IT and Telecom Technology Industry News

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The definition of "agility" is the *state or quality of being agile; having the power to move quickly.* This month's issue theme is, of course, Agility—and evidence of agility is everywhere in our industry news summary. From new research on consumers' connectivity reliance to strategic alliances that enable network expansion and evolution, global news this month shows us all the many ways the world in which we live and work continues to evolve rapidly every day.

The top telecom industry news stories from the month are summarized below. To view all the news as it breaks, check out *Pipeline*'s News Center or subscribe to receive our telecom industry news summary.

Agility News

This month, CSG and Analysys Mason released the results from their research collaboration examining how well-positioned communications service providers (CSPs) are to meet future enterprise demand for communications and IT services post COVID-19. The research includes findings that more than 80 percent of CSPs will consider buying edge, 5G-slicing and private network services within the next five years to meet changing consumer and industry demands. Findings from Juniper Research revealed that MaaS (Mobility-as-a-Service) will displace over 2.2 billion private car journeys by 2025, rising from 471 million in 2021. The concept of MaaS involves the provision of multimodal end-to-end travel services through a single platform by which users can determine the best route and price according to real-time traffic conditions and demand. Cisco AppDynamics released the latest iteration of its App Attention Index research series,

revealing that our reliance on applications and digital services has soared since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and underscoring the pressure on CSPs to create agility to deliver exceptional customer experience.

In other agility news, Nokia's new Industrial MulteFire router 700 series opens high-performance private wireless to new markets globally, accelerating mass adoption. Microsoft has announced Windows 365 cloud service, a new computing standard for hybrid work for businesses of all sizes that streams the Windows experience and stores information in the cloud, not on devices. Deutsche Telekom also introduced CompanyFlex, a new collaboration system from the cloud, designed to meet today's flexible, location-independent working. AT&T has also announced a strategic alliance with Microsoft to move its 5G mobile network to the Microsoft cloud, providing a path for all of AT&T's mobile network traffic to be managed using Microsoft Azure technologies.

Innovation News

This month's news headlines also brimmed with innovation. AT&T and JBG SMITH have unveiled plans to make National Landing the United States' first 5G smart city at scale. Their collaboration is part of a broader effort to create a unique 5G innovation ecosystem in National Landing, which is also home to an Amazon headquarters and Virginia Tech's innovation campus.

In other innovation news, Northrop Grumman announced it has finalized a contract with NASA to develop the first lunar orbit crew module for NASA's Gateway. Telefonica and TikTok have entered into a partnership in Europe and Latin America to expand viewership of TikTok's short-form videos and to broaden marketing via the platform. In other news, Nokia announced it has successfully completed a trial with Vodafone Turkey, linking Asia and Europe with the first intercontinental 1T clear-channel IP interface. Google Cloud and Ericsson announced a partnership to jointly develop 5G and edge cloud solutions to help communications service providers digitally transform and to unlock new enterprise and consumer use cases.

In 5G innovation news, SNCF and partners Orange, Nokia, and the Institut Mines Telecom will be launching a 5G Living Lab devoted to industrial practices to bring Industrial 5G to reality in France.

Drone news was a sub-theme in innovation news this month. Verizon announced the formation of Robotics Business Technology to expand enterprise solutions for aerial (drones) and ground robotics. In Europe, HHLA Sky and Telekom announced implementation of a campus network in the Port of Hamburg, Germany using drones to improve port control and safety. Also in Europe, Parrot has introduced the first drone to use 4G as the main data link between the drone and the operator, which is a game-changer for the drone industry.

Finally, under "interesting and worth noting" news, IDTechEx revealed the rapidly increasing adoption of battery-less solutions for electronics in a new report exploring the effects in IoT, 6G, and wearables. In collaboration with Northrop Grumman, FormFactor announced a fully automated cryogenic wafer probe system operating at 4 Kelvin and below to accelerate the development of superconducting compute applications. TESLASUIT introduced a human-to-

digital interface designed in the form of a full-body XR suit for VR experience in the Somnium Space Community.

5G News

In 5G news, Beyond by BearingPoint, in collaboration with Omdia (formerly Ovum), released its annual enterprise 5G report revealing that the share of enterprise 5G deals led by communication service providers has fallen by five percent in 2021. In other 5G research, Viavi Solutions released new research demonstrating the accelerating pace at which 5G is growing, with coverage extending to an additional four countries and 301 cities worldwide since the beginning of this year. The new total—1,662 cities across 65 countries—represents an increase of more than 20 percent during 2021 to date. IDTechEx has revealed a new business intelligence report exploring the key technical and industry factors that are shaping the fast-growing small cell market. Small cells will be key to realizing the transformative power of 5G.

In new strategic alliances related to 5G news, Verizon Business and Mastercard announced a partnership to bring 5G to the global payments industry. Vodafone Spain has selected Ericsson to deploy the first precommercial 5G core standalone network in Spain. Ericsson and Verizon are embarking on a multi-year agreement to provide 5G solutions for Verizon's 5G network in the US. Verizon Business also announced that its fixed-wireless 5G Business Internet is now available in 42 cities.

In connected car news, Foresight's wholly owned subsidiary Eye-Net Mobile will be piloting a project to test its cellular-based vehicle-to-everything accident prevention solution. The pilot will take place in Japan. Huawei has reached a licensing agreement with one of Volkswagen's suppliers to provide digital connectivity to its vehicles, and Mobileum announced that Audi is deploying its connected car testing solution to monitor end-to-end quality of service and customer experience.

Network Evolution News

In network evolution news, the Safer Buildings Coalition and the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies will be collaborating to create a new In-Building Public Safety Communications certification program for in-building wireless services.

AT&T and DISH have reached a strategic network services agreement, making AT&T the primary service partner for DISH MVNO customers, including the Boost Mobile, Ting Mobile, and Republic Wireless brands.

Network evolution news also included fiber expansion. Kinetic Wholesale by Windstream delivered fiber access to new macro tower sites in the company's 18-state US footprint in the second quarter of 2021. Nokia announced an expansion of its relationship with Xantaro to provide fiber access for more than two million homes in the UK with 10 Gbps speeds.

IoT News

Smart agriculture is a major market for IoT. Rabobank and TELUS Agriculture have acquired Conservis, a company that integrates disparate farm technologies into one streamlined interface to manage the business of farming. In the UK, BT and Associated British Ports are trialing next-generation IoT and sensor technology to speed the movement and processing of cargo goods and digitize port logistics and operations processes.

AI and Analytics News

AI news and analytics headlines touched on themes of innovation and agility, too. RingCentral is leveraging its own AI-trained data to enable the company to root out bad actors, protecting customers from the increasing problem of robocalls and spam calls. Atos has launched ThinkAI, a secure end-to-end scalable offering giving organizations the capability to successfully design, develop, and deliver high-performance AI applications. Nokia and Vodafone have launched a jointly developed machine learning product, running on Google Cloud, to quickly detect and remediate network anomalies before they impact Vodafone customers.

In healthcare AI news, MajorBoost is a new AI-based communication and decision support company designed to improve efficiency in healthcare billing systems, the product of collaboration at the Allen Institute for AI. With new funding in place, Modulus Therapeutics will expand development of its platform that combines key technology components, including gene editing, machine learning, and multi-omics, for AI-powered cell therapy.

Northrop Grumman has issued a report outlining its approach for secure and ethical AI, emphasizing that developing robust, reliable, and accountable AI systems is imperative, and these attributes must be verified and validated.

Cybersecurity News

The ISA Global Cybersecurity Alliance has joined forces with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and cybersecurity response teams from more than 50 participating companies to adopt FEMA's Incident Command System

framework for response structure, roles, and interoperability. This is the system used globally by first responders in response to natural disasters.

In the US, the Federal Communications Commission adopted an Order to secure US communications infrastructure in accordance with the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021. The rule update and additional funds primarily affect supply chain reimbursement regulations when it comes to communications equipment.

In other security news, Positive Technologies unveiled its [Cybersecurity Threatscape Q1 2021](#) research report, which finds cyber incidents continue to rise, ransomware accounts for nearly two-thirds of all malware attacks, and more cybercriminals are customizing malware for attacks on virtual infrastructure.

[Atos and Ooredoo](#) are working to deliver cybersecurity threat detection and response services for a Qatar smart city project. In Europe, [Allot](#) announced its selection by a mobile and fixed CSP for cybersecurity solutions and services. And in the US, [Stellar Cyber](#) unveiled Novel XDR Kill Chain, a new model to address the current realities of cyberattacks and enable security operations teams to stop an attack earlier.

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