

What they say:

A major technological breakthrough...

Developed after years of research

Project behind original schedule due
to unforeseen difficulties

Designs are within allowable limits

Customer satisfaction is believed
assured

Close project coordination

Test results were extremely gratifying

The design will be finalized...

The entire concept has been rejected

We're moving forward with a fresh
approach

A number of different approaches...

Preliminary operational tests are
inconclusive

Modifications are underway

What they mean:

Back to the drawing board.

Discovered by pure accident.

We're working on something else.

We made it, stretching a point or two.

So far behind schedule that they'll be
grateful for anything at all.

We're gonna spread the blame, campers!

It works, and boy, were we surprised!

We haven't started yet, but we've got
to say something.

The guy who designed it quit.

We hired three new guys, and they're
kicking it around.

We don't know where we're going, but
we're moving.

Blew up when we turned it on.

We're starting over.