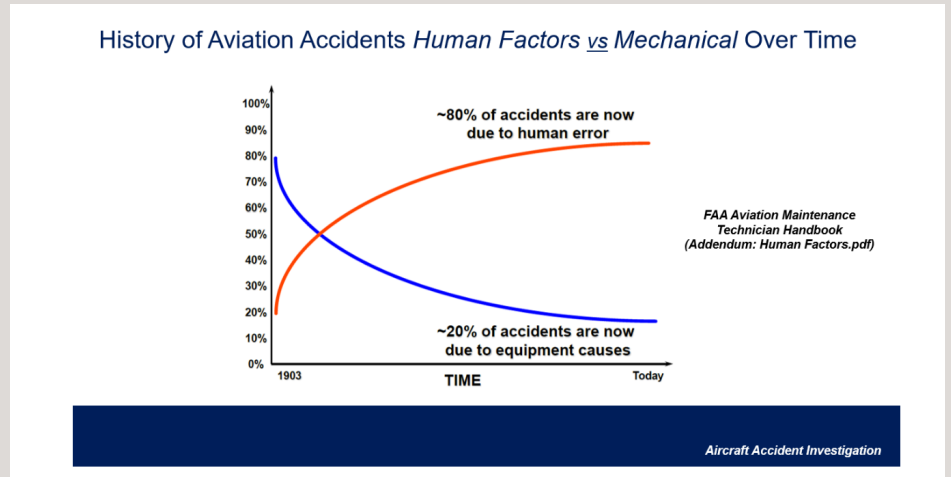
Photograph: Fred North

“Slow down | Pay attention | Just say No”

Vertical Aviation International (VAI) Spotlight article on safety

Seth D. Buttner is Airbus Helicopters' senior investigator, having conducted over 600 accident investigations over the past 30 years.

In his article for the VAI Spotlight on Safety, he stated, "If pilots and technicians could see and understand firsthand the devastation that resulted from their choices and actions due to unwarranted risk, we'd be able to flatten the curve, if not nearly eliminate fatal accidents altogether in aviation."



Graph: The human error curve was 20% at the beginning of aviation 1900s, but mechanical issues were corrected over time, and the curve rose. @Seth Buttner

Seth shows two opposing exponential curves in the logarithmic graph, indicating a changing relationship between two categories, mechanical and human components.

Mechanical error was the leading cause of aircraft accidents in the early 1900s. "The line on the graph has flipped," stated Seth, indicating that the human factor is the most commonly seen cause of aviation accidents, while the mechanical factor has been reduced through developments in technology.

Stay tuned for the upcoming edition in April

The topics are:

- Environmental effects of Russia's destruction of Ukraine's Kakhovka Dam
- First-hand interview of a non-profit organization fighting for survival through the devastation of the wildfire and the most recent turn of events by the US administration in the matter of Education
- Key appointment at the top of GreenGo: strategic development for the growth of the pipeline, with a focus on M&A and presence in Northern Italy
| Press Release 26. March 2025
- Air tour operator in Botswana provide access to views and wildlife

Thank you for reading!