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AI · CYBERSECURITY · ENGINEERING

AI Slop Is Changing How Engineers Review Code



As AI tools generate more production code, engineering teams are shifting effort from writing to verification. IEEE Spectrum reports that hidden assumptions, security flaws and subtle bugs can survive superficially clean output, prompting new review policies, specialised agents and stronger human accountability for AI-generated software.

IEEE Spectrum | 9 September 2026

AI · SMART DEVICES

China's Regulators Take Aim at "AI Boyfriends"

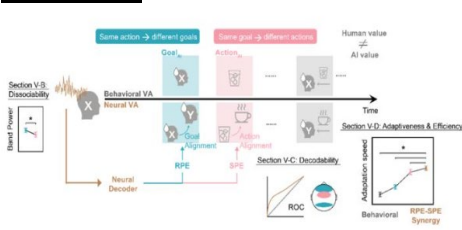


China's new rules for anthropomorphic AI services are reshaping companion-chatbot products used by hundreds of millions of people. Major platforms have curtailed custom companion behaviours, illustrating how safety and social-policy requirements can rapidly alter the design, availability and commercial direction of emotionally responsive AI systems.

IEEE Spectrum | 10 September 2026

AI · HEALTH TECH · SENSORS

KAIST develops AI that can sense "that's not what I meant" without being told



KAIST researchers demonstrated a neural-value-alignment system that uses EEG signals and deep learning to detect when a person's action outcome conflicts with their intended goal. The approach could provide implicit corrective feedback for assistive robots, brain-computer interfaces and other human-AI systems without requiring explicit commands.

Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) | 9 September 2026

ARCHITECTURE · ENGINEERING · MATERIALS

Digital Worlds and the Limits of Frictionless Space: Rethinking Scale and Materiality

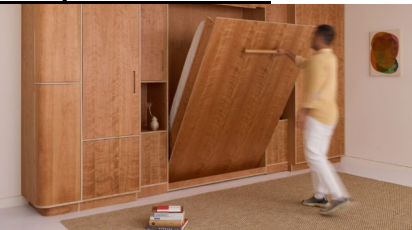


This essay examines how increasingly frictionless digital design tools can distance architects from physical scale, fabrication and material behaviour. It argues for reconnecting computational workflows with mock-ups, construction constraints and embodied making so that digital precision remains accountable to the realities of building.

ArchDaily | 10 September 2026

ARCHITECTURE · MATERIALS · CITIES

Lozi designs modular plywood furniture to make the most of compact bedrooms

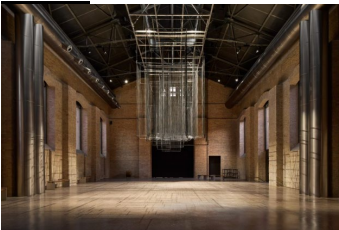


Lozi developed a modular plywood system combining wardrobes, desks, storage and a Murphy bed for small bedrooms. The components can be configured around different room sizes and needs, offering a repeatable alternative to fully bespoke joinery and addressing the growing pressure to use compact urban living space more efficiently.

Dezeen | 10 September 2026

ARCHITECTURE · CITIES · SUSTAINABILITY

Studio KO transforms "basilica-like" tram depot into Tashkent art centre

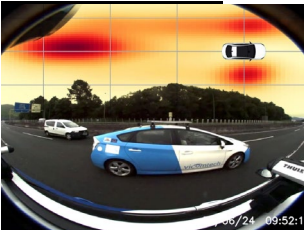


Studio KO converted an early-20th-century tram depot and diesel station in Tashkent into a contemporary art centre while retaining the large industrial hall and much of the site's existing fabric. The adaptive-reuse strategy inserts new cultural functions without erasing the spatial identity of the former infrastructure.

Dezeen | 9 September 2026

CITIES · SENSORS · SMART DEVICES · ENGINEERING

Highway Test Reveals Limits for Connected Vehicle Communication

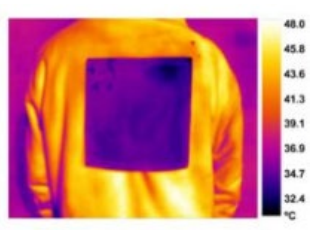


A real-world Spanish highway trial quantified limits in vehicle-to-everything collective perception at 80–120 km/h. Detection success dropped sharply beyond 30 metres and processing plus communications introduced meaningful latency; synchronising perception and transmission could cut end-to-end delay by about one-third.

IEEE Spectrum | 14 September 2026

MATERIALS · SUSTAINABILITY · SMART DEVICES

Cool, power, move: A printable material that does it all



Researchers created a printable textile material that combines passive radiative cooling with triboelectric energy harvesting from motion. The same platform can support sensing and adaptive heating functions, suggesting clothing and soft surfaces that manage heat, generate power and provide electronic functionality without bulky added hardware.

University of Illinois Grainger College of Engineering | 10 September 2026

MATERIALS · ENGINEERING

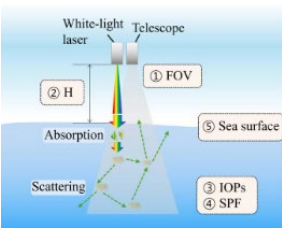
Raindrops can damage paint with microscopic "lightning"



Experiments show that water droplets can acquire charge while moving across surfaces, then release microscopic electrical discharges when they strike coatings. This previously overlooked degradation mechanism may explain part of long-term weathering and could inform

OPTICS · SENSORS · SUSTAINABILITY

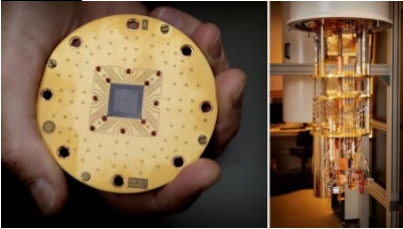
White-light lidar opens a new window on ocean color



A broadband white-light lidar system spanning roughly 400–720 nanometres can actively reconstruct ocean-colour reflectance without relying on sunlight. The method could extend spectral monitoring into night-time or difficult illumination conditions, improving remote sensing of water

QUANTUM · ENGINEERING

Scientists just made quantum computer operations 1,000 times faster



Chalmers researchers developed a method that can perform a class of advanced bosonic quantum operations more than 1,000 times faster, collapsing thousands of repeated control cycles into a single step. Shorter operations reduce the time available for errors to accumulate

ROBOTICS · AI · SENSORS · SMART DEVICES

Rivian's Gambit for Full Autonomy



Rivian is building a vertically integrated autonomy stack around custom silicon, cameras, radar and lidar, with Autonomy+ as a stepping stone toward Level 4 self-driving. The programme illustrates how automakers are bringing AI compute, sensing hardware and

tougher protective paints for vehicles, bridges and buildings.	quality and marine biogeochemical processes.	and could advance fault-tolerant quantum computing.	over-the-air software development in-house to compete in autonomous mobility.
Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research 9 September 2026	Journal of Remote Sensing 10 September 2026	Chalmers University of Technology 11 September 2026	IEEE Spectrum 9 September 2026

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