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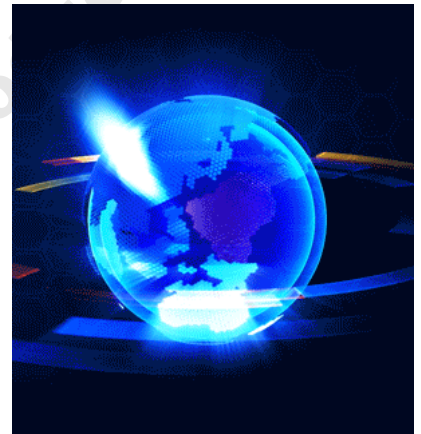
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IT and Telecom News

By: [Pipeline Magazine](#)

Early 2026 showed strong momentum across the communications, IT, and digital infrastructure sectors. Operators, vendors, hyperscalers, and enterprises pushed forward on multiple fronts simultaneously. This month, news and innovations spanning 5G, AI, B/OSS, cybersecurity, IoT, Quantum and more populated the headlines at *Pipeline* this month.

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.



Network & 5G

The Network & 5G category featured intense activity in radio access modernization, fiber expansion, transport upgrades, and specialized connectivity. In the United Kingdom, [Nokia secured a major multi-year 5G RAN deployment and modernization program with Virgin Media O2](#). The deal centers on Nokia's latest AirScale portfolio, including Massive MIMO radios, future-proof baseband, and energy-efficient platforms. This initiative will accelerate VMO2's Mobile Transformation Plan with expected gains in capacity, coverage, spectral efficiency, and customer speeds, while expanding joint innovation in automation, AI intelligence, and 5G-Advanced.

At the same time, [Ericsson announced it will power the majority of Virgin Media O2's UK radio network](#) through a five-year partnership extension worth several hundred million Euros. Ericsson will deploy advanced multiband Massive MIMO radios, AI/ML optimization software, and capabilities supporting network slicing, Cloud RAN, and 5G Standalone evolution. Both partnerships underscore the competitive yet collaborative nature of RAN modernization as operators address doubling mobile traffic and new spectrum assets.

In India, [Vodafone Idea is modernizing its transport network with Ciena's WaveLogic 6 Extreme](#) coherent optics on the 6500 platform to better support bandwidth growth and enterprise/hyperscaler opportunities. [Adtran extended 400G capabilities to the edge](#) with new Terabit-class routers that deliver cost-effective scaling without increasing space, power, or operational complexity. [Wilson Connectivity partnered with Autonomous Systems](#) to offer full network lifecycle management and automated in-building wireless solutions.

Fiber broadband continued its geographic expansion. [Empire Fiber Internet entered Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley](#), targeting over 35,000 homes and businesses with ultra-fast connectivity. [Ezee Fiber connected its first customers in Novi, Michigan](#), advancing multi-gigabit symmetrical services in the state. [Archtop Fiber launched 5 Gig and 8 Gig residential plans](#) with eero devices as the new standard and began construction in East Greenbush, New York. [TELUS made PureFibre services available in Calgary-Bonavista](#) as part of its ongoing Canadian rollout.

Rural and mission-critical connectivity also advanced. [VTEL Wireless selected Ericsson](#) for a 5G Standalone core and RAN deployment to improve rural wireless services in the United States. [ZTE enabled large-scale commercial 10G PON deployment for MiFibra in Peru](#). [Nokia was chosen by SkyFiber](#) to serve underserved households in Northern Nevada. [ProRail in the Netherlands deployed Adtran's ALM fiber monitoring solution](#) to protect critical rail ICT systems. [Adtran and GLDS expanded their partnership](#) for billing-driven, zero-touch subscriber lifecycle automation.

Additional highlights include [AT&T and FirstNet supporting NASA's Artemis II Moon mission communications](#), [Bittium and Telia implementing a hybrid 5G network](#) for Finnish Defence Forces resilient communications, [RINA Wireless selecting Mavenir](#) for voice core modernization (IMS, VoLTE, VoWiFi, and voicemail), [MTN Nigeria and Huawei deploying the world's first commercial sub-1 GHz Massive MIMO site](#) with major capacity and performance improvements, [Deutsche Telekom expanding 5G+](#) for low-latency video calling, and [TELUS and AST SpaceMobile signing a commercial agreement](#) for space-based cellular broadband across Canada with TELUS taking equity and investing in ground infrastructure.

[VIAVI partnered with Ground Control](#) for assured positioning, [Proptivity activated Ericsson's Host Management Control](#) for shared indoor radio, [T-Mobile supported connectivity during wildfires](#) in Georgia and Florida while launching [SuperBroadband](#) combining 5G Advanced and Starlink for businesses, [Ericsson and Swisscom launched an intelligent Energy & Enclosure platform](#), [ISCO and Abside Networks advanced interference management](#) for 5G/Open RAN, [HPE powered Red Sea Global resorts](#) with AI-native networking, and the [Fiber Broadband Association released best practices guidance on design and permitting](#). [Adtran's SDG router portfolio also received FCC conditional approval](#) through 2027.

These announcements illustrate operators balancing immediate performance needs with long-term scalability, energy efficiency, and new revenue opportunities through slicing and enterprise services.

AI & Analytics News

The AI & Analytics section represented the largest volume of announcements, highlighting the rapid shift toward coordinated, outcome-driven agentic systems. [NVIDIA and Marvell formed a strategic partnership through NVLink Fusion](#), supported by a \$2 billion investment from NVIDIA. This collaboration provides customers with greater choice in custom XPUs, scale-up networking, silicon photonics, and AI-RAN development within the NVIDIA ecosystem.

Oracle maintained a dominant presence with multiple launches, including [NetSuite Restaurant Operations](#), [Fusion Agentic Applications for finance, supply chain, and customer experience](#), enhancements to the AI Database for high availability and security, and government-focused AI platforms. The company also expanded partnerships with Google Cloud and others. [CoreWeave achieved strong MLPerf results](#) with NVIDIA GB200 systems, signed a roughly \$21 billion long-term deal with Meta, and partnered with Anthropic for additional AI capacity.

[ServiceNow embedded AI across its full portfolio](#) and deepened collaboration with Google Cloud on autonomous agents for 5G, retail, and IT operations. [Salesforce introduced extensive new Slackbot capabilities](#), including desktop note-taking, reusable AI skills, and voice input. [Cloudflare expanded its Agent Cloud](#) with infrastructure and security tools for production-grade AI agents. [DigitalOcean acquired Katanemo Labs](#) to strengthen agentic application operations, while [Rafay Systems launched Token Factory](#) to transform GPU providers into full AI factories.

[Cerillion introduced Agent2Agent capabilities in release 26.1](#) to enable coordinated multi-system automation in BSS/OSS environments. [Adtran launched Ensemble Cloudlet](#) for high-availability edge AI inference. A wide range of other organizations, including [Solita \(RoadCrew Agentic Orchestrator\)](#), [EdgeRunner AI \(WarClaw\)](#), [Trinity \(InsightsEDGE Digital Twins\)](#), [Yooz \(line-level invoice intelligence\)](#), [Blaize \(AI Services platform\)](#), [Doba \(Pilot AI dropshipping agent\)](#), [Genspark \(Microsoft-embedded agents\)](#), [PubMatic \(AgenticOS\)](#), [MythWorx \(NeuroWorx reasoning engine\)](#), and many more advanced specialized agentic tools and partnerships across industries. Research reports from [Zapier](#), [Amplitude](#), [NTT DATA](#), [ISG](#), and others examined vendor lock-in, generational trust gaps, talent transformation, and enterprise adoption patterns. Telecom-specific AI efforts included [Nokia and Orange advancing AI-RAN](#), along with various operator collaborations on network intelligence.

This category clearly shows agentic AI transitioning from experimentation to production-scale deployment, with success depending on data readiness, cross-platform integration, and strong governance.

Security & Assurance News

Security announcements focused on proactive, AI-native defenses against evolving threats. [CrowdStrike expanded its partnership with HCLTech](#) on Continuous Threat Exposure Management services and launched [Project QuiltWorks](#), an industry coalition with partners including Accenture, EY, IBM, and OpenAI to remediate vulnerabilities discovered by frontier AI models. [Permiso Security introduced SandyClaw](#), a dynamic analysis platform for AI agent skills executed in sandboxed environments. [Kaspersky joined the Digital Cooperation Organization](#) as its first cybersecurity member, discovered new SparkCat and JanelaRAT variants, identified fraudulent crypto wallet apps, and opened calls for papers for its 2026 Security Analyst Summit.

[IBM announced new cybersecurity measures](#) targeting AI-weaponized attacks. [Nokia and Cinia partnered on advanced DDoS protection](#) for Finnish critical infrastructure. [Fortinet released its 2026 Global Cybersecurity Skills Gap Report](#) and returned to the World Economic Forum cybersecurity meeting. Additional activity included HENNGE's new Endpoint & Managed Security solution, Babel Street's free threat intelligence offerings, Resecurity's Splunk integration, Malwarebytes' AzireVPN audit, Corero and Lumen threat intelligence reports, Oracle's AI agents for financial crime compliance, Bottomline's Nacha partnership, ISHG's industrial cybersecurity perspective, DE-CIX achieving Google VPP Gold status, Arintra's HITRUST certification, Team Cymru's Total Insights Feeds, Vodafone Business and Google Cloud's SMB cybersecurity solutions, Siemens Government Technologies' Space Coast contract, and FRFS's Network Intelligence API. These moves reflect the industry's shift toward embedded, continuous, and intelligence-led security.

Cloud News

Cloud-related announcements emphasized secure, sovereign, and AI-optimized environments. [Oracle launched its Defense Industrial Base Isolated Cloud Environment](#) for high-classification collaboration and expanded multicloud networking with AWS. [BigPanda partnered with ServiceNow](#) as an elite Build Partner with a certified application for alert-to-incident

transformation. [BlueDolphin \(formerly ValueBlue\) unveiled an AI-powered business transformation platform](#). [CloudM launched Continuity](#) for automated hot standby resilience in Google Workspace. [IFS and NEC will deploy IFS Cloud](#) for Hoshizaki's core systems. [Cloudflare introduced Mesh](#) as a private networking fabric for AI agents, humans, and multicloud infrastructure. [Lumen collaborated with AWS](#) on private connectivity using its last-mile infrastructure.

[Cerillion is delivering a major BSS/OSS transformation for Omantel](#) in Oman. [Mavenir deployed its cloud-native Converged Packet Core](#) with Rakuten Mobile. [Fortinet highlighted persistent cybersecurity skills shortages](#) in its latest report. These initiatives show cloud strategies increasingly focused on security, sovereignty, resilience, and tight integration with AI workloads.

IoT News

IoT announcements focused on connected solutions and practical deployments. [Matternet began drone delivery operations](#) for the UK's National Health Service in London. [Omdia forecasted cellular IoT data traffic](#) rising to 218.6 exabytes by 2035. [Wind Telecom and ZTE deployed Smart Cloud Platform](#) and intelligent home solutions in the Dominican Republic.

Innovation News

Innovation announcements spanned quantum computing, satellite systems, energy management, and breakthrough research. [IBM and ETH Zurich launched a 10-year collaboration](#) on AI-quantum algorithms. [EPB joined the Southeastern Quantum Collaborative](#). [Transgene and NEC signed a license agreement](#) for the TG4050 neoantigen cancer vaccine. [Apolink, Space Compass, and JSAT signed an MOU](#) for multi-orbit optical data relay services. [IonQ expanded its partnership with the University of Maryland](#), achieved a photonic interconnect milestone connecting independent trapped-ion systems, secured a DARPA contract, published a full-stack scalable quantum blueprint, and partnered with Florida LambdaRail on a quantum-safe network corridor.

[Bosch and Qualcomm expanded their collaboration](#) to include ADAS solutions. [NVIDIA launched its Ising family of open-source quantum AI models](#). [Cloudflare partnered with Wiz](#) for unified AI application security. [Quantinuum upgraded RIKEN's system](#) in Japan. [AST SpaceMobile provided updates on BlueBird 7](#). [DDN advanced AI/HPC capabilities](#) with Google Cloud Managed Lustre. [Cisco introduced a Universal Quantum Switch prototype](#). [ZTE and XLSMART opened a joint Innovation Center](#) in Indonesia for 5G-Advanced and AI. [The MIT-IBM Computing Research Lab launched](#) with expanded quantum and AI scope.

[Anritsu automated hybrid eCall testing](#), [Gatehouse Satcom formalized collaboration with Rohde & Schwarz](#), [Mitsubishi Electric started a railway energy management PoC](#) in Poland, [Keysight announced its Assembly simulation solution](#), [NEC secured a defense equipment contract](#) in Australia, and [Burnlab selected Konstrukt's Omakase Player](#). These developments highlight accelerating progress toward practical quantum, hybrid satellite, and intelligent infrastructure applications.

CX/DX News

Customer experience and digital transformation announcements centered on agentic and AI-enhanced engagement. [Oracle introduced CX Fusion Agentic Applications](#) powered by coordinated AI agents for proactive, outcome-driven customer operations. [Microsoft partnered with Stellantis](#) on a five-year collaboration to accelerate digital transformation through AI,

cybersecurity, and engineering capabilities. [Bell Integration selected NiCE's CXone platform](#) to modernize its service desk and business development operations. These moves demonstrate the growing integration of AI agents directly into customer-facing and internal workflows.

Market News

Market activity included both large-scale transactions and numerous partnership expansions. [Anritsu signed a sales agreement with Thurlby Thandar Instruments](#) to broaden its portfolio. [Comarch joined the ACA Luxembourg insurance association](#). [Wasabi acquired Seagate's Lyve Cloud business](#). [Palo Alto Networks completed the acquisition of Koi](#) to define Agentic Endpoint Security. [Jane Street committed approximately \\$6 billion to CoreWeave's AI cloud platform](#). [ServiceNow finalized its acquisition of Armis](#) for comprehensive cyber exposure management. [Gilat received a defense order](#) for solid-state power amplifiers. Additional notable moves encompassed [Akamai's Montana public sector contract](#), [IBM's FedRAMP portfolio expansion](#), [Red Hat's 14-year enterprise lifecycle subscription](#), [Oracle Aconex enhancements](#) for capital projects, [Microsoft's datacenter land purchase in Cheyenne](#), [Ooredoo and DE-CIX interconnecting Doha IX to Marseille](#), [AccelerComm securing its 56th patent](#), [Oracle Health achieving CMS Aligned Network status](#), [UiPath and Deloitte advancing agentic testing](#), [Recast enhancing Right Click Tools](#) for hybrid environments, [Altana and Maersk building a digital trade network](#), [TUIT and ZTE strengthening educational ties](#) in Uzbekistan, [VIAVI products gaining IEEE/Avnu recognition](#), [ZTE and CIMB expanding in ASEAN](#), [Qualcomm and Snap extending their collaboration](#), and many smaller ecosystem partnerships.

Taken together, these announcements paint a picture of an industry in full convergence. Robust network foundations are being built to carry exploding AI workloads. Agentic AI is moving rapidly into coordinated production use across BSS, OSS, operations, and customer domains. Security is becoming embedded and intelligence-led, while cloud, quantum, IoT, and innovation initiatives lay groundwork for sovereign capabilities and entirely new service models. Challenges around integration complexity, skills shortages, energy demands, and governance persist, but the momentum is unmistakable. Organizations that execute with discipline across these interconnected domains will gain significant competitive advantage in the coming years.

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