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IT & Telecom Industry News

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In the month that gave us one of the world's largest IT blackouts there was no shortage of innovative news in the tech world. From multiple new LLMs to investment in tech talent across Africa, *Pipeline* has your monthly dose of news covered.

The 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 industry enterprise and communications technology news summary.

Agility News

In Agility News, Ekinops announced that Orange Business has chosen Ekinops technology to launch its new SD-WAN offer named [SD-WAN Essentials](#), transforming Enterprise connectivity into a stepping stone to the Cloud. Bell Canada and ServiceNow formed a multi year strategic agreement to accelerate [Bell's transformation](#) to meet the growing customer demand for tech services and digital media. The renewed commitment makes Bell one of ServiceNow's largest communications customers with a first of its kind collaboration in Canada. Apica's Ascent platform has achieved Powered by Oracle Cloud Expertise and is now available in the Oracle Cloud Marketplace, offering added value to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure customers. The [Apica Ascent platform](#) enables customers to access the platform's Flow and Lake offerings, giving them data pipeline control and the ability to fully index incoming data for uniform, on-demand, and real-time access to all data.

Ericsson Thailand will drive the [digital transformation of Thailand](#) based on the strong 5G infrastructure it is creating in the country. Leveraging its state-of-the-art 5G network solutions together with its extensive experience and expertise in establishing efficient, reliable, and sustainable 5G networks worldwide, Ericsson is well poised to play a pivotal role in accelerating Thailand's journey towards becoming a digital economy. ZTE Corporation released its D3-ELAA (Dynamic, Distributed and Deterministic Extremely Large Antenna Array) solution. This [cutting-edge technology](#) is specifically designed for the upgrading of 5G-A networks and the long-term evolution of future mobile networks, guaranteeing users a zero-variation experience. VIAVI Solutions and the Telecom Infra Project have formed a strategic collaboration aimed at expanding the testing capabilities of the VIAVI Automated [Lab-as-a-Service](#) for Open RAN.



AI & Analytics News

In AI & Analytics News, Mistral AI and NVIDIA released a new state-of-the-art language model, [Mistral NeMo 12B](#), that developers can easily customize and deploy for enterprise applications supporting chatbots, multilingual tasks, coding, and summarization. NVIDIA also released a new NVIDIA AI Foundry service and NVIDIA NIM inference microservices to [supercharge generative AI](#) for the world's enterprises with the Llama 3.1 collection of openly available models. HP unveiled two new innovations, the [world's highest performance AI PC](#) and the first integration of a trust framework into an AI model development platform. Both announcements expand HP's efforts to make AI real for companies and people with new and transformative AI experiences across the company's PCs, software, and partner ecosystem.

Deutsche Telekom is offering a new software-as-a-service solution called [Law Monitor](#). The AI-based model supports corporate legal departments in quickly recognising changes to national and, in the long term, international laws. Keysight has joined the [AI-RAN Alliance](#) to advance the use of artificial intelligence technology and innovations in radio access networks. Established in early 2024, the alliance is a collaborative initiative bringing together technology, industry, and academic institutions to integrate AI into cellular technology to enhance RAN performance and mobile network capabilities. Vodafone's [SuperTOBi](#), its new customer focused Generative AI driven virtual assistant, is being rolled out across Europe. SuperTOBi, powered by Microsoft Azure OpenAI, can understand and respond faster to complex customer inquiries better than traditional chatbots.

Network and Mobile News

In Network and Mobile News, LiveOak Fiber has secured \$250 million in financing underwritten by J.P. Morgan. This funding will be used to supercharge LiveOak's expansion of its [100 percent fiber broadband network](#) to under-served communities in the Southeastern United States. Comarch has become a [technology partner of Bridge Alliance](#), the mobile alliance of leading telecom operators across the Asia Pacific region, the Middle East, and Africa. This partnership will enable Comarch to explore new collaboration and innovation opportunities with Bridge Alliance and its member operators.

T-Mobile activated its [emergency plan](#) in preparation for projected hurricane-force winds, heavy rainfall, and flooding in southeastern and central Texas as Hurricane Beryl moved toward the Mexico and Texas border. Vodafone and Meta have collaborated on a new way to [free up network capacity](#) for all mobile customers, including allowing them to view more high-quality short videos. This network optimization has been applied in eleven European markets since the start of June this year.

Cisco has been selected by NBC Sports to provide networking technology for its [all-IP production](#) of the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympics. Huawei signed an MoU with the Government of Zambia to construct [100 smart villages](#) in the country Zambia. This exciting development was announced at the launch of the country's first Smart Village: Muchila, in the Namwala District, Southern Province. Keysight Technologies has expanded the MP4300A Series Modular Solar Array Simulator with two new mainframe and module models, delivering total power up to 8.4 kW in a 2U footprint. The [SAS solution](#) is a six-channel modular platform that emulates the behavior of photovoltaic segments and simulates all conditions a craft or satellite will encounter in space with high fidelity. VEON's subsidiary Kyivstar continues to invest in resilient [connectivity for Ukraine](#) in response to attacks on the country's energy infrastructure. Plans include deploying an additional 848 industrial generators and 61,766 batteries to enable service continuity during extended blackouts.

Security & Assurance News

In Security & Assurance News, the FCC's Enforcement Bureau announced that it has accelerated its illegal robocall blocking efforts against Veriwave Telco, which has not complied with FCC call blocking rules for providers suspected of carrying illegal traffic. This action moves the company one step closer to facing mandatory blocking. The Bureau issued an [Initial Determination Order](#) against Veriwave, ordering the company to respond to the order and warning the company about potential consequences of its failure to do so. Deutsche Telekom's Telekom SAP platform has received [ISO 27001 certification](#) based on IT baseline protection. The certification by the German Federal Office for Information Security confirms that the platform meets the highest security standards and effectively protects business-relevant information and sensitive data. IBM has secured a five-year contract with \$26 million in initial funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development to support its [Cybersecurity Protection and Response program](#) aimed to expand and enhance the agency's cybersecurity response support for host governments in the Europe and Eurasia region.

Caveonix has [formed a partnership](#) with leading cloud security provider Wiz and is joining the Wiz Integration platform. This integration brings the power of Caveonix's continuous compliance automation to the WIN partner ecosystem so that customers can seamlessly integrate Wiz into a compliance automation program with Caveonix. Mimecast released its [Human Risk Management platform](#), marking an important and eagerly anticipated milestone in advancing toward the next generation of cybersecurity. In response to customer and market demand for a more effective means of mitigating risk brought on by employee mistakes and user errors, Mimecast has charted a new path forward by developing a connected HRM platform.

Cloud News

In Cloud News, LexisNexis Risk Solutions has launched its first [Australian cloud hosting facility](#) to support easy access to localized risk orchestration services. This move underlines the company's commitment to the region following the launch of its first Asia-Pacific data center in India last year. Spirent announced the addition of cloud-native function resiliency testing to its [Spirent Landslide](#) solution to continuously test the impact of CNF performance on the delivery of 5G Standalone services. Nokia has successfully completed its first 5G non-standalone [Cloud RAN trial](#) with Bharti Airtel in India. The project supports Airtel's strategy of delivering a superior customer experience using high-performing networks. It is expected to deliver higher levels of service innovation, higher network automation, flexibility, and efficient scaling of resources to support end-user services.

Cloudbench has earned a new [Google Cloud Expertise designation](#) in Financial Services. This recognition highlights Cloudbench's consistent success in delivering measurable business value and outcomes for its FinTech, InsurTech, and Web3 Digital Asset startup and mid-market clients. SKF has selected the [RISE with SAP](#) solution to future-proof its global operations, simplify its IT infrastructure and leverage innovative technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning. Cisco launched its [Country Digital Acceleration program](#) in Vietnam. The program, announced at the Cisco CXO Symposium in Da Nang, will see Cisco collaborate with public and private enterprises in Vietnam to advance the nation's digitization agenda.

Market News

In Market News, Gilat Satellite Networks has secured over [\\$14 million in orders](#) from several prominent service providers and system integrators for its In-Flight Connectivity products and solutions. The orders include network equipment, solid state power amplifiers, and additional IFC

auxiliary products. Huawei shared a new plan to train an additional [150,000 talents in Sub-Saharan Africa](#) over the next three years. The plan comes on top of the ICT leader's initial goal to equip over 100,000 people in the region with digital skills by 2025. Huawei has already exceeded its initial goal by 120 percent, 10 months ahead of schedule, training over 120,000 individuals over the past 26 months. Huawei also plans to provide [4,000 ICT courses and classes in Mauritius](#) over the next four years. These training opportunities will be provided by the Huawei ICT Academy, Huawei's Seeds for the Future program and will include training for government civil servants, SME digital transformation training, and digital literacy initiatives.

Kandji has raised [\\$100 million in capital from General Catalyst](#), with \$50 million allocated to equity financing for its Series D, and \$50 million for go-to-market investment. This latest round brings Kandji's valuation to \$850 million. Deep Nishar from General Catalyst will join the company's Board of Directors. Nokia and Infinera made a definitive agreement under which [Nokia will acquire Infinera](#) in a transaction valuing the company at \$6.65 per share or an enterprise value of \$2.3 billion. The transaction represents a premium of 28 percent to Infinera's share price at the close of 26 June 2024 and a 37 percent premium to the trailing 180-day volume weighted average price.

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