

5G's Rollout Has Been a Mess, and Conspiracy Groups Are Loving It | VICE

By David Gilbert

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Conspiracy theorists are using the aviation industry's concerns about the launch of 5G services near airports as "proof" that their wild claims about the technology are also true.

Whether it's claims that 5G is being used to spread COVID, or that the next-gen wireless technology is part of a plot to control the human population, or that switching on 5G will cause people to suddenly explode, conspiracy theory communities around the globe are leveraging the real concerns airlines are raising about the technology to convince their followers that their warnings about 5G are also true.

"Conspiracy communities are exploiting anxieties and development issues surrounding 5G as an opportunity to further promote baseless claims that attempt to link the deployment of this technology with other prominent world events like COVID-19 and in the process they are serving to further push fear-mongering and alarmist narratives online," Ciaran O'Connor, an analyst with the Institute for Strategic Dialogue, told VICE News.

[...]

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