F-35 Climatic Testing

By Jeff Rhodes and Lauren Duda

The F-35 is subjected to all manner of weather extremes in a battery of separate tests. The individual trials range from cold soaking the aircraft at minus forty degrees Fahrenheit; to a variety of icing conditions including freezing rain and ice clouds. After the snow melts, heat testing begins. The trials start at a comfortable eighty degrees and build up to 120 degrees with the aircraft’s engine running. Later tests subject the aircraft to 105 degrees with seventy-four percent relative humidity and 105 degrees with fifty-eight percent humidity.
Aerial Refueling Tests
F-35B test aircraft BF-17 was flown over Edwards AFB, California, during several recent aerial refueling missions. The tests involved a drogue adapter attached to the centerline refueling boom on the KC-135 and the hose-and-drogue refueling system on the KC-10.

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F-16 Thrust Vectoring In Action

Code One Celebrates 30 Years
This volume marks Code One Magazine’s thirtieth year of publication. To acknowledge the milestone, a series of Code One At Thirty articles will be posted throughout 2015. This issue’s archival feature is a description of the tactical evaluation of a thrust-vectoring system for the F-16 called the F-16 MATV.

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