

Re: Disobeying jet engines – why?

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- *From:* John Larkin <jjlarkin@xx>
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On Thu, 24 Jan 2008 13:18:35 –0600, Damon Hill
<damon1SIX1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Didi <diditgi@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in <news:f121757f–1671–4ebe–892d–625ea1c236b6@h11g2000prf.googlegroups.com>:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/london/7206596.stm>

Anyway, to me this sounds like some popular office OS has made its way into the cockpit and was out for lunch with the HDD while the pilot was trying to talk it into delivering his commands to the engine controllers...

Windoze is NOT qualified for critical applications like this. It's something pretty specialized and focused for the application. I suspect the investigation will either find a hardware fault or operator error (misconfigured autopilot). Airbus has had something similiar happen, resulting in a crash and loss of life.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=–kHa3WNerjU>

—Damon Real life doesn't have a 'reset' button

I know some of the guys who do the engine control computer firmware for the Pratt&Whitney engines. They use our gear to simulate engine sensor signals to the control computer, and run weeks/months of scripts to verify the firmware in all sorts of situations.

Their ECC's use no OS at all, just basic bare–metal state machines.

John

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