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Solar Plane Completes First 24-Hour Flight

Solar Impulse landed Thursday morning after a 26-hour flight that was entirely powered by solar energy, with three hours of battery still available to it. Pilot André Borschberg, CEO and co-founder of the Solar Impulse project said, "I have just flown more than 26 hours without using a drop of fuel and without causing any pollution!"

The biggest problem facing the engineers of solar planes is how to keep the plane going during the period between dusk and dawn, when there is either no sun, or the sun is too low in the sky to shine directly on the aircraft's solar panels.

The way the plane works, with four electrical engines and solar panels on the wings, is both remarkably simple in concept and extremely difficult in practice. As well as using a carbon fiber design to keep the weight low, the power of the plane is limited to around 6kW and the top speed is a mere 43 mph.



Theoretically, a solar plane that can store enough power during the day to fly all night, could remain in the air indefinitely, barring really bad weather and the eventual need to replace parts.

The plan now is to produce a follow-up model next year which will add a pressurized cabin and extra oxygen supplies so that the plane can get as high as 39,000 feet. The necessary tweaks to the plane design will mean the wingspan will have to be brought up to 260 feet, slightly wider than that of the super-size Airbus A380 passenger airline.

This was the longest and highest flight completed by a solar plane, according to Solar Impulse.

For more pictures and videos of the flight, visit <http://www.solarimpulse.com/nightFlights/index.php>.

Tech Tip Of The Month - How to Identify Important Senders

Expecting important mail? A simple but highly useful way to stay on top of important e-mail is to have Outlook display messages from different people in different colors. Here's a quick rundown of how to set this up. Start by select an existing message from the sender in question, if you have one. If you don't, that's okay; you can enter the sender's name manually in a minute. Now follow these steps:

1. In Mail, choose Organize from the Tools menu.
2. In the Ways To Organize Inbox pane, click Using Colors on the left side

3. In the first condition statement (we won't use the second), choose From in the first drop-down list.
4. If you chose a message before starting, the sender's name will appear in the text box to the right. If it's the wrong name, enter the right name or the person's e-mail address.
5. Choose a color from the second drop-down list.
6. Click Apply Color and close the pane. Afterward, Outlook will display all messages, existing and new, from the person you specified in the color you selected.

Inside the Technology Advisor

- ◆ 24 hr Solar Flight
- ◆ Tech Tips
- ◆ iPad vs. iPhone4
- ◆ Dell vs. HP

iPad Vs iPhone4

Not so long ago Apple re-invented what we perceive as a mobile phone with its first iteration of the iPhone. And three years later, it decided to try and do it again with the iPad, which sets out to fill the apparent void between phones and netbooks.

But how do the new iPhone 4 and the iPad weigh up against one another as products?

Granted, in an ideal world we'd have both, but as we all know the world is very much far from ideal. So, we pit the two devices against one another to see which is worth your hard-earned cash.

Screen

The iPad, at 9.7-inches, is significantly larger than the 3.5-inch iPhone 4. Although both are designed for different purposes, when you look at the core aspects of the screen, such as pixels, the iPad has a screen resolution of 1024 x 768. The iPhone 4 packs an impressive 960 x 640 pixels into its 3.5-inch screen, which, when you consider the size difference, is pretty good.

So with this in mind we'd say the iPad if you were more inclined to be watching a lot of films and videos and the iPhone 4 for a more general all round performer.

Verdict: The iPad is a lot bigger and, therefore, better for viewing videos and films.

Storage

The iPad's max storage is 64GB. The iPhone's is 32GB. Overall, we expected more. The amount available on the iPad is practically criminal – 64GB? And, this is meant to be enough room for apps, videos, music, pictures and games? We think not. Sorry, Apple.

Verdict: Obviously, the iPad has more, but we'd have liked a lot more – especially when you consider the difference in size. In this context, we'd say the iPhone 4 is better value than the iPad simply because it is smaller and serves its storage responsibilities better as a product.

CPU and Processor

Both the iPhone 4 and the iPad use Apple's 1GHz A4 chipset, so there's not much difference here then. However, the iPhone 4 has twice as much RAM as the iPad at 512MB, which means performing operations and running applications will be a significantly smoother process on the iPhone 4. Why doesn't the iPad have the same, or more, RAM than the iPhone 4?

Verdict: The iPhone 4.

Connectivity

In terms of connectivity – providing you get the 3G enabled iPad – it's a pretty even playing field with both

devices packing in all the connectivity you'd expect.

That said, you will have to pay extra for the 3G-enablmnt on the iPad and, while you will pay for data on an iPhone 4, it's hardly the same thing – everybody, after all, is used to forking out \$100 a month and getting calls, data and texts.

Unfortunately, it isn't the same on the iPad and if you have a smartphone as well, you'll be paying another data fee on top of your phones – plus, there's no tethering allowed on the iPad.

Verdict: Again, in terms of value, the iPhone 4 gets our vote – it has more functionality as a device and its data allowance is usually included within a contract.

Camera

This is a real simple one: the iPhone 4 has two cameras, one a front-facing VGA (640 x 48 pixel) camera and a 5-megapixel (2592 x 1944 pixel) camera round the back.

The iPad, on the other hand, has none.

You'd think Apple would have included a front-facing camera on the iPad for things like Skype or calling iPhone 4 users with FaceTime – but it doesn't.

Verdict: iPhone 4

Design

The new iPhone is a clear progression from the now old-school iPhone 3G and 3GS' of the world.

We also really like the sound of the improvements Apple has made to the camera, as well as the inclusion of a front-facing VGA one too. All in all, we really like the look of the new iPhone 4 – it's smart and stylish.

Unfortunately, the same can not be said for the iPad, which, looks like a massive iPhone 3G. We really like the device, but aesthetically speaking, we're not convinced it's the best Apple could do.

Verdict: iPhone 4

Conclusion

In our opinion, if you're torn between the iPhone 4 and the iPad, there's only one real choice – and that is the iPhone 4.

However, you could also just get both – but not many people will fall into this category. The iPad is a brilliant device, but it lacks some features that we had really expected, you can't expand the storage, there's no camera or tethering.

The iPhone 4 on the other hand, which doesn't have amazing storage, does have a lot of additional features that make up for it – plus, you can call and text people from it and keep all your mobile data tariffs under one roof.



INNOVATIVE News

Laptops– HP vs. Dell and Full Size vs. Mini

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We all like to be portable. Whether you are shopping for yourself, your teen or college kid – here are some options for you. We did the research so you can check this one off of your to do list.

HP Pavilion dv6t series - starts at \$650.00

- Black Cherry color
- Windows 7 Home Premium 64-bit
- Intel Core i3-350M Dual Core
- 4GB DDR3 System Memory
- 320 GB Hard Drive
- 15.6 LED widescreen display
- SuperMulti 8X DVD+/-R/RW
- HP TruVision Webcam + Digital Microphone
- Intel Wireless-N Card
- 6 Cell Lithium Ion Battery
- MS 2010 Office Starter– Word and Excel only



Options:

- Bluetooth - \$25
- Blue Ray - \$150
- 9 Cell Battery- 7.75 hour life - \$30
- MS 2010 Home and Office- \$199– Word, Excel, PowerPoint, One Note, Outlook
- Adobe Photoshop Elements 8 - \$79
- HP 500 GB pocket media drive \$83

Dell Studio 14 - starts at \$799

- Black Chain link color
- Intel Core i5-450
- Windows 7 Home Premium 64 bit
- 14 inch High Def LED Display
- True-life Camera
- CD/DVD Burner, DVD+/-R Drive
- 4GB RAM
- 500 GB Hard Drive
- Video Card ATI Mobility HD 4530
- Sound High Def Audio 2.0
- Dell 1501 Wireless-N
- 6 Cell Lithium Ion Battery
- MS Office Starter 2010 – Word and Excel only



- Del Online Backup 2BG for 1 yr
- 1 yr LoJack for Laptops

Options:

- 9 cell Lithium Ion Battery - \$40
- Dell Wireless 365 Internal Bluetooth - \$20
- Iomega 500 GB 2.0 Portable Hard Drive - \$79
- Adobe Photoshop Elements - \$79

HP mini110 series - starts at \$299.00

- Black color
- Windows XP Home
- Intel Atom N455 Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 3150
- 1GB DDR2 System Memory
- 160GB 5400RPM Hard Drive
- 10.1 LED Display
- Webcam with Digital Microphone
- Wireless N Card
- 6 Cell Lithium Ion Battery
- MS Works 9.0



Options:

- Bluetooth - \$25
- Blueray - \$150
- 9 Cell battery- 7.75 hour life - \$30
- MS 2010 Home and Office- \$199– Word, Excel, PowerPoint, One Note, Outlook
- Adobe Photoshop Elements 8 - \$79
- HP 500 GB Pocket Media Drive \$83

Dell Inspiron Mini 10 (1012) - starts 299.99

- Intel Atom Processor N450
- Windows XP Home Edition
- 10.1 LCD Display
- Integrated Webcam
- 1GB System Memory
- Intel NM10 Express Video Card
- 3 Cell Lithium Ion Battery
- Wireless - G Mini Network Card
- MS Works 9



- 1 yr LoJack Theft Protection
- Dell Online backup 2GB for 1 yr

Options:

- PhotoPlus X2 Digital Studio - \$49.99
- Dell External 12.7 Super Multi CD/DVD - \$79.99
- Western Digital 320 GB Passport Portable Hard Drive - \$85.99

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- Customer Tracking and Accounting Software Solutions
- AltiGen Phone Systems - VOIP, SIP, Fax Servers, Computer Integration and Line Analysis
- DirectTV - Delivering the best HD channels - and more of them than anyone.
- QuickBooks Certified
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THE ORIGINAL COMPUTER!!



Print

Delete

- Memory was something you lost with age
- An application was for employment
- A program was a TV show
- A cursor used profanity
- A keyboard was a piano
- A web was a spider's home
- A virus was the flu
- A CD was a bank account

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