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Volume 18, Issue 3

Telecom Industry News

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Hybrid mall shopping experiences by 2030. Smart city trials to measure (and eventually address) noise pollution. Customized digital content experiences. Intelligent transport networks with AI-enabled digital road twins. These tantalizing headlines aren't the future—they're our present, and they're just a few of the headlines we're bringing to you this month in our telecom industry news roundup.

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.



Network Transformation News

In network trends news, the [Ericsson Mobility Report](#) has revealed a 300-fold increase in mobile data traffic since 2011, the year in which the report was first published—including an additional 5.5 billion smartphone users over the last decade. According to the latest forecasts, 5G is on track to become the dominant mobile access technology, based on global subscriptions, by 2027. Other markers of connectivity bear this growth out, with Connected2Fiber announcing that its [Connected World platform](#) has 1.4 billion locations being managed across 147 countries, with network intelligence active on each location. A recently published report by [Dell'Oro Group](#) measured 45 percent growth worldwide in the SD-WAN market for the third quarter of 2021, compared to the same period in 2020. This growth results from the pace of rapid upgrades in network infrastructure as enterprises try to keep pace with new demands.

In other network transformation news, the [Broadband Forum](#) has defined a new framework to bring edge computing to cloud-based broadband networks, enabling service providers to improve their customers' quality of experience (QoE) while increasing their revenue streams.

Global network news included an announcement that [Nokia and Turk Telecom](#) have completed the first successful 25G PON trial in Turkey, making it the fastest fiber network in the country. The laboratory trial took place in Turk Telekom Ankara Innovation Center and achieved downstream speeds of 20Gbps over a single wavelength. And [Deutsche Telekom](#) has revealed it is expanding its network, with 1.2 million FTTH connections in 2021—and 90 percent population coverage. In Australia, rural and remote communication solutions provider [Pivotel](#) has announced plans to make Australia one of the first countries after the European Aviation Network to truly experience broadband connectivity in the sky. Pivotel has signed a memorandum of understanding with SkyFive to develop a proof of concept.

5G News

Global wireless 5G connections have reached 438 million by the third quarter of 2021 and are on pace to exceed 540 million by the end of the year, according to data from Omdia, said [5G Americas](#). According to [Dell'Oro Group](#), the mobile core network market is poised for growth in 2022, as 5G standalone commercial launches begin to accelerate. Other research also points to rapidly growing 5G markets, with strong [5G infrastructure market growth](#) predicted in Africa's emerging economies and an anticipated surge in private 5G networks. In fact, according to [research by NTT](#), 90 percent of IT executives and decision-makers expect that private 5G will become the standard network choice, and 80 percent expect to deploy a private 5G network within the next two years.

In Asia, [Ericsson and Singtel](#) have made a technology breakthrough in 5G standalone new radio dual connectivity, becoming the first in Southeast Asia to reach download speeds of 5.4Gbps by aggregating Singtel's spectrum holdings across mid-band spectrum 3.5GHz and 28GHz mmWave.

In other 5G news, [Ooredoo Group selected Nokia](#) to bring 5G to customers in the Middle East, North Africa, and Southeast Asia as part of a multi-country, five-year deal. The deal, which builds on Nokia's global partnership with Ooredoo, will see Nokia expand Ooredoo's existing network, as well as introduce new 5G services. [Deutsche Telekom](#) has taken a leap forward in enabling hybrid 5G with the modern wireless standard 5G through a field test with an outdoor 5G receiver, the Speedport Smart 4 router.

In 5G partnership news, [DISH and FreedomFi](#), an open 5G networking company, will collaborate on a pilot program that may provide DISH's current and future wireless customers with access to the world's first community-driven, neutral host CBRS hotspot network. [Verizon and Google Cloud](#) are working together to advance 5G mobile edge computing to support real-time enterprise applications like autonomous mobile robots, intelligent logistics and factory automation.

Innovation and Transformation News

The [Wireless Broadband Alliance](#) announced results from a new field trial that highlight the benefits of using Low Power Indoor Wi-Fi 6E for a wide variety of demanding residential applications, including video collaboration for telecommuting, multiplayer gaming, augmented and virtual reality, streaming video and more. The US Department of Energy has chosen [Hewlett Packard Enterprise](#) to build a new supercomputer for its National Renewable Energy Laboratory to support ongoing R&D that will transform energy from geothermal, water, wind, solar, and fuels.

Innovation news also included key developments toward connected vehicles and smart transport. [Waymo and electric vehicle brand Zeekr](#) will collaborate on a new pure electric vehicle for deployment in the Waymo One autonomous ride-hailing fleet in the United States. [Samsung](#) unveiled an extensive lineup of cutting-edge automotive memory solutions designed for next-generation autonomous electric vehicles. They will be delivering server-class performance and capacity, new memory solutions to support complex processing of multimedia applications, and autonomous driving data. [Toyota and Cerence](#) will work together on a next-generation in-car experience to bring the power and intelligence of Internet search engines directly into Toyota and Lexus vehicles via their multimedia systems.

In Europe, [T-Systems and Goal Systems](#) have joined to accelerate public transport by supporting the digital transformation of providers for public passenger and freight transport. The goal is to enable the expansion of e-mobility, which holds promise to combat emissions and to realize more flexible transport systems. In another intelligent network development, [Nexar and](#) Veniam have forged a strategic partnership to create real-time digital twins of the road, opening the door to new possibilities for the Internet of moving things.

In other transformation news, [MetTel](#) will be working closely with global IT integrator SAIC to help government clients digitally transform their communications and IT infrastructure; the sector lags private markets in transformation initiatives.

Finally, a bit of innovation trends news. According to Ericsson's latest [Hot Consumer Trends](#) report, consumers expect hybrid mall experiences to be common by 2030, made possible by a mix of connectivity-enabled technology integrated into real physical environments to enhance shopping and buying experiences.

AI & Analytics News

[GoodData](#) has released a report on the future of analytics. It reveals survey findings of business leaders' top analytics priorities in 2022 and beyond, as well as predictions of how the global tech industry will achieve its analytics goals moving forward. Key insights include cross-functional approaches to analytics and how composability enables business and IT alignment. Additional [top data predictions for 2022 from Alluxio](#) include running more diverse workloads on a wider

variety of platforms across clouds and hybrid clouds as well as additional advances in AI, machine learning and analytic workloads, and technologies and services to support them.

AI news included new product launches and developments. [Iveda](#) announced the launch of the next generation of VEMO, an AI body camera for face recognition, license plate recognition, object search and other AI functions. [Uniquify](#) unveiled AI and cloud technology to transform digital content for consumers for tailored, unique, and editable digital content to personalize the consumer experience. [LumenVox](#) has released a next-generation speech recognition and natural conversational AI toolset to enhance voice experiences with speech recognition, transcription, natural language understanding, active and passive voice biometrics, call progress analysis, and text-to-speech.

[Nokia](#) has deployed its AI-powered Scene Analytics technology for a proof of concept in the Belgian city of Genk to quantify the level of noise pollution along one of the city's high streets in a smart city trial.

Security & Assurance News

Cybersecurity experts have shared top predictions for 2022, including cybersecurity market trends and the top threats they believe will be faced by organizations, from supply chain attacks to ransomware. According to the [report from Egress](#), experts anticipate a rise in multi-vector attacks. [T-Mobile](#) released its 2021 year-end report on scams and robocalls, noting an overall scam attempt increase of 116 percent over 2020. Finally, the [2021 CrowdStrike Global Security Attitude Survey](#) revealed that ransomware payout demands and extortion fees are massively increasing, while trust in legacy IT vendors has dipped and organizations are in fact getting slower at detecting cybersecurity incidents.

Amid this security news, [AdaptiveMobile Security](#) offered a blueprint on how to secure SMS on 5G networks. The research outlines how SMS operates on the next generation of networks, identifying the emerging security risks and attack scenarios that exist on 5G networks. [5G Americas](#) released a new whitepaper with details and recommendations for securing 5G networks. According to the research, 5G networks based on standard technical specifications from the Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) continue to be the most widely adopted and secure wireless cellular technology in existence.

Standards News

This month, standards news included several key announcements. The [LoRa Alliance](#), the global association of companies backing the open LoRaWAN standard for the Internet of Things low-power wide-area networks, announced that LoRaWAN was officially approved as a standard by the International Telecommunication Union.

The [Digital IF Interoperability Consortium](#), the independent space industry group formed to advance interoperability in satellite and ground system networks, and the Digital Interface Standards Working Group announced that the seven members of DIS will consolidate that organization within DIFI, advancing the breadth of industry representation working together for common interoperability standards.

LitePoint is working with leading chipset maker MediaTek on a key-based design verification test solution, a [new Wi-Fi standard](#) to help to deliver breakthrough speed and performance.

Merger and Acquisition News

The year has started off with a flurry of acquisitions. Following a period of negotiation, [Orange Belgium and Nethys](#) have signed an agreement for the latter's acquisition. [Telefonica Tech has acquired Geprom](#), a technology-based engineering company headquartered in Spain specializing in industrial automation and the digital transformation of existing factory production processes. The acquisition strengthens Telefonica Tech's IoT and Big Data division and its expansion into the industrial sector. Finally, [IBM announced the acquisition of SXIQ](#), an Australian digital transformation services company specializing in cloud applications, cloud platforms and cloud cybersecurity to advance IBM's hybrid cloud and AI strategy for enterprises.

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