

Exxon, Chevron Profits Soar as Big Oil Returns to Dominance

Exxon Mobil Corp. and Chevron Corp. each reported their highest third-quarter profits in four years as the world's largest oil companies appeared to have finally shaken off the malaise of a years long oil price crash. Exxon's earnings rose 57% to 6.24 billion as improved operations helped the company reap the benefits of higher prices for drilling and refining margins.

Source: Wall Street Journal Nov 2 2018

Foxconn Considers Bringing Chinese Workers to Wisconsin as U.S. Labor Market Tightens

Foxconn Technology Group is considering bringing in personnel from China to help staff a large facility under construction in southern Wisconsin as it struggles to find engineers and other workers in one of the tightest labor markets in the U.S. The company, the Taiwanese supplier to Apple Inc., has been trying to tap Chinese engineers through internal transfers to supplement staffing for the Wisconsin plant, according to people familiar with the matter.

Source: Wall Street Journal Nov 6 2018

A South African Take on the Vision Fund May Be Small, but It Carries No Saudi Baggage

As Softbank's huge Vision Fund came under scrutiny last month over its ties with Saudi Arabia, a small South African fund quietly took a leaf from its playbook. The limelight-shunning internet and media group Naspers on Oct. 26 unveiled plans to pour \$315 million into tech start-ups in its native South Africa. That is one part of a larger \$8.2 billion fund that is being overseen by the company to step up growth in its e-commerce ventures.

Source: NY Times Nov 5 2018

Their Soybeans Piling Up, Farmers Hope Trade War Ends Before Beans Rot

This is harvest season in the rich farmlands of the eastern Dakotas, the time of year Kevin Karel checks his computer first thing in the morning to see how many of his soybeans Chinese companies have purchased while he was sleeping. Farmers here in Cass County have prospered over the last two decades by growing more soybeans than any other county in the United States, and by shipping most of those beans across the Pacific Ocean to feed Chinese pigs and chickens.

Source: NY Times Nov 5 2018

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