IT & Telecom Industry News

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News has showed no signs of slowing down this month, and *Pipeline* has been covering every aspect of the telco industry. From hyperscalers to exciting startups, innovation is happening across the board.

This month's top industry news stories are summarized below. To view current breaking news in real- time, visit *Pipeline*'s **News Center**, **follow *Pipeline*** on social media, or **subscribe** to receive our weekly telecom industry news summary.

Automation & Support Systems News

As this is our Automation & Support Systems issue, we'll begin our news roundup in the OSS/BSS space and beyond. Play has **extended its relationship with Netcracker** for professional services and Digital BSS, which provides support for a number of functions, from on boarding new subscribers to service activation, including billing and payments. Ciena's Blue Planet division has launched a major enhancement to its intelligent automation software portfolio with the first-of-its-kind **Blue Planet Cloud Native Platform**. Leveraging Kubernetes technology to support multiple modular Operating Support System applications, the new platform will allow Communications Service Providers to simplify and automate their OSS environments. Cerillion has successfully migrated Telesur's fixed line customers onto its **convergent BSS/OSS platform**. This marks the full completion of this large digital transformation project, following the earlier migration of all prepaid and postpaid mobile services, allowing Telesur to decommission its legacy support systems.

Keysight released RFPro Circuit, a next-generation radio frequency simulation tool targeting the complex, multi-physics requirements of today's RF integrated circuit designers. Wireless, automotive, and satellite designers can now deliver robust designs that overcome performance challenges in dense 3D packaging, taking advantage of **interoperability and automation** to form complex workflows. DELTA Fiber Nederland has chosen Amdocs as their strategic collaborator under a long-term agreement to **support its monetization systems**. This collaboration will provide the Dutch fiber and cable network operator with ongoing development support and software maintenance for their monetization engine, empowering DELTA to unlock new opportunities for sales growth.

AI & Analytics News

In AI & Analytics News, Cisco announced that alongside a group of eight companies including Accenture, Eightfold, Google, IBM, Indeed, Intel, Microsoft and SAP as well as six advisors, have launched the **AI-Enabled Information and Communication Technology Workforce Consortium** focused on upskilling and reskilling roles most likely to be impacted by AI. Elsevier Health released Sherpath AI, the most advanced **generative AI chat** designed specifically for nursing students. The tool integrates Elsevier's trusted nursing education content with advanced generative artificial intelligence, offering a beneficial aid for students and nurse educators in navigating courses, exam preparation, and the transition into clinical practice.

SAP revealed AI advancements in its supply chain solutions that will unleash a transformative wave of productivity, efficiency and precision in manufacturing. **AI-driven insights from real-time data** will help companies use their own data to make better decisions across supply chains, streamline product development, and improve manufacturing efficiency. Microsoft and The Coca-Cola Company announced a five-year strategic partnership. As part of the partnership, Coca-Cola has made a $1.1 billion commitment to Microsoft Cloud and its **generative AI capabilities**. Reka has selected Oracle Cloud Infrastructure to support its mission to advance science and build generative AI models for the benefit of humanity and enterprises. Working in collaboration with Oracle, Reka will also make its **multimodal models**, supporting over 20 languages and trained on OCI AI Infrastructure powered by NVIDIA GPUs, available in the Oracle Cloud Marketplace.

Nokia released Visual Position and Object Detection, a new **MX Grid application** that enhances industrial tracking and positioning and contextual awareness to enable Industry 4.0 applications and increase worker safety in industrial plants. Cognizant and Microsoft formed an expanded partnership with the goal of making Microsoft's generative AI and Copilots available to millions of users, to **transform enterprise business operations**, enhance employee experiences and accelerate cross-industry innovation. Viavi has reached milestones in **6G and AI research** based on the company's 6G Forward Program. As 6G is the first AI-native generation of wireless communications, data sources such as a 6G city-scale digital twins will be vital for training other elements of the network such as the 6G AI-Native Air Interface.

Network and Mobile News

In Network & Mobile News, Cato broke a new **SASE throughput record** at the Porsche Studio Ginza ahead of the 2024 Tokyo E-Prix, achieving 10 Gbps without hardware upgrades. At 10 Gbps, Cato became the first SASE platform to compete not only in the ABB FIA Formula E World Championship but also to deliver SASE performance so powerful that the TAG Heuer Porsche Formula E Team could transfer all the data of an entire Formula E season in under 2.5 hours instead of 3.5 days. Nokia and A1 have successfully delivered an 800 Gbps service using a single wavelength, covering a distance of 1276 km in a live network from **Frankfurt to Budapest**. The field trial was completed using Nokia's FP5 network processor silicon and its sixth-generation super-coherent Photonic Service Engine optics.

Bandwidth IG formed a new partnership with the San Francisco Metropolitan Internet Exchange which will deliver **high-capacity dark fiber** to internet service providers and content delivery networks across the San Francisco Bay Area. Indonesian internet services and HSPnet launched high-capacity services of up to 6 Tb/s on its B3JS (Jakarta-Bangka-Bintan-Batam-Singapore) and BDMCS (Batam-Dumai-Medan) cable systems. The transmission routes, totaling approximately 2,000km across both underwater and land cables, are supported by **Ciena's WaveLogic Ai-powered 6500 platform**.

GL Communications released their new "IP Analytics" Tool application designed for **analyzing data in IP networks**. This tool is essential for monitoring and maintaining Quality of Service in telecom networks by examining IP-based data streams at high speeds. A new data throughput record has been set at **Europe's largest Internet Exchange**, DE-CIX Frankfurt. In parallel to the quarter-final second leg of the UEFA Champions League, on April 16 at 9:21 p.m. (CEST), more than 17 terabits per second (to be specific, 17.09 Tbit/s) of data flowed over the IX for the first time. 17 terabits per second corresponds to 5.7 million videos in HD quality being streamed simultaneously. Anritsu launched a new inline power sensor **MA24103A** that is designed to measure accurate Peak and True-RMS average power measurements from 25 MHz to 1 GHz and 2 mW to 150 W power range.

Cloud News

In Cloud News, CrowdStrike expanded its partnership with Google Cloud to stop **breaches across multi-cloud and multi-vendor environments**. Cloud intrusions have grown 75 percent in the past year, and adversaries are faster than ever, breaking into customer environments in as little as two minutes. Vodafone is working with Google to make it is easier for businesses to connect to the cloud. Alongside the provision of connectivity to Google's network, Vodafone is creating one of the **world's largest cloud-based software-defined wide area networks**.

Qumulo unveiled the Private Availability of the **Qumulo Cloud Native file system**. Customers participating in private availability can now use Qumulo's Enterprise proven multi-protocol file system to store, manage, and curate unstructured data at the exabyte scale while taking full advantage of the scale, durability, and superior economics of their own Amazon S3 buckets from Amazon Web Services. Cisco has discovered a radically new approach to securing data centers and clouds in response to the increasing demands the AI revolution has put on IT infrastructure. Cisco is rearchitecting how we harness and protect AI and other modern workloads with its industry-first **Cisco Hypershield**.

Security & Assurance News

In Security & Assurance News, AT&T data-specific fields were discovered in a data set released on the dark web. While AT&T has made this determination, it is not yet known whether the data in those fields **originated from AT&T or one of its vendors**. With respect to the balance of the data set, which includes personal information such as social security numbers, the source of the data is still being assessed. Fortinet released the latest version of its **FortiOS operating system** and other major enhancements to the company's cybersecurity platform, the Fortinet Security Fabric. Spirent is working with one of the world's leading online payment platforms to help ensure the **integrity of its cyber defenses**. The company has adopted Spirent's CyberFlood solution to test the performance, scalability, and security effectiveness of its network defenses.

Cloudflare has collaborated with Booz Allen Hamilton to support **enterprises under attack** by providing expedited Under Attack as a Service with 30-Day Rapid Response DDoS Mitigation, including continuous monitoring and protection. Under this new agreement, Booz Allen's Global Commercial clients facing a cyber attack will be connected to Cloudflare for immediate Incident Response. Palo Alto Networks reached a new milestone in how security operations centers secure the cloud. The new innovations as part of Cortex XSIAM for Cloud bolster the Palo Alto Networks Cortex XSIAM platform to natively deliver **Cloud Detection and Response capabilities** in one unified solution, making Cortex XSIAM the industry's first SOC platform optimized for the cloud.

Market News

In Market News, Lumen announced they have landed a **$73,616,904 contract** to transform the U.S. Government Accountability Office's network, data, voice and video connectivity so the agency can better serve Congress and the American people. Cisco completed the **acquisition of Isovalent**, a leader in open source cloud native networking and security. This marks a significant step forward in Cisco's commitment to define the future of secure, multicloud networking. NEC made a strategic investment in **Seraphim Space Venture Fund II**, a pioneering venture capital fund specializing in the space industry and operated by Seraphim Space, the most prolific investor globally in this domain. Seraphim Space boasts a distinguished portfolio comprising over 100 space-related startup companies, covering a spectrum of stages from seed to later stages.

Comarch and KPN announced that they are extending their partnership with a **five-year agreement** focused on software as a service and innovation. Gilat Satellite Networks announced that a leading IFC Service Provider is expanding its **In-Flight Connectivity capabilities** with a strategic multi million-dollar order mainly for Gilat's Taurus Aero modems. Cloudflare has made an entrance into the observability market with the **acquisition of Baselime**, the cloud-native observability platform. By integrating Baselime's technology with Cloudflare's developer platform, Cloudflare will be uniquely positioned to bring deep knowledge of serverless platforms and developer experience together to solve the challenges of observability for serverless apps.

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