Technology Industry News

By: [Jara Kern](#)

This month's issue examines transformation from a variety of perspectives, a focal point perfectly suited to making sense of industry news headlines from around the world. From the launch of the world's first food metaverse to strategic partnerships driving digital transformation, and the ranking of the world's top telecom brands, it's been a busy month in headlines.

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.

Digital transformation news

New research, partnership announcements and trends made industry transformation news this month. A [new report from Accenture](#) reveals that the Metaverse Continuum, a spectrum of digitally enhanced worlds, realities and business models, is redefining how the world works, operates and interacts. The research reveals that businesses are racing toward a future that is very different from the one they were designed to operate in as technologies, such as extended reality, blockchain, digital twins and edge computing, are converging to reshape human experiences. On this report's heels, [OneRare](#), the world's first food metaverse (perhaps better known as Foodverse) announced its official launch in the U.S. market. OneRare will connect food brands, chefs and restaurants to create virtual experiences and interactions around the world.

Even with so much potential on the horizon, there are obstacles. New research from [Pegasystems](#) reveals that operations leaders believe insufficient investment in technology could hamper organizations' ability to manage the periods of significant change that lie ahead.

Headlines also included news of key partnerships driving digital transformation. monday.com and KPMG announce a strategic alliance to empower enterprises to boost digital transformation, enhance organizational agility and increase operational efficiency and productivity. Other select tech partners include Microsoft, Salesforce, ServiceNow and Workday. Intraway announced the expansion of its no-code, cloud-native OSS solution in the North American market to drive telco digital transformation for top-tier communications service providers. Eutelsat and OneWeb are partnering to commercialize connectivity services across key verticals including maritime, aviation, enterprise, telcos and government. In addition, Google Cloud and BT announced a partnership to accelerate BT's company-wide digital transformation, including cloud infrastructure, machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI), data analytics, security, and API management.

Innovation news

Moving beyond digital transformation into the broader universe of innovation, ABI Research named leaders in its Sustainability Index Telco Operators. Deutsche Telekom, Telefonica, Vodafone, and KPN ranked as leaders.

Qualcomm, BMW and Arriver Software announced cooperation for the development of next-generation automated driving technologies. 8x8 has launched 8x8 Agent Workspace to transform the contact center agent role. 8x8 Agent Workspace is a fully browser-based, design-led interface blending contact center and unified communications capabilities in a single application.

Network evolution news

Verizon released findings of a new survey of people who moved homes during the pandemic. The Verizon Movers Study shows more than half those relocating wanted to live in an area with better infrastructure for fast, reliable home and cellular Internet. Verizon is accelerating availability of its 5G network to 175 million people by year end. According to the latest report by the brand valuation consultancy Brand Finance, Verizon is the most valuable telecoms brand of 2022. The report also named Etilasat as the world's strongest telecom brand.

In other network news, Zayo and Infinera announced the successful completion of the world's longest known terrestrial 800G optical wavelength in a commercial network at 1,044.51 km. Nokia and Hrvatski Telekom completed a successful 25 Gbps fiber broadband trial at Hrvatski Telekom's laboratory in Rijeka, Croatia—the first in the country to use 25G PON technology.

In the US, the Federal Communications Commission adopted an Order ending the ability of Pacific Networks and ComNet to provide domestic interstate and international telecommunications to safeguard the nation's telecommunications infrastructure from potential security threats.

5G news

Data is the fuel that feeds algorithms and decision-making to drive growth in the digital economy for CSPs. And it's big business. According to ABI Research, 5G and network data analytics will power revenue growth from $140 million in 2021 to $6.4 billion in 2026, at a CAGR of 115 percent.

After three full years of growth, global wireless 5G adoption has reached the rapid acceleration phase, having exceeded a half-billion connections by the end of 2021. Connections are forecasted to reach 1.3 billion by the end of this year, according to data from Omdia and 5G Americas. It's to nearly double this year: the GSMA estimates that 5G connections will surpass one billion in 2022 and two billion by 2025. By the end of 2025, 5G will account for over a fifth of total mobile connections, and more than two in five people globally will live within reach of a 5G network.

CSPs are moving fast to take advantage of growth. T-Mobile unveiled a series of moves and partnerships called 5G Forward, all designed to accelerate 5G developer innovation. Gartner has recognized Ericsson as a leader in 5G network infrastructure in its 2022 Magic Quadrant. Nokia and Palo Alto Networks have joined the 5G Open Innovation Lab as the newest corporate partners. The 5G OI Lab has uniquely pioneered an open innovation model that brings together influential startups, global tech platform leaders, industry partners, and investors to connect and collaborate to advance the transformative potential of 5G and edge computing.

In standards news, Broadband Forum has released three new 5G specifications, marking the end of Phase 2 of its 5G work.

AI and analytics news

A new Juniper Research study has found that the total number of chatbot messaging apps accessed globally will increase from 3.5 billion in 2022 to 9.5 billion by 2026. This growth of 169 percent will be driven by the increasing adoption of omnichannel retail strategies by ecommerce players and the rising integration of chatbots within messaging platforms.

AI is driving innovation like smart windows, which use the technology to automatically adjust in response to the sun, optimizing natural light and views of the outdoors while minimizing heat and glare. View has installed them in a pilot at an office building in Austin, Texas. AI and deep learning are also revolutionizing operations for brick-and-mortar retail. Focal Systems has unveiled its Self-Driving Store Operating System powered by computer vision and AI. In other AI retail news, Vonage has strengthened its Jumper.ai conversational commerce application with new video capabilities and integrations for a more engaging retail experience.

NVIDIA has launched a powerful AI supercomputer, the NVIDIA Jetson AGX Orin developer kit, for advanced robotics, autonomous machines, and next-generation embedded and edge computing.

Massive data communications bottlenecks complicate performing artificial intelligence speech processing at the network's edge. But computing-in-memory technology is poised to eliminate them. Microchip Technology announced that its SuperFlash memBrain neuromorphic memory solution has solved this problem for the WITINMEM neural processing SoC, unlocking new potential.

Security news

There is no rest for the weary when it comes to cyber threats. Last fall, Black Lotus Labs, the threat intelligence team at Lumen Technologies, discovered what had until then only been

theorized: Linux binaries were being used as loaders in Windows Subsystem for Linux. Since then, the team has analyzed more than 100 samples that indicate the capability is evolving.

Palo Alto Networks released a new national survey with key findings that show nearly 80 percent of state and local IT leaders believe ransomware is an ongoing threat to their organizations. Yet less than half of respondents currently have a ransomware incident response plan. According to an analysis by Radware, 2021 was the year of the web application attack. Between 2020 and 2021, the number of malicious web application requests climbed 88 percent, more than double the year-over-year growth rate in distributed denial-of-service attacks, which were up 37 percent over 2020.

The threat complexity is only on the rise. The Cloud Security Alliance began a countdown to April 14, 2030, the date by which the organization estimates that a quantum computer will be able to break present-day cybersecurity infrastructure. It's essential for enterprises to prioritize security in a post-quantum world, according to the alliance.

The FCC is launching an inquiry to reduce cyber risks, especially those stemming from the Russia-Ukraine conflict. The proposal would begin an inquiry into the vulnerabilities of the Internet's global routing system. The FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau added equipment and services from three entities—AO Kaspersky Lab, China Telecom and China Mobile—to its list of communications equipment and services that have been deemed a threat to national security, consistent with requirements in the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019.

Forescout announced it has been working with the National Institute of Standards and Technology's National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence to develop new cybersecurity guidance for manufacturing organizations to protect their operational technology and information technology systems from cyber threats.

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