

Engineering Newswire 12: Saving lives with robotic bees

Today on Engineering Newswire, brought to you by PD&D TV, we're putting employees on time out, playing Tetris in a pumpkin and saving lives with robotic bees:

- Harvard University electrical engineers Rob Wood and Goo-Yon Wee are working on RoboBee, a miniature flying robot inspired by the biology of a bee and the insect's hive behavior.
- CalmSpace is a self-contained, plug-and-play sleep capsule optimized to create the perfect environment for tired office workers to catch some shut eye.
- Madison, WI-based Orbital Technologies has successfully flight tested its patented vortex liquid fuel rocket engine, establishing substantial progress toward the development of a 30,000-lb thrust vortex engine.
- Pet-Proto, a predecessor to DARPA's Atlas robot, has recently been confronted with obstacles similar to those robots might face in the DARPA Robotics Challenge.
- Pumpktris is a playable version of LED Tetris, housed inside of a pumpkin.

Do you have story ideas? Email pdd_web@advantagemedia.com [1] and we'll cover them in an upcoming episode.

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