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MWC Barcelona 2026 - The global shift to the "IQ Era"

"Building the Foundation for Pakistan's 5G Future"

Hatem Bamatraf
President and CEO, PTCL & Ufone

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www.teletimesinternational.com info@teletimesinternational.com

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Founder	Prof. Nasreen Khalid
Co-Founder	Riaz Asher Siddiqui
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Technology Writer	Ken Herron
Sub Editor	Fakher Dawar
Director Sales & Marketing (MEA)	Sheraz Hassan Raza
Business Dev. Manager	Cell: +971 54 2911177
	Tahir Alam

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Bureaux

U.K
235A, Old Brompton Road, London SWFO OEA
Ph: (+44) 0783 1418 072

Spain
C/Vidre 7, Local 2: 08002, Barcelona.
Ph: (034) 699 82 2080, +34 936671010

KSA
P.O. Box 100598, Jeddah, 21311
Ph: (+966) 5098 35514

Canada
126-1055B Forestwood Dr L5C 2T8 Mississauga
Cell: +1 (647) 425-4111

APAC
No. 09, Simpang 95 JLN Ban5, Kampong Kilanas, BF2780, Brunei Darussalam.
Cell: (+673) 863 2798

Asia Office

Islamabad
PPA Publications,
6, Street 39, G-6/2, Islamabad, 44000
Cell: (+92) 300 9559879
Marketing Coordinator - Imran Rasheed

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P.O. Box 239031,
Dubai - UAE
+971 50 1305097

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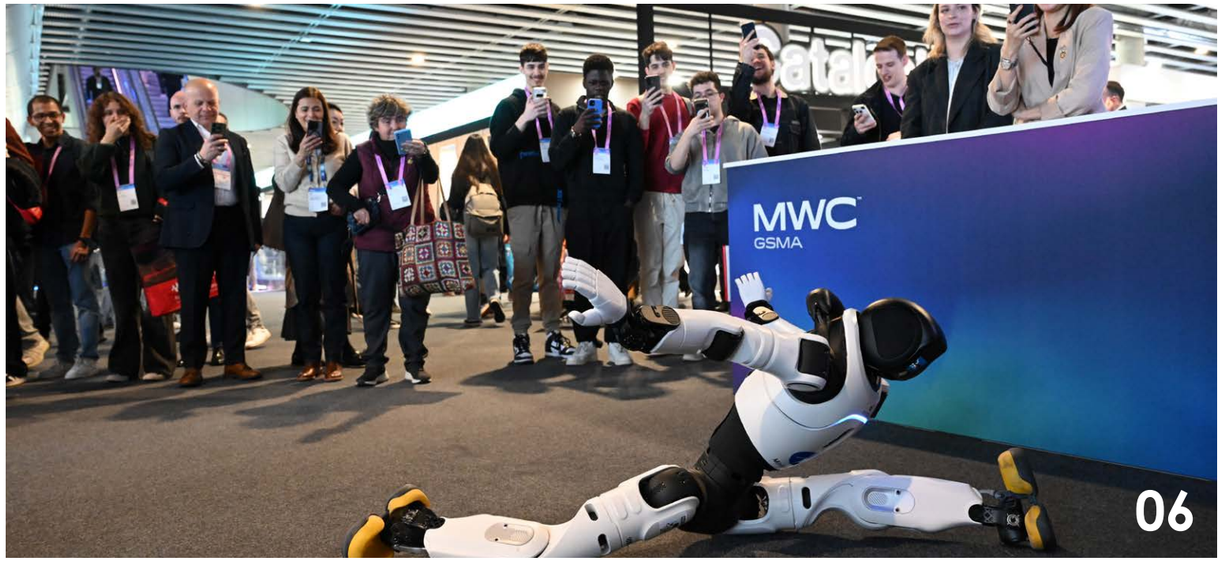

Interview

Event

Telecommunications

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Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

Today, we find ourselves at a defining moment for the global telecom and ICT landscape. From the powerful conversations at MWC Barcelona 2026 to the accelerating transition into what many are calling the "IQ Era," the industry is undergoing a fundamental transformation—one where connectivity is no longer just an enabler, but an intelligent platform shaping economies, societies, and everyday experiences.

In this issue, we bring you exclusive insights from industry leaders, including a compelling perspective on Pakistan's 5G journey, which marks not just a technological upgrade but the beginning of a new digital chapter. Across our features, you will discover how AI, 5G-Advanced, satellite connectivity, and emerging digital ecosystems are converging to redefine how businesses operate and how communities stay connected. The momentum we are witnessing today reflects a global commitment to innovation, inclusion, and sustainable growth.

As always, our mission remains to connect you with the ideas, people, and technologies shaping the future of telecom, ICT, and satellite communications across the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. We thank you for your continued support and invite you to explore this edition with curiosity and insight as we collectively navigate the next phase of digital evolution.

Enjoy Reading!

Khalid Athar
Chief Editor

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MWC Barcelona 2026

The global shift to the "IQ Era"

MWC Barcelona 2026 was more than a trade show; it was a celebration of two decades of innovation in the heart of Catalonia. Opening with a poignant reflection on twenty years of partnership with the city, the GSMA welcomed over 109,000 attendees to the Fira Gran Via. The overarching narrative, set by GSMA Director General Mats Granryd, focused on a three-pronged challenge: completing the global transition to 5G Standalone (SA), rising to the multifaceted challenges of Artificial Intelligence (AI), and fortifying digital safety in an increasingly complex threat landscape.

The event's theme, "The IQ Era," signaled a shift in the telecommunications industry's identity. No longer content to be the "pipes" of the digital world, mobile operators and infrastructure giants showcased their evolution into intelligent platform providers. This transition was anchored by the launch of the GSMA Open Telco AI initiative, a collaborative framework designed to accelerate the development of "telco-grade" AI—systems that are not only intelligent but also secure, reliable, and interoperable across global borders.

Keynote Highlights & Global Leadership

The keynote sessions at MWC Barcelona 2026 served as the strategic heartbeat of the event, bringing together a record-breaking concentration of global decision-makers. With over 1,700 speakers—of which 40% held C-suite positions and 35% were women—the stage represented a cross-sector consensus on the future of intelligent connectivity.

1. "Leading the Future – Intelligent, Inclusive, Unstoppable"

The opening session addressed the industry's pivot toward sovereign and secure AI. Vivek Badrinath, Director General of the GSMA, opened the congress by framing the "IQ Era" as a moment of structural reset. He was joined by a panel of industry titans who explored the convergence of infrastructure and intelligence:

• **Sunil Bharti Mittal, Founder and Chairman of Bharti Enterprises:** Emphasized the "usage gap," noting that while technology has advanced, the industry's moral mission remains to make connectivity universally affordable for the 3.1 billion people still excluded from the digital economy.

• **Christel Heydemann, CEO of Orange Group:** Championed the transition to AI-native networks, arguing that telcos must evolve from connectivity providers into "digital platform orchestrators."

• **John Stankey, Chairman and CEO of AT&T:** Outlined the necessity of scaling 5G-Standalone (SA) to support the massive data demands of generative and agentic AI.

• **Margherita Della Valle, CEO of Vodafone Group:** Discussed the importance of fair-share policies and industrial consolidation to fund the next generation of European infrastructure.

• **Tim Peake, Astronaut with the British European Space Agency (ESA):** Brought a unique perspective on the "outer limits" of connectivity, discussing how satellite-to-cell integration is transforming global coverage.

2. Innovation in Device and Network Intelligence

Keynote sessions throughout the week focused on the shift toward Agentic AI—systems that move beyond simple prompts to autonomous execution.

• **Cristiano R. Amon, President and CEO of Qualcomm Incorporated:** Delivered a vision for "On-Device AI," explaining how processing at the edge is the only sustainable way to handle the trillions of AI interactions predicted for the 2030s.

• **Justin Hotard, President and CEO of Nokia:** Co-presented a roadmap for 6G, describing it as a "sensing network" that will act as a digital twin for the physical world.

• **Chaobin Yang, Executive Vice President and CEO of the ICT Business Group at Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd.:** Showcased Huawei's "Agentic MBB" framework, demonstrating how AI agents are now managing complex 5.5G networks to achieve "zero-bit, zero-watt" energy efficiency.

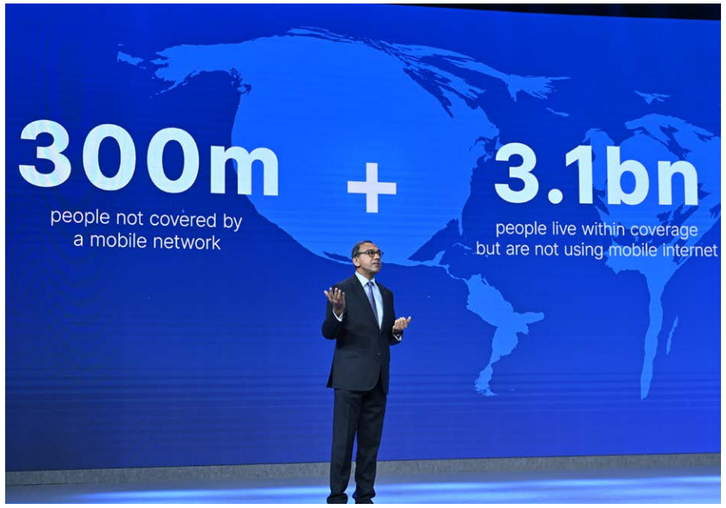
• **He Biao, CEO of China Mobile:** Articulated a future where the network itself is the computer, treating AI as a fundamental utility rather than a standalone application.

3. The Ministerial Programme: Policy and Digital Sovereignty

The Ministerial Programme convened 188 delegations and 54 ministers to discuss the regulatory framework required for a sovereign tech future.

• **Henna Virkkunen, European Commission Executive Vice-President for Tech Sovereignty, Security, and Democracy:** Delivered a cornerstone address titled "Advancing Europe's Telecom Framework," calling for more single-market competitiveness and resilience in the face of rising geopolitical rivalries.

• **Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Union Minister of Communications, India:** Highlighted India's success in driving down data costs and outlined his vision for "Built for What's Next," emphasizing affordable, human-centric AI ecosystems.



• **Óscar López Águeda, Minister for Digital and Civil Service Transformation, Spain:** Welcomed the industry for its 20th year in Barcelona, focusing on Spain's leadership in digital rights and the ethical deployment of AI.

4. Cross-Industry Disruptors and the "Entertainment Act"

MWC 2026 signaled that the "mobile" industry now encompasses everything from space exploration to Hollywood.

• **Gwynne Shotwell, President and COO of SpaceX:** Detailed the evolution of Starlink's direct-to-cell services and the role of reusable rockets in lowering the cost of global satellite connectivity.

• **Johanna Faries, President of Blizzard Entertainment:** Discussed the "Next Act of Entertainment," exploring how AI and

high-speed networks are merging gaming, creativity, and social interaction into unified immersive experiences.

• **Aaron Paul, Actor, Producer, and Entrepreneur:** Joined a fireside chat on "Reclaiming Presence," advocating for technology that enhances human connection rather than distracting from it—a theme reflected in the rise of minimalist "minimalist devices."

• **Karandeep Anand, CEO of Character. AI:** Explored the future of personalized AI companions and how they will redefine the human-machine interface.

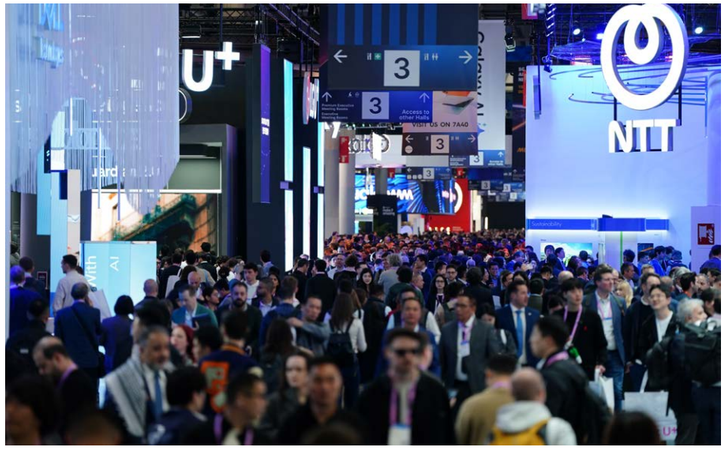
Huawei and the Infrastructure Revolution: From 5G to 5.5G

Huawei maintained its position as the primary architect of the next-generation network. Its presence in Hall 1 was centered on the commercial deployment of 5.5G (5G-Advanced), which Huawei argued is the essential bridge to the 6G future. The company's "Agentic MBB" (Mobile Broadband) was a highlight, demonstrating how AI agents can autonomously manage network congestion and energy efficiency.

A major milestone for Huawei was the reception of multiple Global Mobile (GLOMO) Awards. Most notably, Huawei, in collaboration with China Telecom, was recognized for its pioneering work in Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTN). Their solution for "Direct-to-Satellite" communication allows standard consumer smartphones to connect directly to GEO satellites for voice and data—a feat that effectively eliminates "dead zones" in remote regions. Furthermore, Huawei's "0 Bit 0 Watt" energy-saving technology set a new benchmark for sustainability, proving that high-performance 5.5G networks can actually reduce their carbon footprint by powering down components to near-zero when no traffic is detected.

The Rise of "Agentic AI" and Device Innovation

If 2025 was the year of Generative AI, 2026



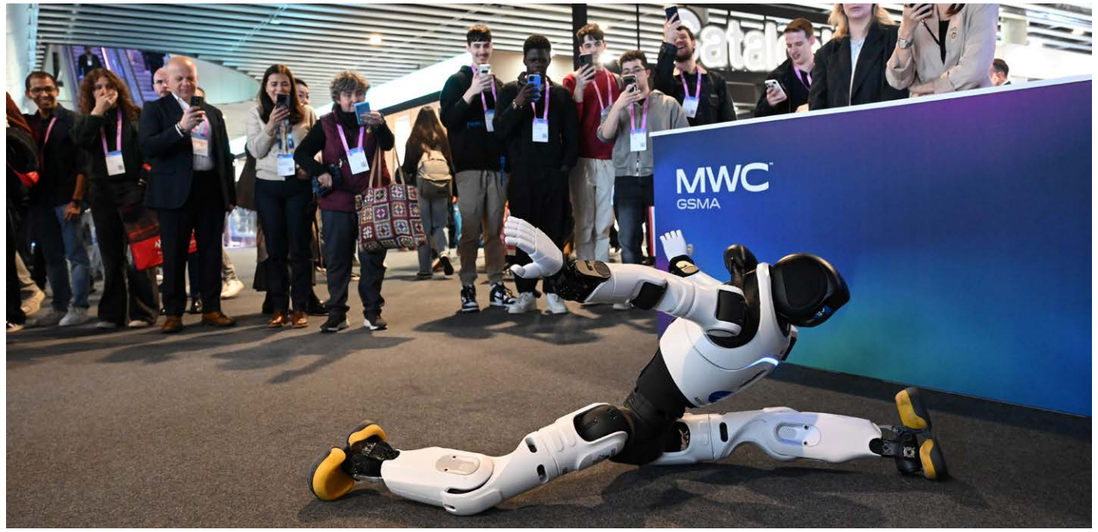
was the year of Agentic AI. The keynote stages were dominated by discussions on AI systems that don't just answer questions but take autonomous actions.

In the consumer hardware space, the Honor "Robot Phone" became the most talked-about device of the week. By integrating a micro-gimbal camera and an AI agent that "learns" user behavior, the phone acts as a proactive personal assistant. This was complemented by the Xiaomi 17 Series, which continued to push the boundaries of mobile photography through its partnership with Leica, and the Apple iPhone 17 Pro, which secured the GLOMO for "Best Smartphone" due to its refined integration of on-device AI and the A19 Pro silicon.

Democratization of technology was also a key focus. The Infinix HOT 60 Pro+ was awarded "Best Smartphone under $150," highlighting that high-speed connectivity and AI features are no longer exclusive to the premium segment.

Talent, Startups, and Global Collaboration

The Talent Arena, now in its third year, solidified its position as Europe's leading digital talent hub, attracting 25,000 visitors. This initiative addressed the critical "skills gap" by connecting developers and engineers with the world's leading tech



employers. Simultaneously, the 4YFN (Four Years From Now) startup event celebrated a landmark partnership, signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Korea International Trade Association (KITA) to foster cross-border innovation between European and Asian startups.

The GSMA also utilized the Barcelona platform to look toward the future of Latin American connectivity, announcing that M360 LATAM 2026 would return to Mexico City. This move emphasizes the GSMA's commitment to ensuring that the "IQ Era" is a global phenomenon, not limited to developed markets.

The Funding Frontier: GSMA Foundry & ESA

One of the most significant financial announcements of the week came from the GSMA Foundry and the European Space Agency (ESA). They announced access to new funding worth up to €100 million for projects focusing on the convergence of terrestrial and satellite networks. This funding is specifically targeted at AI-driven NTN (Non-Terrestrial Networks), Device-to-Device (D2D) satellite communication, and the early R&D phases of 6G. This partnership underscores the strategic importance of "ubiquitous connectivity"—the idea that a user should never lose connection, whether they are in a skyscraper or the middle of the ocean.

The 2026 GLOMO Awards: Celebrating Excellence

2026 GLOMO Awards winners

Chairman's Award

Keeping the World Connected in Crisis: *Presented to Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union & Kelly Clements, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees*

Outstanding Achievement

Lifetime Achievement Award: *Sunil Bharti Mittal, Founder and Chairman, Bharti Enterprises*

Government Leadership Award: *Socialist Republic of Viet Nam*

Mobile Tech

CTO Choice: *Outstanding Mobile Technology Award: LG Uplus for ixi Guardian, an End-to-End Security Suite for Telco's AI Agent*

Best Mobile Network Infrastructure: *Huawei for UWB AAU series with Giga Performance and Efficiency*

Best Mobile Technology Breakthrough: *Cohere Technologies for Pulsone Multi-G for ISAC and NTN*

Best Digital Tech Breakthrough for companies with under $100 million Annual Global Revenue: *Cumucore for Time Sensitive Network over 5G*

Best Network Security and Fraud Prevention: *LG Uplus for for ixi-Guardian, an end-to-end security suite for telco's AI Agent*

Best AI-Powered Network Solution: *China Mobile and Huawei for "AI+Network" Operation Transformation*

Best Cloud Solution: *SK Telecom for SKT Haein GPU Cluster*

Best NTN Solution: *China Telecom and Huawei for System Design, Key Technologies, and Scale Application of the Smartphone Direct Connection to GEO Satellite*

Digital Everything

Best Mobile Operator Service for Connected

Consumers: *Telkomsel and Huawei for Jaringan Prioritas with Guaranteed Experience in High-Density Connectivity with UE Logo*

Best Private Network Solution: *China Telecom, ZTE, AgiBot and DroidUp for EasyOn 5G-A-RobotNet: Intelligent Backbone for Humanoids*

Best Mobile Innovation for Connected Health and Wellbeing: *China Mobile, Huawei and Ant Group for Ubiquitous AI Health Assistant*

Best AI-Enabled Customer Experience: *e&, Amdocs and NVIDIA for Agentic-AI Customer-Experience Transformation at e&*

Best FinTech & Digital Commerce Innovation: *Safaricom and Huawei for Ziidi Wealth Platform*

Open Gateway Challenge: *China Mobile, China Mobile Hangyan, JD.com and ZTE for AI-Powered Open Gateway Bridging AI Systems and Network Infrastructure*

Device

Best Smartphone: *Apple iPhone 17 Pro series*

Disruptive Device Innovation: *Honor for the implementation and commercialisation of silicon carbon battery technology*

Best Connected Consumer Device: *Garmin, Skylo and Sony Altair for Garmin fēnix® 8 Pro Multisport Smartwatches*

Best Device <$150 (Entry Level): *Infinix Mobility Limited for HOT 60 Pro+*

Best in Show: *Samsung Galaxy S26 Ultra*

Tech4Good

Digital Inclusion & Usage-Gap Impact: *Dots for Inc. for DC Box Network – A Village-Scale Digital Hub Connecting the Unconnected in Rural Africa*

Best Mobile Innovation supporting Emergency or Humanitarian Situations:

Metro Pacific Health Tech for mWell

Best Use of Mobile for Accessibility & Inclusion: *China Mobile and Huawei for Ubiquitous Mobile Health Assistant*

Best Mobile Innovation for Climate Action: *K-water for SWNM: AI-Powered Smart Water Networks, Climate Action*

Best Mobile Innovation for Enhancing the Lives of Children and Young People: *China Telecom, CSEF and Huawei for Qingjiao Plan in Lancang County*

The #ChangeTheFace Award: *Lindsey Nefesh-Clarke, Founder & CEO, W4.org*

Marketing Excellence

Best Event Activation: *China Telecom, R&J and ZTE for 5G-A powered concert live streaming*

CMO Marketing Campaign Award: *Singtel and Hogarth Worldwide for CUBICLΣ LIFE*

Marketing for Good: *LGU+ for the Integrated Marketing Campaign Empowering ixi-Guardian and ixi-O as Korea's Leading AI Security & Call Agent Service*

Sustainability and Ethical AI: The Moral Compass

Throughout the daily highlights—from the Tuesday "Green Tech" sessions to the Thursday closing panels—sustainability remained a non-negotiable priority. The industry's shift toward "Intelligent Infrastructure" is being driven as much by the need to save energy as the need to increase speed. Discussions on Ethical AI also took center stage, with the GSMA advocating for a "Human-in-the-Loop" approach to ensure that autonomous AI agents remain under human oversight, particularly in critical infrastructure management.

The Roadmap to 2027 and Beyond

As MWC Barcelona 2026 drew to a close, the path forward was well-defined. The industry has successfully navigated the "5G Trough of Disillusionment" and entered a period of renewed growth driven by 5.5G and AI. The 20th anniversary in Barcelona served as a reminder of how far the mobile ecosystem has come—from simple voice calls to a world where AI-powered networks manage themselves and satellites provide a safety net for the entire planet.

The "IQ Era" is officially here. As the delegates departed the Fira Gran Via, the focus turned toward the next frontier: the standardization of 6G and the further miniaturization of AI into wearables and robotics. MWC 2026 proved that the mobile industry remains the foundational engine of the global digital economy, more intelligent and more vital than ever before. T

Huawei showcases new smart life experiences with cross-device innovation

Huawei unveiled the future at the Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2026 in Barcelona, Spain. Under the theme "Now Is Yours", Huawei showcased a dazzling array of products, including smartphones, PCs, tablets, watches, and earbuds. The tech giant highlighted its latest breakthroughs in foldable screen technology, fitness and health, mobile imaging, productivity, and creativity, presenting a bold vision of the future digital lifestyle to consumers worldwide.

At the "Your Intelligent World" zone, Huawei showcased its technological prowess as a leader in smart technology. With a diverse lineup of tablets, Huawei delivers PC-level productivity. Powered by HarmonyOS, Huawei's devices allow users to seamlessly run full-featured office software like WPS. Complemented by the efficiency of HUAWEI Notes, they enable professional creativity and collaboration anytime, anywhere. Regarding hardware-software integration, Huawei's PaperMatte Display offers a clear, eye-comfort display while delivering a unique paper-like writing and painting experience.

The event also featured the debut of the HUAWEI MatePad Mini, an 8.8-inch flagship compact tablet that blends portability with high-end intelligent technology. A significant spotlight was placed on the powerful AI capabilities of Huawei's latest flagship smartphones, the Mate 80 series, which enhance user engagement through intelligently tailored features. Furthermore, detailed videos revealed the intricate engineering of foldable devices like the Mate X7, showcasing cutting-edge hinge and display technology that sets a new industry benchmark.

The "Energize Your Life" zone offered immersive, hands-on experiences showcasing how Huawei technology empowers fitness and health. Visitors could test wearable devices in simulated real-life scenarios. Demonstrations highlighted specialised features: the HUAWEI WATCH GT 6 series with advanced cycling metrics for more efficient rides; the HUAWEI WATCH GT Runner 2 and its Intelligent Marathon Mode, guiding runners through pre-race training, in-race pacing, and post-race analysis; and the HUAWEI WATCH 5 and HUAWEI WATCH D2, which demonstrate comprehensive health management, from convenient monitoring to proactive reminders, providing users with complete health management solutions.

At the "Explore Yourself" zone, visitors unlocked their creative potential with Huawei's self-developed app "GoPaint". Thanks to its intuitive interface and rich asset library, the app makes professional-grade artistry accessible to everyone. For mobile filmmaking, Huawei showcased its XMAGE imaging technology, highlighting significant advancements in HUAWEI Mate 80 Pro's video capture, including super high dynamic range, accurate colour reproduction, and industry-leading telephoto macro and slow-motion capabilities. This empowers users to effortlessly capture the beauty in everyday moments and produce professional-quality videos.

Huawei embraces a bold, youthful spirit with its latest philosophy, "Now Is Yours", heralding a new chapter in smart living for users worldwide. Moving forward, Huawei remains committed to relentless innovation—delivering cutting-edge products and seamless, all-scenario experiences that empower everyone to explore and capture their own extraordinary moments in 2026. T

Huawei wins eight GLOMO Awards at MWC Barcelona 2026

Huawei won eight prestigious Global Mobile (GLOMO) Awards at MWC Barcelona 2026. These awards included the Best Mobile Network Infrastructure, Best AI Powered Network Solution, Best Non-Terrestrial Network Solution, Best Mobile Operator Service for Connected Consumers, Best Mobile Innovation for Connected Health and Wellbeing, Best FinTech & Digital Commerce Innovation, Best Use of Mobile for Accessibility & Inclusion, and Best Mobile Innovation for Enhancing the Lives of Children and Young People.

Best Mobile Network Infrastructure

Huawei has developed a number of innovative solutions for ultra-broadband, multi-antenna, and energy efficiency that are supporting the evolution to 5G across all frequency bands. These innovations have been used by carriers to build AI-powered, simple-to-deploy mobile networks designed for 5G-A evolution that deliver superior performance and consume ultra-low levels of energy. They have set a new benchmark for the global communications industry.

Best AI Powered Network Solution

Huawei and China Mobile jointly developed an "AI+Network" Operation Transformation solution for autonomous networks (ANs) to address the key pain points in network operations: efficiency, growth, and cost. By diving deep into AN L4 construction, this solution unleashes both the technical and business value of AI. This solution also features the world's first carrier-grade A2A-T multi-agent communication protocol which enables autonomous agent collaboration across domains and lifts network autonomy levels from single-point intelligence to swarm intelligence.

Best Non-Terrestrial Network Solution

China Telecom's Satellite Communications Branch has worked with Huawei to develop the industry's first set of technologies that enables direct connection between mobile phones and Tiantong satellites. These technologies include ultra-short-code, high-gain convolutional channel coding, and adaptive voice quantization. 40 mobile phone models and seven in-car infotainment systems now use these technologies to communicate via the Tiantong satellite system, in both China's mainland and Hong Kong, as well as an expanding number of countries and regions around the world. These technologies are also being used in the maritime and low-altitude sectors.

Best Mobile Operator Service for Connected Consumers

Indonesia's Telkomsel and Huawei won the GSMA GLOMO Best Mobile Operator Service for Connected Consumers Award for their use of the UE Logo to deliver a guaranteed experience. This win validates Indonesia's pioneering approach to experience monetization and serves as a testament for carriers worldwide exploring this new business model.

Best Mobile Innovation for Connected Health and Wellbeing

The Ubiquitous AI Health Assistant project, jointly created by China Mobile 5G New Calling and Huawei, has won the GSMA GLOMO Award for Best Mobile Innovation for Connected Health and Wellbeing. This marks a new stage for intelligent communications defined by "calling as a service".

Best FinTech & Digital Commerce Innovation

The Ziidi Wealth Platform, jointly developed by Safaricom and Huawei, has won the GSMA GLOMO Award for Best FinTech & Digital Commerce Innovation. The two companies have worked together in mobile finance for over a decade, supporting Africa's mobile financial ecosystem across the board, from digital wallets and payments to financial services.

Ziidi is a Money Market Fund (MMF) Safaricom launched in 2025 in Kenya that significantly improves financial inclusion, by offering middle- to low-income customers a low-barrier, real-time, and secure digital investment solution.

The platform uses Huawei's Mobile Money which integrates data from the business support system (BSS), operations support system (OSS), and other domains, along with operational assistance and credit risk control capabilities, making financial services more accessible globally. This has paved the way for the rapid development of portals where users can access digital and intelligent lifestyle services.

Best Use of Mobile for Accessibility & Inclusion

China Mobile and Huawei have jointly developed the Ubiquitous Mobile Health Assistant. Powered by China Mobile's 5G New Calling network and a health AI agent, the assistant provides comprehensive health services covering health consultations, medical assistance, and health management, transforming the dialer into a portable medical portal accessible to every household.

Best Mobile Innovation for Enhancing the Lives of Children and Young People

The Qingjiao Plan in Lancang County, Pu'er, China jointly initiated by China Telecom, CSEF, and Huawei, uses China Telecom's 5G network and Huawei Cloud WeLink to build a virtual community connecting teachers and students in Lancang and Shanghai, and integrates 5G and Wi-Fi on campuses. To date, the project has already covered dozens of primary and secondary schools in Lancang, trained over 600 rural teachers, and benefited more than 5,000 students. Nationwide, it has trained nearly 180,000 teachers, driving educational equity with digital technology. T

Yang Chaobin: Creating mobile value creates a better intelligent world

Yang Chaobin, CEO of Huawei's ICT Business Group, has called on the ICT industry to intensify efforts in ensuring everyone can access the fast track of AI at MWC Barcelona 2026. This call included recommendations on spectrum and network capabilities for scaling 5G-Advanced to support emerging AI applications, and an appeal to expand inclusive connectivity to bridge the digital divide in underserved regions.

In his keynote, Yang said, "The intelligent era is approaching fast. New AI applications are emerging every day, and so it is time for the industry to come together to unleash the full potential of 5G-A. We must efficiently utilize new spectrum resources like U6 GHz to create new value for the industry while paving the way for evolution to 6G."

As AI applications like text-to-video and AI-powered shopping become more and more common, token consumption will surge. The number of tokens consumed daily has grown 300 times over the past two years. Yang believes that this is creating enormous opportunities for the mobile industry.

However, these achievements have highlighted gaps that he says the industry must address. First, Networks must move away from being downlink-centric and deliver ultra-high bandwidth both uplink and downlink to support multimodal data exchanges between devices and clouds for AI. Second, networks must provide secure, reliable, and ultra-low-latency connectivity to support real-time AI collaboration and intelligent decision-making.

6G standardization is also already underway, and its standards are not expected to be frozen before March 2029, according to 3GPP. Yang explained that the next five years will create a window of opportunity both for mobile AI services to boom and for the industry to create new value, so long as carriers invest effectively in 5G-A. This half-generation step between 5G and 6G is already playing a key role in the industry, as it delivers 10 times higher uplink speeds, superior AI service experience, new IoT technologies like reduced capability (RedCap) and passive IoT, and AI for differentiated network capabilities.

5G-A has been commercially deployed at scale in more than 300 cities around the world, and its deployment is expanding to all frequency bands. New and refarmed spectrum resources are needed to make 5G-A even more capable, particularly in countries and regions where C-band resources are scarce. The U6 GHz band is becoming the key to unleashing this network potential.

After multiple rounds of discussion at the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC), U6 GHz has been established as a mainstream frequency band for future mobile communications. 5G-A already supports U6 GHz, and mainstream device chips and the industry chain for 5G-A devices are also mature. This means 5G-A is ready for large-scale commercial use. Yang urged his speech attendees, all of whom are players in the telecom industry, to lean deeper into collaboration on 5G-A and frequency bands like U6 GHz to support surging AI service demand.

The second focus of Yang's speech was the industry's urgent need to address global imbalances in digital access. According to GSMA, more than 300 million people are not covered by a mobile broadband network. Over the past two decades, the communications industry has made great efforts to bridge the digital divide, but the rapid growth of AI seems to be widening this gap. Stronger digital inclusion drives and continued innovation are needed.

Yang encouraged further exploration of inclusive connectivity strategies like diversified frequency-band combinations and more cost-effective solution design. Huawei itself has launched innovative all-scenario RuralStar solutions to provide inclusive mobile access to 170 million people in 80 countries, as well as a number of additional inclusion programs. These include the DigiTruck classrooms providing rural students digital skills training in Kenya, inclusive financial services for rural residents in Bangladesh, and mobile medical services for villages in Argentina.

Wrapping up his keynote, Yang called on all industry players to continue working together on commercial 5G-A adoption at scale in order to address the pressing needs from emerging AI services and pave the way for evolution to 6G. T

Hatem Bamatraf
President and CEO, PTCL & Ufone, speaks to Teletimes International

Exclusive Interview: Khalid Athar

"Building the Foundation for Pakistan's 5G Future"

Hatem Bamatraf on PTCL Group's vision for next-generation connectivity and digital transformation

Khalid Athar: Pakistan has finally entered the 5G era. From your perspective, what does this milestone mean for the country's digital future?

Hatem Bamatraf: The arrival of 5G is more than a technology upgrade. It marks the beginning of a new phase in Pakistan's digital development where connectivity becomes a platform for innovation across the entire economy.

For years, telecom networks have primarily supported communication and mobile broadband. With 5G, they evolve into intelligent digital infrastructure capable of powering new industries, enabling automation, and supporting real-time services across sectors such as healthcare, manufacturing, logistics, and public services.

In many ways, 5G is not just about faster connectivity. It is about building the digital foundation on which Pakistan's next generation of innovation and economic growth will be built.

KA: Ufone acquired a significant portion of spectrum in the recent auction. How does this strengthen PTCL's long-term connectivity strategy?

HB: Well, Spectrum is the backbone of every mobile network, and acquiring additional capacity is an important step in preparing for the next generation of digital services.

We adopted an aggressive 5G acquisition strategy for Ufone. We secured the largest portion, i.e. 120 MHz of the 3.5GHz frequency band, which is the global standard of 5G. This strengthens Ufone's ability to enhance network capacity, deliver better customer experiences, and support the advanced capabilities required for high-performance 5G deployments.

For us, however, the bigger picture is about integration. When Ufone's mobile network is combined with PTCL's nationwide fiber infrastructure, it creates a powerful connectivity platform capable of supporting both consumer demand and enterprise innovation. The integration of Telenor Pakistan, which is expected soon, subject to regulatory approvals, will further strengthen this capability.

Our objective is simple, we intend to build a resilient digital infrastructure that can support Pakistan's rapidly evolving digital economy for many years to come.

KA: Beyond faster mobile broadband, what new opportunities do you believe 5G will unlock for businesses and industries in Pakistan?

HB: The real impact of 5G will be felt in how it enables industries to operate differently.

With ultra-low latency and massive device connectivity, businesses can deploy intelligent systems that automate operations, improve efficiency, and generate real-time insights. This opens up possibilities for industrial IoT, connected logistics networks, smart city infrastructure, and advanced healthcare applications.

We also see significant potential in digital education, remote healthcare services, and enterprise-grade connectivity solutions that can help organizations operate

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> *We intend to build a resilient digital infrastructure that can support Pakistan's rapidly evolving digital economy for many years to come*

more efficiently in an increasingly digital environment.

Ultimately, 5G expands the role of telecom networks from enabling communication to enabling innovation across the entire economy.

KA: The integration of Ufone and Telenor Pakistan is one of the most significant developments in the telecom sector. What strategic value does this bring to the market?

HB: The integration represents a major opportunity to strengthen Pakistan's connectivity ecosystem. Once fully integrated, the Ufone-Telenor Pakistan MergeCo will hold the largest spectrum in the country across low, medium and highest frequency bands to bring 5G connectivity to rural and semi urban regions at par with big cities.

By bringing together complementary spectrum assets, network infrastructure, and operational expertise, we are creating a platform with greater scale, resilience, and investment capacity. This allows us to enhance coverage, improve service quality, and deliver stronger network performance for millions of customers.

Importantly, it also enables us to accelerate investments in next-generation technologies and digital services.

When infrastructure, spectrum, and capabilities are combined thoughtfully, the entire ecosystem benefits, customers receive better services, and the industry gains the scale needed to invest in future technologies.

KA: With the combined entity expected to serve more than 70 million customers, how will Ufone position itself in this new phase of industry competition?

HB: Scale alone does not create leadership. What matters is how that scale is used to deliver better experiences and more innovative services for customers.

Our strategy is centered on convergence. PTCL's extensive fiber infrastructure combined with the future Ufone – Telenor Pakistan MergeCo's nationwide 5G network and connectivity capabilities gives us a unique foundation to deliver integrated connectivity solutions that go beyond traditional telecom services.

We are also expanding our focus toward digital platforms, enterprise solutions, and services that support Pakistan's growing digital economy.

Our ambition is not simply to grow in size, but to become a more capable digital operator that can enable innovation for individuals, businesses, and institutions across the country.

KA: Looking ahead, how do you see the telecom industry evolving over the next five years as Pakistan transitions into the 5G era?

HB: The telecom industry is moving toward a model where connectivity, cloud platforms, and digital services operate as a unified ecosystem.

As technologies such as 5G mature, networks will increasingly support applications that require extremely high reliability, low latency, and seamless integration with digital platforms. This will expand the role of telecom operators from connectivity providers to digital enablers.

We will also see stronger convergence between fixed networks, mobile infrastructure, and digital platforms.

In the coming years, the companies that succeed will be those that build integrated digital ecosystems rather than simply offering connectivity services.

KA: PTCL is part of one of the world's leading telecom groups, e&. How does this global backing support your ambitions for Pakistan's digital future?

HB: Being part of e& provides us with access to global expertise, advanced technological capabilities, and valuable experience in managing large-scale digital transformation initiatives across multiple markets.

> *Being part of e& provides us with access to global expertise, advanced technological capabilities, and valuable experience in managing large-scale digital transformation initiatives across multiple markets*

This allows us to bring global best practices into Pakistan's telecom ecosystem while adapting them to the country's specific needs.

At the same time, our focus remains firmly on building infrastructure and digital platforms that support Pakistan's long-term economic and technological progress.

Our commitment is to combine global experience with local ambition to help accelerate Pakistan's digital transformation. T

GSMA calls for regulatory readiness for Direct-to-User LEO satellite services

A new era of Satellite services, enabled by Low-Earth-Orbit constellations, requires a fresh approach to regulation worldwide, according to a position paper released today by the GSMA, the global organisation representing mobile operators.

The paper, 'Regulatory Preparedness for Satellite Services', urges policymakers to take proactive steps to modernise regulatory frameworks and outlines five guiding principles to promote innovation, ensure consistent user protection across technologies, safeguard essential public-interest needs, support investment across communications networks, and build consumer trust.

LEO satellite constellations are reshaping how services are delivered and expanding connectivity to underserved communities. However, regulatory approaches to these emerging services (when provided without partnership with mobile operators) remain uneven and, in many markets, underdeveloped. In many countries, existing frameworks are not designed for these new models, creating uncertainty for all communication providers, investors and consumers.

The paper argues that now is the right time for policymakers to refine regulations while deployments are still in their early stages. Aligning rules with technological shifts, will enable timely and effective market access and safeguard consumer and societal interests

John Giusti, Chief Regulatory Officer of the GSMA, said: "As LEO satellite services rapidly advance, they are transforming global connectivity, expanding coverage to underserved communities, strengthening resilience, and enabling new D2D services. A growing number of partnerships between mobile and satellite providers is accelerating innovation and enhancing the overall connectivity experience for users. As these capabilities scale, governments are increasingly considering the need for greater regulatory alignment. Establishing comparable requirements for mobile and satellite providers delivering similar services will help ensure consistent consumer protection, support sustainable long-term investment across communications networks, and safeguard national sovereignty — all while delivering greater value, quality, and trust for users."

The GSMA paper comes at a time when new satellites are being launched, and operators are expanding into new markets and services. As LEO constellations scale rapidly, forward-looking regulatory frameworks will be essential to maximise the potential benefits of these new technologies.

Five core principles to guide regulatory frameworks

The paper sets out five core principles to guide the development of modern regulatory frameworks:

1. Transparency and Predictability: Establish clear, consistent, and accessible rules for market entry so that both new satellite entrants and existing mobile operators can make confident, long-term investment decisions together.

2. Regulatory Parity: Maintain a level playing field by ensuring that satellite providers face the same legal and regulatory obligations as mobile operators.

3. Harmonisation: Align national policies with regional and international standards to reduce regulatory fragmentation, making it easier and more efficient for global satellite constellations to operate across borders.

4. Collaboration and Consultation: Maintain an open dialogue between governments, regulators, and the industry to ensure that new policies are evidence-based, inclusive of all stakeholders and reflect current market realities.

5. Balance Innovation with Regulation: Support technological growth while ensuring satellite operators comply with vital national interests, such as consumer protection, data privacy and national security safeguards. T

GSMA launches Open Telco AI to accelerate development of telco grade AI

GSMA launched Open Telco AI, a global industry initiative designed to accelerate telco-grade AI through open collaboration across operators, vendors, AI developers and academic institutions. The launch introduces a new portal for telco open models, data, compute and tools to accelerate the development and evaluation of telco-focused AI models, accessed via GSMA.com/open-telco-ai.

While frontier AI models have advanced rapidly, they continue to underperform on telecom specific tasks. Many general-purpose models struggle to interpret network data, understand standards documentation, or automate network operations with sufficient accuracy. This performance gap limits progress: only 16% of telecoms GenAI deployments[1] have been applied to network operations.

Open Telco AI meets this challenge by uniting industry and academic partners to build the foundations of telco grade AI models, data, compute, benchmarks and community. Progress is tracked through the Telco Capability Index, which measures model performance across an expanding set of telecom specific tasks.

As founding supporters of Open Telco AI, AT&T and AMD are making significant contributions. AT&T is releasing a family of open telco-models developed and trained on open, publicly available data to be hardware and cloud agnostic, demonstrating that AI can deliver value across projects of any size and with varying levels of compute resources. AMD is providing compute capacity for model training, fine tuning, inference and evaluation through its GPU platforms, cloud partner TensorWave and open toolchains.

The initiative is also supported by community programmes that bring together developers, researchers and operators to solve real-world telecom AI problems. This includes competitions such as the AI Telco Troubleshooting Challenge which attracted over 1,000 registrations and will announce its winners at MWC26 Barcelona.

Louis Powell, Director of AI Initiatives, GSMA, said: "Today's AI models still fall short of the complexity, precision and reliability the telecom industry demands. Put simply, AI does not yet speak telco and operators are often deploying technology that cannot meet the required levels of accuracy, safety or efficiency. Establishing clear benchmarks and collaborating across the industry on datasets, models and agentic systems is essential. Open Telco AI provides a shared foundation designed to close this gap, an approach that other regulated sectors such as finance and healthcare can follow."

"Telco networks are among the most demanding and regulated environments for AI and moving from promising demos to telco-grade performance requires an open foundation for data, workloads and compute," said Philip Guido, executive vice president and chief commercial officer, AMD. "Through Open Telco AI, with GSMA and AT&T, AMD delivers the enterprise and AI compute needed to train, fine-tune and run open, telco-grade models efficiently from core to edge."

Andy Markus, Chief Data and AI Officer at AT&T, said: "The telecom industry needs AI that understands the realities of networks

– not only generic models repurposed for telco tasks. Through Open Telco AI, AT&T is helping build the datasets, models and evaluation frameworks that make telco grade AI possible at scale. By contributing our expertise and shaping realistic test environments, we're demonstrating how generative and agentic AI can improve customer experience, reduce operational friction and ultimately create new value. This collaboration with GSMA is accelerating the industry's path toward intelligent, automated networks."

Building the Open Foundations of Telco-Grade AI

The new portal will support the co creation of the essential building blocks for telco grade AI, including:

• **Telco Models:** High performance open weight models designed for telecom tasks, from network troubleshooting to standards interpretation, including modelsof multiple sizes and architectures from AT&T, a radio-frequency language model from Khalifa University called RFGPT and a Large Telco Model (LTM) from AdaptKey AI built on NVIDIA Nemotron.

• **Open Data:** A library of knowledge graphs, embeddings, and fine-tuning datasets of text, logs, and curated standards material from GSMA, Huawei Technologies France, Khalifa University, Mantis NLP, NetoAI, Pleias, Purdue University, The University of Texas at Dallas, University of Leeds and Yale University, and pipelines for generating synthetic data from NVIDIA.

• **Compute:** Access to compute and open toolchain for projects training and inferencing open models via AMD and TensorWave.

• **Benchmarks:** A leaderboard assessing model performance on seven telecom specific benchmarks, along with tools for evaluating and submitting models from local environments.

• **Community:** Resources, challenges and engagement activities to encourage collaboration, including the AI Telco Troubleshooting Challenge and Agentic Challenge.

The Open Telco AI initiative is supported by a host of valued contributing partners that have submitted data, models, and use cases including AMD, AT&T, Datumo, Huawei Technologies France, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, KDDI, Khalifa University, KPN, LGU+, Mantis NLP, NetoAI, North Carolina State University, NVIDIA Orange, Ooredoo, Pleias, Purdue University, RelationalAI, SK Telecom, Softbank, Swisscom, TensorWave, Turkcell, University of Leeds, University of Texas at Dallas, and Yale University. Open Telco AI also has the support of valued participants partners including Adaptive ML, BMC, China Telecom, China Unicom, China Mobile, Deutsche Telekom, DU, e& UAE, Google Cloud, IBM, Liberty Global, Queens University, Telefónica and Vodafone. T

[1] Source: GSMA Intelligence, Telco AI: State of the Market, Q4 2025, (published January 2026)

From carrying data to orchestrating intelligence: SoftBank Corp. evolves telecom infrastructure for AI Era

At Mobile World Congress (MWC) Barcelona 2026, SoftBank Corp. unveiled its strategy for the next-generation of social infrastructure, marking a fundamental evolution in the role of telecommunications carriers. SoftBank announced its transition from a traditional carrier that simply moves data – raw, uninterpreted data packets – to an AI-native infrastructure provider enabling distributed AI workloads across edge and cloud environments.

Until now, telecommunications networks were built to carry data, not comprehend it; static infrastructure designed to move information from origin to destination without understanding what it contained. In the AI era, SoftBank's Telco AI Cloud vision evolves the network into a central nervous system: an active computation platform that operates AI models directly within the infrastructure. Through AI-RAN-based MEC (Multi-access Edge Computing), SoftBank can now orchestrate and broker AI workloads across this distributed edge, offloading GPU compute to deliver real-time, reliable inference where it is needed. By embedding this intelligence from the core to the edge, SoftBank is creating a distributed platform that delivers meaning, not just data, enabling immediate decision-making for robotics, autonomous systems, and smart cities. For Physical AI, this means resource-constrained robots can now perform complex, scalable behaviors that would otherwise be difficult to achieve independently; powered not by what they carry but by the network intelligence that surrounds them.

Enabling the Era of Physical AI

That vision is already taking shape. A key highlight of the announcement was SoftBank's focus on 'Physical AI': the convergence of AI with the physical world of robotics. Unlike traditional centralized clouds, Telco AI Cloud brings intelligence to the edge, enabling robots to make split-second decisions based on sensor data, performing complex behaviors that their onboard hardware alone could not independently support.

Following a collaboration with Yaskawa Electric Corporation focused on deploying robots in real-world environments, SoftBank successfully demonstrated a joint proof-of-concept with Ericsson. The demonstration showcased how AI-RAN networks can optimize connectivity for robots, ensuring the stability required to work safely alongside humans in dynamic environments. T

Huawei in collaboration with GCC kickstarts AIDC Ecosystem Co-construction Initiative

At the Global Digital Power Forum during MWC Barcelona 2026, Huawei Digital Power launched the AIDC Ecosystem Co-construction Initiative with Global Computing Consortium (GCC) and unveiled the New-Gen AI-Powered Green Site to empower the ICT industry in the AI era.

As the intelligent era is advancing rapidly, the demand for AIDC is growing, challenges in power supply, fast delivery, safety and reliability need to be addressed. At the same time, the millions of telecom base stations, also facing high energy consumption and weak grid challenges. With the development of energy technologies, solar energy not only enables low-carbon power generation but has also become the most effective energy resource. The integration of green power with AI has become the optimal solution to address the energy consumption challenges in AI era.

According to Zhou Jianjun, Vice President of Huawei and President of Global Marketing, Sales and Services, Huawei Digital Power, Huawei has been providing the ICT industry with 5G, AI, and cloud to enable digital transformation. In the AI era, the ICT industry needs more sustainable, resilient, agile, and reliable energy infrastructure. Operators will use facilities such as telecom sites and data centers to improve equipment energy efficiency, integrate solar power and energy storage. This will enable operators to transition from being mere energy consumers to both consumers and producers

Zhou Jianjun


Xia Hesheng

for green and sustainable development. Huawei Digital Power will leverage its established expertise in computing, large AI models, solar, energy storage, and power grids, to help operators evolve toward prosumers 2.0, to win the AI era.

According to Xia Hesheng, CMO of Huawei Digital Power, the adoption of AI applications is accelerating, driving soaring demand for computing power and propelling the AIDC industry into a phase of rapid growth. As the power of chips, servers, and racks, as well as the scale of campuses, undergo dramatic changes, AIDC construction now faces four major challenges: reliability, energy efficiency, delivery, and smooth evolution. Huawei focuses on technology and advances innovation around power supply, cooling, energy storage, and operations, as well as the construction mode. It provides a highly reliable, energy-efficient, fast-delivered, and fully compatible AIDC solution to maximize tokens per watt.

At the event, Huawei Digital Power and GCC jointly launched the AIDC Ecosystem Co-construction Initiative. The initiative is designed to enhance the regional compatibility of standards and specifications by considering local policies, environmental conditions, and technical needs. It also seeks to share practical experiences and build a dynamic global AIDC knowledge base through an alliance platform. By using specifications as a bridge, the initiative will foster a thriving ecosystem and build an open, mutually beneficial global AIDC industry ecosystem.

According to Jin Hai, BOD Chairman of GCC, different countries and regions have varying energy mixes, policy orientations, environmental protection measures, and application scenarios. This presents both challenges for refining specifications and valuable opportunities for industry co-creation. Standards can truly empower global digital economic development only when they are rooted in a deep understanding of regional needs and aligned with industry realities.

AI-Powered Green Site Launch

At the event, Huawei Digital Power launched its AI-Powered Green Site solution, which features a unique end-to-end intelligent synergy to empower operators' transition from energy consumers to prosumers. The AI-Powered Green Site solution is built on the concept of "one-time deployment, 10-year evolution" for simplified construction, meeting operators' requirements in scenarios such as 5G site construction, green power supply, and energy storage revenue increase.

Gautham Gnanajothi, Senior Vice President of Frost & Sullivan, believes that telecom networks were built for resilience, but the next decade will define them by intelligence; transforming expansive, geographically distributed energy footprints into orchestrated platforms that not only protect uptime, but actively stabilise power systems, unlock new value streams, and reposition telecom as a strategic force within the broader energy ecosystem.

As the intelligent era rapidly unfolds, AI is unlocking vast growth prospects for the global ICT industry while creating new opportunities and challenges for ICT energy infrastructure. Huawei Digital Power will continue to invest in innovation, harness green energy to power the AI era, and collaborate with global partners to shape a new digital world. T

Huawei New-Gen OceanStor Dorado Converged All-Flash Storage passes enterprise strategy group technical validation

At MWC Barcelona 2026, Enterprise Strategy Group, now part of Omdia, released a technical validation report on Huawei's New-Gen OceanStor Dorado Converged All-Flash Storage.

The report emphasizes that enterprise data volumes are growing rapidly in the AI era, reshaping how organizations operate and raising the bar for storage infrastructure in terms of performance, resilience, intelligence, and cost-effectiveness. While many storage vendors offer all-flash solutions, architectural design trade-offs often make it difficult to balance performance, reliability, and cost, ultimately limiting the benefits delivered to organizations.

The report provides a comprehensive evaluation of New-Gen OceanStor Dorado Converged All-Flash Storage across performance, resilience, intelligent management, and total cost of ownership (TCO). The results confirm that the product leads the way in these key areas and demonstrates strong market competitiveness, delivering a compelling combination of high performance, strong resilience, and optimal TCO. This meets enterprise needs for digital and intelligent transformation.

Testing conducted in a simulated high-concurrency database environment shows that the all-flash system sustains ultra-high performance of more than 876,256 IOPS, with an average response time of just 32 µs. The system stores diverse data with native and parallel architecture for blocks, files, and objects.

The active-active solution supports seamless failover across data centers. The SmartMatrix full-mesh architecture can tolerate the failure of up to seven out of eight controller enclosures without service interruptions. FlashEver enables cross-gen convergence and eliminates service interruptions during storage replacement.

The system delivers end-to-end intelligent protection with built-in ransomware detection for both SAN and NAS.

The DataMaster agent of the iMaster DME data management platform enables automatic system health assessment, performance trend prediction, and fault location within minutes.

In addition, the five-year TCO analysis indicates that New-Gen OceanStor Dorado Converged All-Flash Storage can reduce TCO by up to 64% compared with traditional hybrid storage. This achieves significant savings in procurement, O&M, and energy consumption. T

From Vision to Value for an Intelligent Future

Huawei hosts 4th Digital Economy Development Forum

At MWC Barcelona 2026, Huawei hosted the 4th Digital Economy Development Forum, bringing together nearly 100 digital strategy makers, industry experts, and industry association representatives from across numerous regions, including Asia-Pacific, the Middle East, and Africa. Together, they discussed new opportunities for digital economy development in the age of AI.

David Wang, Huawei's Executive Director of the Board, opened the event by sharing the latest thoughts and practices on key subjects like policy, infrastructure, and talent, all centered on the event theme – From Vision to Value for an Intelligent Future.

AI is currently seeing explosive growth around the world, and AI agents have started taking center stage. Furthermore, the implementation of physical AI is accelerating. According to IDC, by 2030, AI will contribute 22.3 trillion dollars to the global economy. This is a strong indicator that the digital economy is no longer about just "connectivity + data". Rather, it is now about "AI + decision making". AI is reshaping the global economic landscape and restructuring value chains.

Based on Huawei's extensive experience in digital economy, Wang highlighted three key areas the world must address to achieve the high-quality development of the global digital economy. First, the world needs favorable industry policies that will fully support the digital economy and drive the deep and tandem development of the digital and real economies. Second, the world requires future-oriented infrastructure if the digital economy is going to thrive. Such infrastructure will lay a solid foundation for the large-scale application of digital technology and digital transformation across industries. Third, the world needs a multi-layered, sustainable talent ecosystem, which is an absolute strategic pillar for the long-term sustainable development of the digital economy.

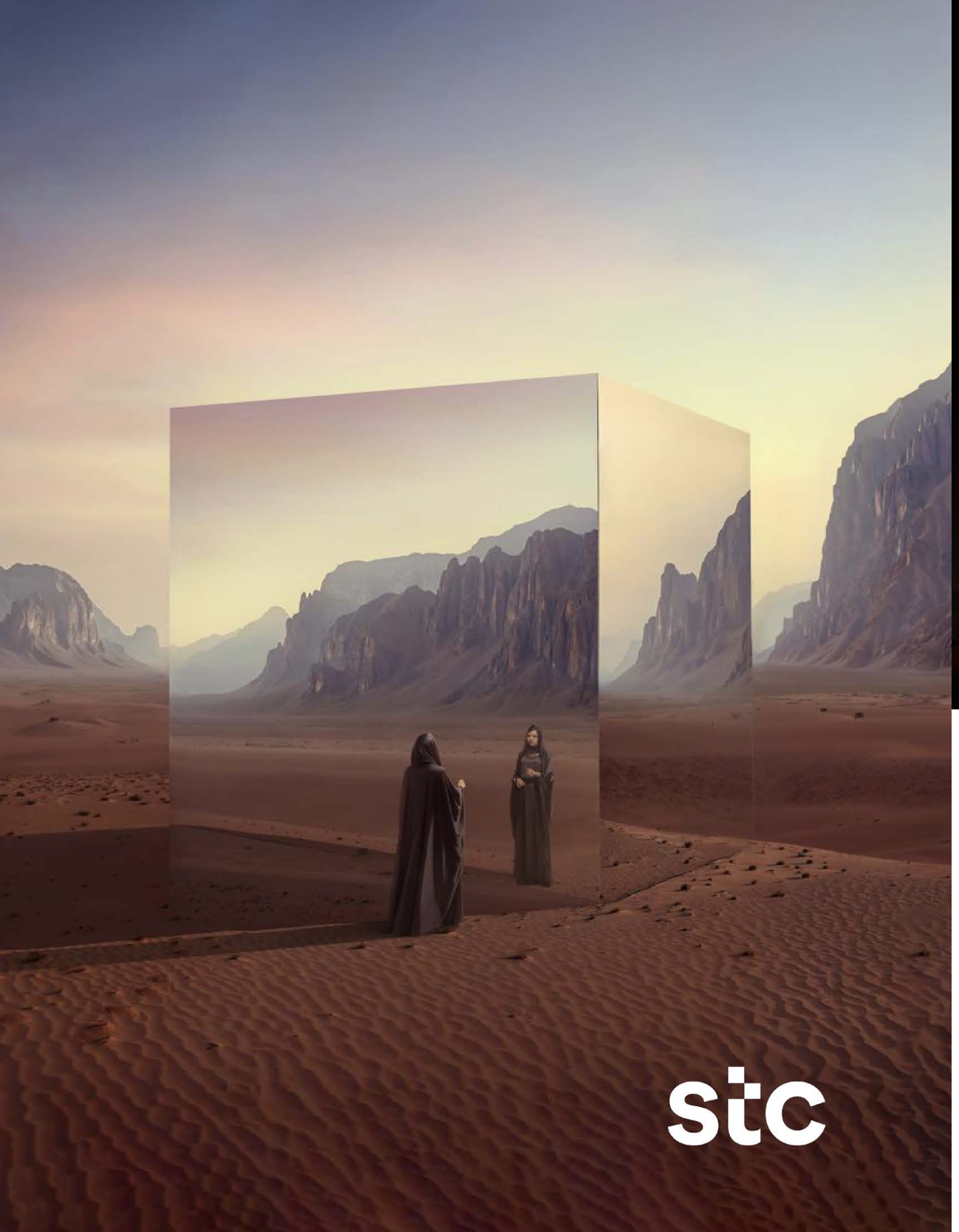
At the conclusion of his speech, Wang stated, "The age if AI is here. And Huawei will continue working with you all to enable intelligent industries and build a solid foundation for the intelligent world. Together, let's turn vision into value and shape our intelligent future."

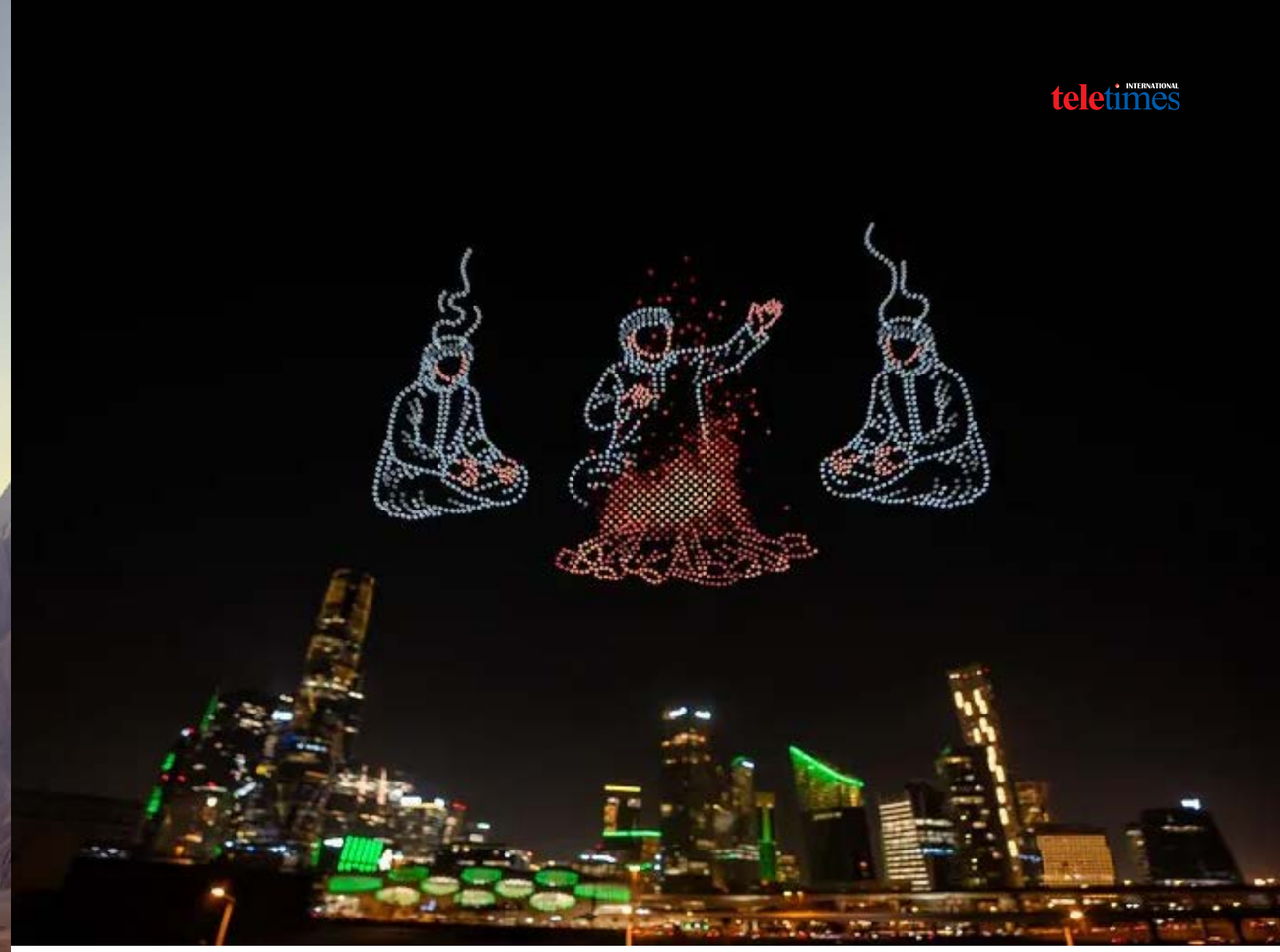
During the event's keynote speech session, attendees gathered to explore the future construction of digital infrastructure.

Joyce Liu, Director of Huawei's ICT Marketing Operations Department, pointed out that digital infrastructure is the cornerstone of industry development in the age of AI, meaning infrastructure construction should be advanced on all fronts, including networks, energy, and computing power. Such efforts require industry players to establish millisecond-level low-latency network connections as soon as possible, thereby preventing information silos from hindering AI development. It is also necessary to more quickly build out green data centers, thus driving compute growth while reducing carbon emissions.

Professor Rong Ke, Director of the Institute of Economics at the School of Social Sciences, Tsinghua University, gave a speech in which he emphasized that data is an essential production factor in the age of AI. Only by refining digital infrastructure throughout the entire process of data generation, transfer, storage, and application, can the world fully unleash the value of data.

The forum reached a fundamental consensus on key topics surrounding digital economy development: Countries are at different stages of digital economy development, and need to formulate AI development strategies and implementation paths that suit their own circumstances in order to efficiently promote intelligent transformation. T





stc group sets Two Guinness World Records during Saudi Founding Day celebrations

In a breathtaking display of technological prowess and national pride, stc group has officially secured two Guinness World Records following an innovative drone light show that captivated the city of Riyadh. Staged in celebration of Saudi Founding Day, the event transformed the capital's night sky into a massive digital canvas, showcasing the group's leadership in the telecommunications and technology sectors.

The first milestone recognized by Guinness World Records was for the Largest QR Code formed by drones. This functional, high-tech formation allowed spectators to interact with the display in real-time.

The second accolade was awarded for the Largest animated aerial image created using drones, a feat that required immense precision and synchronized flight patterns to execute at such a massive scale. Together, these records highlight stc group's advanced technical capabilities and its ability to deliver creative, large-scale execution using cutting-edge robotics.

The record-breaking show was the centerpoint of stc group's participation in the Founding Day festivities. As drones illuminated the Riyadh skyline, they wove together dynamic digital formations that celebrated the Kingdom's heritage through a futuristic lens. The experience was designed to blend innovation and tradition, fostering a sense of unified national pride.

stc group's celebrations spanned a full week leading up to the official holiday. The group hosted a variety of internal activations at its headquarters and engaged the community by distributing hundreds of prizes to both employees and customers. By merging world-class technical achievements with grassroots community engagement, stc group successfully shared the joy of this significant national milestone while cementing its position as a global pioneer in digital experiences. T

Beyond Telcos: Exploring deterministic paths to business success in agentic era

Eric Yang, President of Huawei Carrier Business, delivered a keynote speech at MWC Barcelona 2026. Yang pointed out, "The agentic era is creating unprecedented opportunities for the communications industry, and carriers are uniquely positioned to seize these opportunities. They can integrate intelligent capabilities deeply into their core business, consumer-and-home converged scenarios, and internal operations. This will allow them to explore deterministic paths and realize a value leap."

Reimagining home and consumer services to unlock new AI opportunities

Home services are a core business scenario in which carriers have traditionally been strong. By integrating AI into services such as home network management, deterministic experience assurance, and intelligent video watching, and synergizing high-quality networks and Wi-Fi 7 devices, carriers can drive a paradigm shift in home services from passive usage (users adapting to the network) to proactive services (network adapting to user requirements). Users can use single voice commands to realize automatic network fault detection and troubleshooting, control Internet access time, and enjoy guaranteed experience in key services such as gaming and videos. By combining these service innovations with bandwidth upgrades and home networking services, carriers can improve service quality and increase revenue.

Voice services are traditionally one of the main consumer services offered by carriers. AI-powered calling agents can boost service experience in multiple scenarios. They can remove background noise and ensure high-quality call experience for users even when in noisy surroundings. Furthermore, these agents can provide AI-enabled simultaneous interpretation, shorthand, and health assistance – all through calls. Calling agents help carriers explore new ways to increase revenue from voice services. In mobile Internet access scenarios, AI agents can provide services like intelligent network QoE degradation monitoring and real-time experience assurance. They are also capable of realizing cross-app scheduling and execution to enable intelligent assistants for multiple purposes, such as personal travel booking, travel planning, and real-time translation.

Providing consistent experience across devices and scenarios to enhance user stickiness

AI agents can provide consistent and personalized AI services for users wherever they are, be it at home, in the office, or on a trip, across screens of all sizes. For example, users at home can gain high-speed access to the carrier's cloud drive, and use the agent for voice interaction and intelligent search. Users on the move can also access their home storage at high speeds through the carrier's dedicated network channel. Additionally, by using an agent service platform capable of multimodal intent understanding, long-term and short-term memory, and concurrent multi-task scheduling, carriers can break down the boundaries between scenarios and devices, and deliver a consistent, intelligent service experience to users across scenarios and devices.

Using AI to first improve internal operational quality and efficiency, and then enable industries

For carriers exploring new opportunities in B2B intelligent transformation, service scenarios are the key to monetization, and capabilities are the foundation for providing services. Marketing and sales, customer services, office, and O&M are the core scenarios where value flows. Carriers can first focus on these scenarios, using AI to improve their operational efficiency,

optimize user experience, and grow their service capabilities. These capabilities will lay the foundation to better position carriers for success in the AI era.

Carriers can then embed these AI capabilities into the business and operations of their industry customers. For core industry scenarios that demand high security and reliability, such as government services and manufacturing, carrier can fully utilize their systematic advantages in the cloud and networks, and work with partners to implement end-to-end solutions. Through such actions, carriers can help their industry customers realize digital and intelligent transformation.

Eric Yang concluded his speech by citing that "The future is not just a place we are going to, but one we are creating." He reiterated that Huawei is creating AI-Centric Network solutions to enable intelligent services, networks, and network elements (NEs), thus helping carriers unleash their strengths in networks and provide differentiated experiences and intelligent services. Huawei will keep working with carriers and industry partners to innovate side by side, build an ecosystem together, jointly move towards a new intelligent world, and achieve a new leap in value. T

Advancing digital government: New AI-powered public service solutions take center stage in Barcelona

At MWC Barcelona 2026, Huawei Government Public Services Digitalization BU held the Global AI+ Public Service Summit. Government customers and partners from around the world discussed the development trends of public services and shared their practices in AI-driven transformation. During the event, Huawei released the Global Public Services Solution and the Shenzhen Longgang AI+ Public Service Global Demonstration Site. In addition, Huawei launched the Global Public Service Ecosystem Alliance.

At the Global AI+ Public Service Summit, Jason Slater, Chief of Digital Transformation and AI at UNIDO, stated: "AI+ drives public services forward. Building an effective digital government is not just about deploying technology, but about building inclusive, citizen-centered and interoperable system."

At the summit, Mr. Saeed Xia released the Huawei Global Public Service Solution. He highlighted that the global development gap and digital divide persist, and public services face challenges like inconvenience, low satisfaction, and poor user experience. Accelerating government digitalization is key to enhancing international influence, governance, and satisfaction. The solution is based on the architecture of "1 digital foundation + 1 intelligent platform + N industry applications". It delivers scenario-centric, efficient, high-quality public services by orchestrating service items, integrating capabilities, and streamlining processes. Driven by both business and data, it provides convenient, quality data services to fuel innovation, and ultimately creates an intelligent system with "Chat-to-Process" features, smart decision-making, and efficient handling.

Chomparee Chompurat, Deputy Permanent Secretary of Thailand's MDES, stated: "Thailand is accelerating its transition to an AI-enabled intelligent government

by leveraging robust 'Cloud First' infrastructure, responsible AI integration, and global public-private partnerships to deliver secure, citizen-centric services and position the nation as a trusted ASEAN digital hub."

Carlos Eduardo Rodrigo Prado, Executive Director of AGETIC, shared e-government achievements and breakthroughs, outlined strategic blueprints and key measures, and presented a vision for a new era of digital government, digital nation, and inclusive smart services. Guided by the vision of "Bolivia to the World and the World to Bolivia" put forward by President Rodrigo Paz, the country is advancing its digital transformation.

Bilgin Semiz, Director of Global Sales at Nextcloud, shared how Nextcloud built a secure and compliant enterprise collaboration platform based on Huawei Cloud.

Customer representatives shared their practical experience and visions for their countries on topics such as AI infrastructure hubs, future planning of public services, and national digital transformation.

At the event, Shenzhen Longgang Government Service Center and Huawei jointly launched the Shenzhen Longgang AI+ Public Service Global Demonstration Site. Based on the best practices of the Longgang District Government in Shenzhen, this showcase features an integrated operational model linking four levels: district, street, community, and campus. This "AI+ Public Service" approach has yielded remarkable results. Its intelligent customer service system, powered by LLMs, deeply integrates hotlines, service counters, and self-service resources for multi-channel synergy, achieving a 98% hotline connectivity rate. Furthermore, in "AI+ Intelligent Verification," the integrated approval hub has pushed intelligent review accuracy to over 95%.

Finally, Huawei took the lead in launching the Global Public Service Ecosystem Alliance. This alliance aims to pool industry resources to accelerate the global implementation and popularization of AI-powered public services. Representatives from partners in the public service sector, including iSSTech, Linewell, Seeyon, Digihail, Nextcloud, SAINS, and Nexconn, etc., attended and witnessed the launch of the alliance. Huawei stated that it will utilize the alliance as a platform to collaborate closely with global partners, jointly exploring the "blue ocean" of public services in the digital era.

Huawei initiates AI Education Center solution

During MWC Barcelona 2026, Huawei hosted a summit titled "Education + AI, Embracing an Intelligent Future." At the summit, Huawei, in collaboration with industry customers and partners, launched the AIEC Solution for basic education. This initiative aims to accelerate the popularization and development of general AI education.

At the event, Li Junfeng, Vice President of Huawei and CEO of the Global Public Sector BU, stated that the core of future AI education is to achieve "the lowest threshold and the widest coverage." As a "technology enabler" and "ecosystem builder" in the journey of digital and intelligent education, Huawei collaborates with customers and partners to create innovative, scenario-based solutions for the AI education sector. Among these, the AIEC Solution for basic education accelerates the popularization of general AI education in primary and secondary schools, opening the door to the future world of technology for every student.

Built upon a foundation of hardware computing infrastructure, model services, application platforms, and an AI teaching and laboratory management system, Huawei's AIEC Solution provides systematic general AI education, experimental applications, and curriculum resources for students of all ages in basic education. This equips students with core competencies for the future society, laying a solid talent foundation for national technological innovation and industrial upgrading.

Currently, the solution has been implemented in Zhejiang Province, China. In collaboration with partners such as CourseGrading, Huawei provides a general AI education platform for 500+ primary and secondary schools. The platform is equipped with AI computing power, open-source large models, 10+ hands-on AI practice projects,

and 50+ experimental tools and applications. It is expected to cover one million students in the future.

Huawei's AIEC Solution represents a significant milestone in the synergy between Education and AI. Moving forward, Huawei will continue to act as a technological bridge, fostering an open ecosystem with global partners, striving to spark the potential within every child and co-create a future where education equity and technological progress go hand in hand.

Fibocom and du's ALL-IN-ONE AI CPE solution reinvents family data interaction with AI NAS

Fibocom and du's ALL-IN-ONE AI CPE solution continued to draw attention with its AI NAS upgrade, deepening the integration of 5G, AI and real-life scenarios. This enhancement transforms home storage from passive retention to active intelligent management, delivering more personalized smart home experiences for users worldwide.

Fibocom first introduced its ALL-IN-ONE AI CPE solution at NetworkX in France in October 2025, revolutionizing the traditional 5G CPE form factor. The device integrates intelligent voice interaction, human and environmental sensing, and leverages Fibocom's proprietary FWA AI SkyEngine to provide multi-scenario experiences including smart home network management, home security, and smart home control center functions.

du positions 5G AI powered CPE as a key enabler of premium fixed wireless access (FWA) for residential, SME and enterprise use cases across the UAE. The operator emphasizes intelligent self optimization, ultra low latency, high reliability and simplified deployment to deliver consistent gigabit connectivity. du seeks secure, scalable and future ready 5G AI CPE solutions to enhance coverage, support cloud services, gaming and smart digital experiences while driving operational efficiency and superior user experience.

This latest upgrade enriches core home data scenarios. Powered by SkyEngine's computing capabilities, the built-in AI NAS achieves significant evolution: users can quickly and accurately locate target photos by entering keywords, eliminating the tedious task of searching through large volumes of files. The system can also detect duplicate photos and issue alerts, helping users free up storage space efficiently.

As the ALL-IN-ONE AI CPE continues to evolve, natural voice interaction is becoming a key feature. Users can activate search functions with simple voice commands — for example, saying "Find the family photo from last summer at the beach" instantly retrieves the desired image. The AI NAS can also automatically categorize and archive photos based on location, time, people, and themes, creating personalized digital albums for scenarios such as travel snapshots, family gatherings, and parent-child moments.

Maintaining its edge AI capabilities, all photo classification, recognition, and retrieval will be performed locally, ensuring privacy and data security. A physical privacy switch further safeguards sensitive information. The CPE also supports HDMI output, allowing users to project photos in high definition via voice commands, enhancing the shared family experience and perfectly adapting to gatherings or visits.

As a central smart home hub, the ALL-IN-ONE AI CPE leverages the AI NAS upgrade to further integrate intelligent interaction, environmental sensing, and network self-optimization, continuing the evolution of CPE from "communication hardware" to a full-scenario intelligent terminal. Its presence at MWC not only demonstrates Fibocom's technical strength in AI and 5G integratio n but also helps operators accelerate the transition to platform-oriented services, building a complete hardware-to-service ecosystem and injecting new growth momentum into the 5G FWA industry.

Syria opens international bidding process for 20-year mobile network license

The Syrian Ministry of Communications and Information Technology has launched an international Request for Applications (RFA) for a new mobile network operator license. H.E. Abdulsalam Haykal, Minister of Communications and Information Technology, announced the competitive bidding process at Mobile World Congress 2026 in Barcelona. The structured licensing process will run through June 15, 2026.

A Transformative Opportunity

The 20-year license represents a premier global telecommunications opportunity, combining immediate revenue generation with the mandate to build Syria's next-generation network. The new licensee will replace MTN Syria, which will continue full operations until the transition is complete to ensure uninterrupted service. Per the RFA, Syria will remain a two-operator market for five years.

Minister Haykal stated: "Today we open our market to the world's best operators with one clear mandate: build a network worthy of Syria's future. This process meets international standards to attract global investors who share our commitment to coverage for every community and the enablement of a digital economy."

License and Spectrum Framework

The selected operator will assume responsibility for an existing subscriber base and infrastructure while driving nationwide expansion. The license includes spectrum in the 800, 900, 1800, 2100, 2600, and 3500 MHz bands, authorizing the deployment of advanced mobile broadband and 5G.

The spectrum package sets two unprecedented global benchmarks:

800 MHz Monopoly: In a global first, the entire 800 MHz band—the most valuable sub-1 GHz spectrum for rural and deep-indoor coverage—is awarded to a single operator.

Future-Proofing with 6 GHz: Syria is the first country to include the 6 GHz band in a licensing roadmap, positioning the winner for the 5.5G and 6G eras with a strategic two-decade head start.

The shareholding structure includes a 25% equity contribution by Syria's Sovereign Fund, with the remaining ownership open to the winning operator or coalition.

Modernization and Reform

As part of a national reform agenda, the Ministry is spearheading a phased sunset of 2G and 3G networks. This transition will free up valuable spectrum for 4G and 5G services, delivering faster and more reliable connectivity. Detailed timelines will follow stakeholder consultations.

Competitive Process and Timeline

The licensing process includes a qualification phase and a financial selection phase. Proposals must be submitted by April 2, 2026. Notably, existing Syrian mobile operators are ineligible to apply, ensuring fresh international competition.

Sector Recovery and Regional Connectivity

Telecommunications modernization is central to Syria's economic recovery. The removal of international sanctions has invited foreign investment into a high-growth market characterized by a young population and significant pent-up demand.

The license is also aligned with the SilkLink initiative, a regional fiber-optic project backed by Saudi Arabia's stc group. Designed to position Syria as a strategic digital corridor, SilkLink and this new mobile license serve as the twin pillars of the nation's long-term infrastructure strategy. T

Inovance and China Unicom float Universe Ecosystem Co-Creation Platform

At MWC Barcelona 2026, Inovance and China Unicom floated the Universe Ecosystem Co-Creation Platform, marking a new phase in their strategic collaboration. The Platform is designed to open up capabilities and resources, integrating China Unicom's atomic capabilities across four core business areas along with the distinctive capabilities of ecosystem partners.

Zhu Ben, Vice President of Inovance Industrial Automation BG Overseas Business, attended the launch event.

This cooperation is rooted in a shared understanding of the trend toward industrial intelligence. The platform will fully integrate China Unicom's robust network, cloud, and computing resources on both IT and CT sides, along with Inovance's deep expertise in industrial control, drive systems, software solutions, and extensive industrial data (DT) practices on the OT side. Through complementary capabilities and an open ecosystem, both parties are committed to building an industrial value collaboration system that enables seamless data flow, agile application innovation, and intelligent closed-loop decision-making, offering end-to-end services for intelligent upgrading across industries—from connectivity and computing to scenario-based intelligence.

This collaboration aims to systematically address core challenges faced by manufacturing enterprises, such as data silos and difficulties in IT/OT integration, giving rise to new production models that are more flexible, efficient, and intelligent.

Industrial wireless communication is a key enabling technology for building fully connected factories and achieving manufacturing flexibility. Inovance's independently developed INO AIR high-performance wireless solution has demonstrated its reliable performance in multiple complex industrial scenarios. Based on a shared understanding of technology evolution, China Unicom and Inovance will conduct close joint research and innovation in cutting-edge fields such as industrial wireless communication, jointly exploring new applications and solutions for the integration of 5G-A, 6G, and industrial networks. Through deepening collaboration, both parties aim to contribute to the maturity of future industrial communication technologies and the accumulation of industry best practices, actively promoting the prosperity and advancement of the entire industrial ecosystem, thereby providing a highly practical "Chinese Solution" for the digital transformation of global manufacturing. T

Iridium launches next generation IoT platform

In a significant advancement for the global Internet of Things (IoT) landscape, Iridium Communications has officially unveiled the Iridium 9604, a transformative, compact three-in-one IoT module. This innovative platform represents a major strategic shift for the company, integrating Iridium's proprietary Short Burst Data® (SBD®) satellite service, LTE-M cellular connectivity, and GNSS positioning into a single, unified hardware solution. By consolidating these three critical technologies into a singular device, the Iridium 9604 effectively eliminates the "connectivity gap," making reliable, dual-mode IoT tracking and data transmission viable for high-volume, price-sensitive deployments across the globe.

A unified architecture for global reach

Traditionally, developers seeking to create "anywhere" connectivity had to juggle multiple components, complex power architectures, and various specialized antennas. The Iridium 9604 changes this paradigm by drastically reducing solution complexity and accelerating time to market. "By integrating cellular, GNSS, and Iridium satellite into a single, power-efficient module, we're giving customers the flexibility to design and deploy lower-cost, smaller, and location-aware solutions without the burden of integrating multiple components," stated Tim Last, Executive Vice President at Iridium. He emphasized that as the company prepares to debut its standards-based NB-IoT service later this year, Iridium is positioning itself as the primary choice for any organization looking beyond the limitations of terrestrial networks.

The technical specifications of the module are a testament to Iridium's engineering prowess. Built on the high-performance u-blox SARA-R5 platform, the Iridium 9604 boasts an ultra-compact form factor of just 16 mm x 26 mm x 2.4 mm. This footprint allows for a staggering 60 percent reduction in board space compared to traditional multi-component designs, enabling the creation of smaller, more discreet industrial, infrastructure, and mobility devices that were previously impossible to manufacture at scale.

Industry acclaim and beta success

The official launch follows a highly successful beta program initiated earlier this year, which was oversubscribed by a select group of leading technology companies. Early adopters have praised the module for fundamentally altering the economics of IoT product development. Alastair MacLeod, CEO of Ground Control, shared his experience as an early developer: "Utilizing the three-in-one module has already fundamentally changed our product economics. We eliminated two components from our bill of materials, reduced our board size, and simplified our power architecture." He further highlighted that the dual-mode capability allows for "smarter, location-aware network selection," ensuring devices always use the most cost-effective path available based on their real-time coordinates.

Similarly, Dean Welten, CEO of Everlink, highlighted the operational impact: "Our customers require essential data and real-time intelligence to operate with confidence anywhere in the world. By integrating the Iridium 9604 with our secure cloud platform, we can now enable global connectivity and measurable impact at scale."

Three paths to the future of IoT

The Iridium 9604 is more than just a piece of hardware; it is the flagship of Iridium's broader IoT strategy, moving the company beyond traditional satellite-only modules to a unified, multi-mode connectivity architecture. The Iridium network now offers customers three distinct IoT service paths:

- **Integrated SBD:** The Iridium 9604 integrates SBD with cellular and GNSS for versatile, global tracking.
- **Iridium NTN Direct:** A standards-based, direct-to-device path utilizing third-party chips for universal access.
- **Iridium Messaging Transport (IMT®):** Designed for industrial-scale, larger payload capabilities using the Iridium Certus 9704.

As the Iridium 9604 enters full commercial availability, it promises to unlock new possibilities in infrastructure monitoring, maritime logistics, and remote asset management, proving that in the world of intelligent connectivity, Iridium remains the pioneer of the "anywhere" economy. T

SK Telecom, Supermicro and Schneider Electric sign MoU on total solutions for AI data center deployment

SK Telecom has signed a three-party Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with global server manufacturer Supermicro and global mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP) leader Schneider Electric to develop a total solution for artificial intelligence data centers (AIDC).

The agreement, signed at MWC26, aims to shorten AIDC construction timelines and help alleviate supply bottlenecks by leveraging the combined expertise of the three companies.

The companies will collaborate on a pre-fabricated modular model that integrates AI computing servers with supporting power and cooling infrastructure into a single pre-manufactured module, enabling AIDCs to be constructed in a building-block configuration.

Compared with the conventional steel-reinforced concrete (SRC) method, in which servers and infrastructure are installed sequentially after completion of the data center building, the pre-fabricated modular model offers both faster deployment and improved cost efficiency.

In addition, modules can be deployed in phases as demand grows, enhancing scalability while reducing the burden of significant upfront investments and enabling flexible responses to evolving market needs.

Under the MoU, SK Telecom will contribute its AIDC operational expertise; Supermicro will provide high-performance GPU servers optimized for customer-specific AI computing scenarios; and Schneider Electric will deliver MEP infrastructure design and construction capabilities to reliably support large-scale AI demand.

"Through collaboration with global leaders in the AIDC business, we are advancing a total solution based on a pre-fabricated modular model," said Ha Min-yong, Head of SK Telecom's AIDC Business. "Building on this initiative, we aim to proactively address the AIDC deployment needs of global hyper-scalers while further strengthening our cost competitiveness."

"In the era of AI, the true measure of competitiveness lies in how fast and sustainably organizations can deliver high-performance infrastructure," said Andrew Bradner, Senior Vice President at Schneider Electric. "Through this collaboration, we are introducing an integrated AI DC model based on a pre-fabricated modular design — empowering customers to lower carbon emissions, eliminate supply bottlenecks, and operate high-density AI workloads with greater resilience and efficiency."

"Supermicro is excited to partner with SK Telecom to bring data centers online faster than ever before," said Cenly Chen, Chief Growth Officer at Supermicro. "This new integrated solution will leverage Supermicro's high-performance, GPU-optimized servers tailored to customer workloads. We look forward to helping organizations meet their growing data center needs with this latest technology."

SK Telecom expands global AI partnerships at MWC 2026

SK Telecom's CEO, Jung Jaihun, met with senior executives from major global telecom operators during MWC Barcelona 2026 (MWC26) to discuss collaboration in key areas including AIDCs, AI models, and next-generation networks.

Hosting AIDC Conference to Present New Role and Vision for Telcos in the AI Era

On March 2 in Barcelona, SKT held its 'AIDC Conference,' under the theme 'Redesigning Telco Infra for the Next Phase of AI.'

The conference was attended by Jung Jaihun, CEO of SKT; Chung Suk-geun, CTO and President & Head of AI Company-in-Company (CIC) at SKT; Bill Chang, CEO of Singtel Digital InfraCo; Sabri Albreiki, CTO of e& international; Khalid Murshed, CEO of e& enterprise; and Tadao Yanase, Chief Business Development Officer (CBDO) at NTT.

During his keynote speech, CEO Jung emphasized that "Telecom operators' proprietary infrastructure and operational expertise are key to building AI infrastructure and expanding AI services, and that telcos must move beyond the rapid and secure delivery of data to play a leading role in shaping AI infrastructure."

SKT also introduced its 'Sovereign AI Package,' which integrates AIDC infrastructure built on SK Group capabilities, SKT's sovereign AI foundation model, A.X K1, and AI services tailored for industrial and enterprise use. This strategy involves building a proprietary AI foundation model that understands local language and culture on infrastructure that is controlled and operated domestically, taking data sovereignty into account, and providing integrated AI services that have been validated in real industrial settings. Through this approach, SKT aims to protect national AI sovereignty while accelerating business innovation.

Panel discussions covered a broad range of topics, including AIDC innovation, regulatory considerations and strategic direction. Participants agreed that, given AIDCs simultaneously require large-scale power supply, high-performance equipment, and ultra-high-speed networks, greater efficiency can be achieved through joint collaborative efforts among telecom operators.

Discussions on AI Cooperation with Major Global Telcos and Technology Groups

On the same day, CEO Jung also met with e& Group CEO Hatem Dowidar and Group Chief Strategy Officer (GCSO) Harrison Lung to further strengthen their strategic partnerships in expanding global AI infrastructure.

On March 3, CEO Jung met with CEO Christel Heydemann, Chief Technology and Innovation Officer (CTIO) Bruno Zerbib, and other executives of Orange Group, which serves 340 million customers across Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. This will be the first meeting between the CEOs of the two companies.

SKT plans to explore AI collaboration with its long-standing European partner, Deutsche Telekom. Jung will meet with Deutsche Telekom's CEO Tim Höttges to introduce SKT's AIDC technologies and operational capabilities, its experience in developing the proprietary AI foundation model A.X K1, and its AI RAN technologies.

CEO Jung stated, "Competitiveness in the AI era depends not only on technology, but also on how infrastructure is designed and interconnected. We will work together with global telecom operators to build a trusted AI infrastructure and service ecosystem."

Huawei unveils industry's first L4 ADN solution for campus, marking a breakthrough in autonomous network O&M

At Mobile World Congress (MWC) Barcelona 2026, Huawei unveiled the industry's first L4 Autonomous Driving Network (ADN) solution for campuses, opening a new chapter in the evolution toward network autonomy. The launch event was attended by Aleksandr Merkinger, Infra VP of Muller from Germany and Shawn Zhao, President of Campus Network Domain of Huawei's Data Communication Product Line.

With digital and intelligent transformation reshaping every industry, enterprises are facing a broader and more complex set of challenges, such as slow service rollout, difficult fault locating, lagging experience assurance, and frequent security intrusions. To address these challenges, Huawei introduces its industry-first Xinghe AI L4 ADN solution for campuses, redefining campus O&M around four "zero" capabilities:

Zero-error service changes: To address slow service rollout and frequent errors introduced during service changes, the solution automatically generates configurations based on user intent and delivers them within minutes. This shortens time to market (TTM) by 75% while safeguarding the network from configuration mistakes through a closed-loop process.

Zero-freezing service experience: Powered by Huawei's intelligent iFlow full-flow quality detection technology, the solution proactively identifies application performance degradation, and automatically orchestrates intent-based assurance policies for key applications. Together, these capabilities enable pre-event simulation, in-event root cause analysis, and post-event assurance report generation to ensure uninterrupted performance for critical services.

Zero-impact fault handling: Fault diagnosis and locating remain among the most challenging tasks in today's networks, requiring specialized O&M expertise and often consuming significant time—factors that can severely degrade user experience. Huawei's solution adopts the AI-powered algorithm and uses the exclusive global optimal decision-making algorithm to automatically resolve faults within three minutes, eliminating service interruption.

Zero-intrusion security defense: Using the Indicator of Attack(IOA) graph-based correlation algorithm, the solution aggregates discrete alarms into a complete kill chain, automatically isolates compromised devices, and generates security orchestration, automation, and response (SOAR) remediation plans to eliminate malicious software. Meanwhile, continuous learning from historical handling actions further strengthens security protection. Together, these capabilities deliver robust defense that prevents intrusion risks from taking hold.

Huawei's Xinghe AI L4 ADN solution for campuses—built on self-perception, self-analysis, self-decision-making, and self-handling capabilities—enables autonomous, 24/7 campus network O&M. It lays the foundation for the transition from "people-to-people" connectivity to the agentic era of AI where intelligent agents interact and collaborate.

Nokia and AWS showcase agentic AI-powered network slicing with du and Orange

Nokia announced a new collaboration with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to bring the first agentic AI-powered 5G-Advanced network slicing solution in a live 5G network. The intent-based 5G slicing innovation combines Nokia's advanced network slicing with AWS AI platform technologies to empower telecommunication providers in delivering premium services precisely where and when they are needed. du and Orange are the first to explore the innovation in their respective networks.

***Pallavi Mahajan**, Chief Technology and AI Officer, Nokia*

***Amir Rao**, Global Director, GTM & Telco Solutions, AWS*

Nokia's innovative AI slicing solution, powered by AWS, uses agentic AI to analyze real-world internet data, including locations, events, traffic, incidents, and maps, enabling telecommunications providers to deliver adaptive network slicing. This agentic AI-powered approach unlocks significant customer value across diverse applications and use cases by creating premium services that respond intelligently to dynamic conditions, ensuring optimal performance precisely where and when customers need it.

Furthermore, telecommunication providers can face challenges optimizing network performance during unpredictable events like traffic surges, emergencies or mass gatherings, which can result in suboptimal service quality and inefficient resource utilization. Autonomous network slicing intelligence dynamically adapts and manages even the most challenging traffic conditions across varied geographical areas.

Pallavi Mahajan, Chief Technology and AI Officer, Nokia, commented: "This innovation marks a major milestone in the evolution of AI-native networks. By combining Nokia's advanced network slicing capabilities with agentic AI, we are enabling operators to deliver premium, intent-based services that adapt dynamically to real-world conditions. Nokia is advancing connectivity by unlocking new value streams for telecommunication providers and supporting next-generation applications and differentiated services for enterprises, industries and consumers."

***Saleem Alblooshi**, Chief Technology Officer, du*

***Atoosa Hatefi**, Director of Innovation in Radio and Environment, Orange*

Agentic AI slicing for diverse applications and use cases

This agentic AI-powered 5G-Advanced network slicing innovation can be used for different use cases, including:

• Intent-based enterprise and industrial slicing measures live network KPIs such as bitrate and latency and autonomously adjusts RAN policies to meet enterprise SLAs across campuses, business parks and city areas. The innovation enhances premium slicing services for critical applications in manufacturing, IoT, drones, smart cities, hospitals, energy, transportation and ports.

• On-demand slicing with agentic AI boosts network performance for selected 5G base stations. When activated by external data, this service provides first responders and public safety authorities with better network connectivity during emergencies. On-demand network slicing with agentic-AI preserves quality of service for premium 5G+ and FWA customers using gaming, streaming, XR, and AI applications in response to major traffic surges, weather conditions and environmental changes.

• Agentic AI for mass events provides much broader capacity availability during high-demand moments like concerts and sporting events. AI analyses network data, infers patterns, and sets slicing policies for scheduled events, optimizing premium

5G slicing for VIP spectators, payment applications, fan engagement, video broadcasting and operational crews in arenas, parks and conference centers.

Amir Rao, Global Director, GTM & Telco Solutions, AWS, commented: "Network slicing has long promised to unlock new revenue streams for operators, but manual configuration and static policies have prevented end customers from accessing on-demand provisioning. By integrating agentic AI capabilities through Amazon Bedrock with Nokia's application, operators can now deliver intelligent, context-aware network slicing that responds dynamically to real-world conditions from traffic surges to emergency situations. This transforms network slicing from a technical capability into a true business enabler, allowing operators to monetize their 5G investments through differentiated, premium services that adapt automatically to customer needs. Agentic Network Slicing is the beginning of an era that will enable telecommunications providers to enable real-time intent-based service provisioning for end customers."

Leveraging leading-edge technologies

Nokia's agentic AI-powered solution on AWS introduces intent-based network slicing that continuously monitors network KPIs, infers real-world contextual data from multiple sources and automatically adjusts RAN policies to meet service-level agreements. The end-to-end advanced network slicing innovation across RAN-transport-core utilizes especially Nokia's 5G AirScale base station, MantaRay SMO and Agentic AI modules, which are seamlessly integrated with the Amazon Bedrock Artificial Intelligence platform.

The integrated solution uses agentic AI to coordinate data analytics, inferencing, and RAN policies. These AI agents leverage open internet data—including events, timetables, incidents, traffic, locations, maps, and weather—for different network slicing use cases. The agentic AI modules operate in multiple modes: chatbot, on-demand, scheduled, and autonomous. All modules interact with Amazon Bedrock via APIs. Furthermore, applications and use cases powered by Agentic AIs are enhanced with Nokia's Edge Slicing solution, bringing cloud applications and workloads directly to mobile users and devices over high-capacity, secure, and low-latency networks.

Amazon Bedrock enables intelligent network optimization by providing access to foundation models and the infrastructure to build specialized AI agents. These agents analyze historical RAN parameters alongside contextual data to optimize RAN, core, and transport layers for mobile networks. Using Amazon EKS Hybrid Nodes, telecommunications providers can deploy these agents and network workloads on their existing infrastructure while unifying Kubernetes management across cloud and edge environments, providing the flexibility and scalability needed for modern network operations.

Saleem Alblooshi, Chief Technology Officer, du, said: "We are excited to be among the first to pilot this groundbreaking solution on a live network. Agentic AI-powered slicing will allow us to deliver highly responsive, premium services to our customers, whether for critical enterprise applications or enhanced consumer experiences."

Atoosa Hatefi, Director of Innovation in Radio and Environment, Orange, said: "Orange is committed to driving innovation in 5G, and this experimentation demonstrates how AI can transform network operations. With intent-based slicing, we can anticipate customer needs and deliver tailored services that meet the demands of diverse use cases, from mission-critical to immersive entertainment."

Nokia expands Network as Code ecosystem, advances API-based agentic AI with Google Cloud at MWC 2026

Multiple telecommunication providers from across the globe have joined Nokia's Network as Code ecosystem, accelerating the use of application programming interfaces (APIs) to unlock advanced network capabilities. In addition, Nokia and Google Cloud have partnered to bring Google Cloud's agentic AI capabilities into Nokia's Network as Code platform, making networks consumable and programmable by enterprise agents.

Deutsche Telekom, Globe, Orange, Rakuten, Tata Communications, Telefónica, TELUS, and Vodafone are among more than 75 partners — including telecom providers, CPaaS platforms, systems integrators and vertical independent software vendors — now collaborating with Nokia in the field of network APIs, either through new or expanded partnerships.

Nokia's Network as Code platform gives developers standardized, secure access to APIs that simplify complex network functions, opening new pathways for innovation. Industries such as banking, healthcare, automotive and entertainment have developed early use cases, with more on the horizon as awareness grows around this technology's transformative potential. Launched in September 2023, Network as Code aligns with API-based industry initiatives like GSMA Open Gateway and the Linux Foundation's CAMARA project.

Shkumbin Hamiti, VP and Head of Network Monetization Platform, Core Software, Nokia, said: "These partnerships represent a major step in transforming the future of advanced network connectivity, giving developers greater choice, flexibility, and security to create innovative new applications. As more developers explore network APIs, their feedback will shape the next generation of services to customers and enterprises."

Next-generation optical network solutions launched at MWC 2026 to drive growth in the AI Era

At the Huawei product and solution launch event during MWC Barcelona 2026, Bob Chen, President of Huawei Optical Business Product Line, unveiled Next Generation Optical Network products and solutions to foster synergy between AI and networks, accelerating the evolution toward AI-centric All-Optical Network.

***Bob Chen**, President of Huawei Optical Business Product Line*

Upgrading optical networks for the AI era is the right move. The ITU-T has officially released the ION-2030 vision, defining key capabilities, application scenarios, and standardization roadmap for next-generation optical networks. Leading global operators are also accelerating the deployment of next-generation optical networks.

Bob Chen stated, "Huawei advances Next Generation Optical Network solutions in two directions: AI for Networks and Networks for AI. In AI for Networks, AI technologies enable intelligent fiber sensing, enhance network performance and user experience, improve O&M efficiency, and reduce energy consumption. In Networks for AI, enhanced network capabilities help operators build AI-centric all-optical target networks, accelerating AI adoption across homes and enterprises."

AI for Networks: Improving Network Quality and Efficiency

Intelligent fiber sensing: Based on the fiber risk sensing model and fault identification model, risks can be identified in advance, and the fault location can be pinpointed within 10 meters.

Network performance enhancement: An optical performance simulation model, built on thousands of optical parameters, significantly enhances the precision of network performance evaluation and extends the transmission distance by 20%.

Network experience enhancement: Wi-Fi interference can be detected in real time, and AI algorithms intelligently adjust Wi-Fi power, boosting rates by 20% under interference conditions.

Energy saving: Service traffic is analyzed in real time, and ports and boards are intelligently adjusted. When there is no traffic, all ports and boards are put into hibernation, reducing average energy consumption by 40%.

Intelligent O&M: AI technologies are used to enhance the intelligence of network planning, construction, maintenance, and optimization processes. For example, the home broadband O&M agent can automatically identify and locate over 60 types of faults, and assist NOC O&M engineers in resolving them quickly through natural language interaction, significantly reducing home visits.

Networks for AI: Accelerating AI Popularization

Optical access: A target network with gigabit-level downlink and 100M-level uplink is built to meet the bandwidth requirements of new home AI services and enhance the overall home network experience.

Optical transmission: The latency circles of 5 ms for national networks, 3 ms for regional networks, and 1 ms for metro networks are built to enable millisecond-level computing access and ensure optimal AI application performance.

Huawei has launched a full series of products and solutions for Next Generation Optical Network. In the optical access domain, Huawei has introduced Next Generation FAN products such as FTTR, OLT, ONT, and ODN. In the optical transmission domain, Huawei has released Next Generation OTN products for OTN backbone, OTN optical layer, and OTN metro networks, helping operators build Agentic UBB networks.

Accelerating intelligent transformation with new AI-powered green sites and data center facilities

At the Product & Solution launch event during MWC Barcelona 2026, Bob He, Vice President of Huawei Digital Power, introduced New-Generation AI-Powered Green Site and GW-level AIDC Solutions. These solutions help operators build zero-carbon target networks and lay a solid foundation for artificial intelligence computing in the era of the agentic Internet, driving intelligent, low-carbon transformation.

***Bob He**, Vice President of Huawei Digital Power*

AI-Powered Green Site

As the intelligent world accelerates, AI development drives explosive growth in traffic, posing challenges for site power facilities. Huawei's AI-Powered Green Site is the first to feature end-to-end intelligent synergy, improving network resilience and reducing energy OPEX, turning operators' energy storage assets into revenue streams.

• **Zero network disruptions due to power outages:** iBackup doubles backup time, increasing site power availability to 99.9%. In Kuwait, the emergency backup time was increased from 3 hours to 6 hours to ensure business continuity during power outages.

• **One tank of fuel per year:** Intelligent algorithms integrate weather, power generation, and load forecasts to enable intelligent, collaborative scheduling of PV, energy storage systems, and gensets. In Southern Africa, this solution helped customers reduce fuel consumption by 75%, saving over US$10,000 and reducing carbon emissions by 18 tons per site annually.

• **From saving money to making money:** The all-scenario virtual power plant solution enables operators' energy storage assets to participate in the electricity market and generate revenue. In Northern Europe, this solution helped customers increase annual revenue by over €2000 per site.

GW-level AIDC Solution

The intelligent era has witnessed a surge in demand for computing power, driving the construction of AIDC facilities. However, this also brings challenges in reliability, energy consumption, delivery, and smooth evolution. Huawei Data Center Facility reconstructs the four core links of power supply, cooling, energy storage, and operations to provide a highly reliable, energy-efficient, fast-delivered, and fully compatible AIDC solution, maximizing tokens per watt and powering the AI era forward.

• **AIDC full-link power supply:** Through innovations in power supply from the grid to chips and by productizing power supply links, Huawei has developed a high-density, high-efficiency, and reliable integrated PowerPOD solution to facilitate rapid AIDC delivery.

• **AIDC full-chain cooling:** Through innovations in heat dissipation from chips to the outdoor environment and by productizing cooling links, Huawei has built an efficient, reliable, and intelligent integrated IT POD solution to help AIDCs achieve efficient, highly reliable cooling.

• **AI for DC intelligent operations:** AI is leveraged to enhance data centers, improving AIDC safety and energy efficiency throughout the lifecycle. AI for safety: Fault prediction and identification facilitate the transition from passive response to predictive maintenance.

• **AI for energy efficiency:** Intelligent coordination and optimization of cooling and power supply reduce energy consumption.

Bob He stated that Huawei will fully leverage its advantages in converged technologies across the energy, wireless, and service fields to help operators build more flexible, reliable, and greener ICT power facilities, accelerate intelligent transformation in the AI era, and achieve continuous business success. T

WBBA releases Net5.5G Readiness Assessment and Certification standards

Huawei announces upgraded Net5.5G IP bearer network offerings to boost new industry vitality

At MWC Barcelona 2026, the World Broadband Association (WBBA), together with global industry partners, released the Net5.5G Readiness Assessment and Certification white paper during the Broadband Development Congress (BDC). The white paper provides a standardized framework for intelligent network evolution for carriers and enterprises worldwide. At the same event, Huawei announced its upgraded Net5.5G IP bearer network offerings, helping accelerate the industry's journey into the intelligent world.

***Steven Zhao**, Vice President of Huawei's Data Communication Product Line*

WBBA released Net5.5G readiness assessment and certification standards, establishing the first global unified assessment framework for intelligent networks

The white paper introduces the IP Network Development Index, the world's first assessment and ranking framework covering campus networks, IP bearer networks, and data center networks. It provides carriers and enterprises with a reference standard and clear direction for evaluating network development, and will drive global commercial deployment and intelligent evolution.

Meanwhile, the Net5.5G Pioneer Program, led by WBBA, has made steady progress, with the global pioneer matrix now including 32 visionary pioneers, 6 region pioneers, and 44 business pioneers.

Huawei announced upgraded Net5.5G IP bearer network offerings, which are fully aligned with the new standards

Steven Zhao, Vice President of Huawei's Data Communication Product Line, said, "To embrace the All Intelligence era, WBBA is promoting the in-depth integration of networks and AI based on Net5.5G, and Huawei has upgraded IP bearer networks across three dimensions—security resilience, multi-dimensional awareness, and network autonomy. These efforts empower carriers to build a Net5.5G intelligent IP network foundation to safeguard service experience, accelerate monetization, and enhance efficiency, leading a new chapter of intelligent connectivity."

Global practices: Net5.5G moving from standards to real-world business value

Leading carriers and industry players showcased their latest Net5.5G practices. France's Orange Group turns its networks into an AI-ready platform, leveraging high bandwidth, intelligent and agile, efficient, trusted and reliable transport and access networks. CTM in Macao (China) built an intelligent bearer network with Net5.5G AI WAN. It leveraged AI training and inference-driven perception to identify encrypted video traffic and enable precision marketing and application-level experience assurance, reducing customer churn and boosting the Average Revenue Per User (ARPU). Meanwhile, IGA in Türkiye leveraged AI-driven decision-making to reduce three-runway scheduling wait times by 20%. Powered by a reliable network capacity that ensures safe and real-time visualized baggage handling, the airport harnessed digital intelligence to enhance aviation safety and deliver an exceptional network experience for passengers. IGA has become a shining example for efficient, eco-friendly, and resilient development among global hub airports.

Looking ahead, WBBA calls on global industry organizations to deepen collaboration and drive innovations in technology standards, industry policies, and commercial practices for intelligent evolution to Net5.5G. Huawei will continue to work with WBBA and global partners, leveraging Net5.5G standards and cutting-edge intelligent solutions to promote industry prosperity. T

Türk Telekom and ZTE complete world's first C+L full-band integrated 1.6Tbps live network trial

ZTE Corporation and Türk Telekom have jointly completed the world's first C+L (12 THz) full-band integrated 1.6Tbps live network trial in Istanbul. The trial has significantly boosted system capacity, reduced spare part types, and enabled ultra-high-speed 400GE/800GE service transmission, laying a solid foundation for Türkiye to develop ultra-broadband and intelligent all-optical networks, thereby elevating the digital economy level of Türkiye and even Eurasia.

To address the rapidly growing demand for data traffic, Türk Telekom and ZTE conducted a transcontinental live network traffic trial in Istanbul, deploying ZTE's C+L full-band integrated 1.6Tbps solution. This solution supports seamless switching between the C-band and L-band via a unified management system, with no physical network modifications required. While fully leveraging existing fiber infrastructure, it achieves efficient utilization of the full optical spectrum, building a cost-effective, high-capacity, and highly flexible optical network architecture to support rapid response to traffic growth and meet future high-speed network demands.

The trial also introduced a new intelligent network management system, relying on a holographic optical solution with capabilities in optical sensing, provisioning, diagnosis, and optimization, achieving full visibility, manageability, and controllability of the network. Through intelligent functions such as transport capacity mapping, network health assessment, fault diagnosis analysis and the same optical cable and same route, it enables full lifecycle management of network resources, real-time visibility of alarms and performance data, and proactive prevention of potential risks, significantly reducing fault resolution time and enhancing network operational efficiency and stability.

Ebubekir Şahin, Chief Executive Officer of Türk Telekom, said, "This groundbreaking trial carried out with ZTE represents another milestone in Türk Telekom's ongoing leadership in building Türkiye's most advanced optical transmission infrastructure. In a trial conducted in collaboration with ZTE, we proved that we can rapidly increase capacity in areas where it is needed without having to replace the entire network, setting another world's first. With this move, we will implement a flexible, low-cost, and sustainable infrastructure model that can quickly respond to increases in data traffic and meet the high-speed needs of the future."

Ling Zhi, Vice President of ZTE, said, "This world's first C+L full-band integrated 1.6Tbps live network trial with Türk Telekom demonstrates how ZTE's globally proven optical transmission and AI-driven network management technologies can be successfully applied within Türkiye's critical infrastructure. By delivering higher capacity, simplified hardware architecture and autonomous operational capabilities, we are paving the way for next–generation optical networks for HI-OTN (High Intelligence and High Performance) that accelerate the country's digital transformation." T

stc group rolls out phase two of 'New Calling' translation feature with pilot commercial in Riyadh

stc group has rolled out phase two of the 'New Calling' initiative with a pilot launch that enables real-time Arabic–English translation during voice calls.

Powered by an advanced 'New Calling' network with comprehensive Large Language Models (LLMs) capability, the service allows callers to speak naturally in their native tongue, while hearing an instant, high-accuracy translation of the receiver's speech that can adapt to the context and nature of the call.

The pilot, currently live for selected customers in Riyadh, builds on the initial milestone announced in 2024, marking stc's continued journey toward elevating the customer experience and enhancing the ease of communication for diverse user segments across the Kingdom.

The service leverages advanced network-level low-latency processing, secure voice network intelligence, and speech models optimized for Arabic and English, ensuring natural, clear and context-aware translation during live calls, while maintaining the highest standards of privacy and information security.

By integrating cutting-edge interpretation into the native calling experience, stc delivers seamless cross-language communication for residents and visitors alike, from business negotiations to everyday conversations.

The phase two commercial pilot will expand gradually over the coming months, following user feedback collection and performance assessments, paving the way for the introduction of additional languages, new capabilities and nationwide rollout. T

Accelerating AI in core production: Over 100 industrial intelligence showcases revealed at MWC 2026

During MWC Barcelona 2026, Huawei released 115 industrial intelligence showcases, together with its customers, during Industrial Digital and Intelligent Transformation Summit 2026. The summit, titled Advancing Industrial All Intelligence, was held by Huawei to explore new practices in industrial intelligence with its customers, partners, and peers. Besides, Huawei announced the launch of upgrades to its SHAPE 2.0 partner framework. Huawei also showcased 22 new industrial intelligence solutions with partners, for the electric power, manufacturing and retail, finance, transportation, oil and gas, ISP, media, public service, and smart city sectors.

Huawei proposed the ACT Pathway: A replicable intelligence framework

AI technologies have advanced rapidly over the last year, with reasoning models and agentic workflows both maturing, and physical AI beginning to truly take off. This has allowed AI tools to begin entering core production scenarios and helped applications move from pilots to large-scale use. AI agents can also now better understand and interact with the physical world, and are now capable of making decisions independently.

Huawei introduced the ACT Pathway, and three key steps specified in the ACT framework were mandatory for achieving comprehensive industrial intelligence. The first step is "assessing high-value scenarios". Huawei has helped customers identify over 1,000 core production scenarios where AI can play a big role. The second is "calibrating AI models with high-quality vertical data". Huawei has built a 6-layer AI security framework to ensure every stage of the AI lifecycle is secure and trustworthy. The third is "transforming business operations with AI talent". Talent that understands both industry and AI are needed. Huawei does this by three areas, including hands-on practice programs, CANN open-source communities, vertical industry communities on Huawei Cloud, and ICT Academies.

Huawei worked with customers to release global industrial intelligence showcases

During the summit, A number of Huawei's customers joined on stage to launch 115 global showcases for industrial intelligence, including executives from Eskom, Shandong Port Group, Converge ICT, HM Hospitales, and PetroChina (Beijing)'s Digital Intelligent Research Institute, CNPC, providing reference for organizations of various sectors to embark on their journey towards intelligence.

Huawei upgraded the SHAPE 2.0 partner framework

Huawei upgraded the SHAPE 2.0 partner framework with AI as the core engine, which includes five major updates:

The First is AI-powered products upgrades. Huawei is embedding AI into product and solution offerings, such as the new network agents which can now automate fault location and network optimization to make O&M more efficient.

Secondly, Huawei has upgraded their joint innovation mechanism. Partners can use one-stop AgentArts on Huawei Cloud to develop agents and industry AI solutions.

The third is helping partners develop AI capabilities. Huawei released a set of standards for AI capabilities and launched over 20 new AI certification courses. And it plans to help over 1,000 partners get AI-certified.

The fourth is making cooperation more efficient with AI. Huawei provides multiple AI tools that help partners increase productivity, like AI-assisted configuration and HUAWEI eKit chat for technical support.

Fifth is creating more growth opportunities with AI. Huawei deploys over 3,000 scenario-specific AI experts and launches intelligent transformation lighthouse projects across 38 industries. Its AI-integrated solutions, like the Atlas 850 server, empower partners to efficiently build their own all-in-one AI solutions.

At the summit, Huawei showcased 22 of its latest industrial intelligence solutions jointly developed with partners.

Global customers and partners shared innovative practices at the summit

Len De Villiers, Chief Technology and Information Officer of Eskom, said at the summit, "Sustainable electricity supports economic growth, reduces poverty, and improves living standards. Eskom remains pivotal in transforming lives through our significant contribution to South Africa's economy. Eskom's strategy and turnaround plan is to pursue financial and operational sustainability, and to modernize power system and energy transition. Through unbundling, Eskom will evolve to be more agile and attract the funding required to deliver the future energy landscape and economic growth."

Ng Wun-kit, Principal of Pui Kiu Middle School, Hong Kong, China, said at the summit, "Vision of Pui Kiu Middle School in the AI era is to be a leading AI-driven educational pioneer, leveraging technology to deliver personalized, intelligent learning, and cultivate future-ready leaders with global perspectives and innovative minds. We have already implemented AI General Knowledge Course, AI-Empowered Smart Classroom, and Smart & Safe Campus. We will launch the Global Model School of Huawei AI Education Center (AIEC) Solution, and we look forward to sharing our transformative journey, proven methodologies with the international community."

Hoy-Jin Lee, Vice President of Sales, Solum Europe GmbH, said at the summit, "With the industry's most extensive ESL lineup, Solum is equipped to optimize any store setting. We have jointly developed an All-in-One Retail Infrastructure Platform, unifying telecom infrastructure and ESL into one scalable, cost-efficient architecture. This solution features a unified gateway that supports LTE, Wi-Fi and ESL, with no dedicated ESL AP required; it offers pre-integrated, ready-to-use deployment and an independent, secure network architecture, which can help reduce total cost of ownership (TCO) by up to 55 percent and deliver up to 33% savings for large-format stores." T

GSMA and Handset Affordability Coalition members identify six African countries to pilot affordable smartphones

The GSMA has announced that the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda have been identified by the GSMA Handset Affordability Coalition for initial pilots to introduce affordable 4G smartphones.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the GSMA, the G6 African operators and original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), formalises collaboration to pilot affordable entry-level 4G smartphones in Africa in 2026. The pilots build on the minimum requirements for low-cost 4G devices unveiled at MWC Kigali in 2025.

The GSMA Handset Affordability Coalition aims to lower the cost of entry-level smartphones worldwide and accelerate digital inclusion in markets where affordability remains a key barrier.

However, the current surge in the global cost of memory prices is making it increasingly difficult to attain a US$30 - US$40 price range required to unlock mass adoption. Against this economic context it has become even more important to reduce or eliminate taxes and import duties on entry-level 4G smartphones.

Vivek Badrinath, Director General of the GSMA, said: "Affordable smartphones enable digital and financial inclusion, economic opportunity and innovation. 3.1 billion people have mobile coverage but are not connected to the mobile internet. Together with the G6 group of leading African operators, we are sending a clear demand signal to bring low-cost 4G devices to market. In a global context of rising memory costs, governments have an important role in bridging the usage gap. Removing taxes and import duties on entry-level 4G smartphones will be critical to achieving scale."

A Vast Untapped Opportunity

Africa has one of the world's largest mobile internet usage gaps. Millions live within broadband coverage but remain offline, with handset affordability consistently cited as the biggest barrier to adoption. Affordable 4G smartphones at scale could bring tens of millions of people online.

Enabling Local AI Innovation

The impact of rising memory costs extends beyond connectivity. Memory-intensive technologies are essential for on-device AI, local language processing and the growth of regional tech ecosystems.

Against this backdrop, the GSMA-led AI Language Models Initiative is advancing scalable, locally relevant AI models. The Africa Pavilion at MWC26 will showcase a live demonstration of the first open Swahili reasoning model in collaboration with MeetKai Zambia, capable of browsing and translating online content to reduce language barriers to digital services. T

NG WAN architecture introduced at MWC 2026 to drive carrier growth in the internet of agents era

At MWC Barcelona 2026, Leon Wang, President of Huawei's Data Communication Product Line, unveiled the company's NG WAN architecture. He stated that in the Internet of Agents era, Huawei is upgrading IP bearer networks by focusing on security & resilience, multi-dimensional awareness, and network autonomy. This will enable carriers to establish a self-defending network foundation that ensures experience, accelerates revenue growth, boosts network efficiency, and empowers intelligent connectivity.

Multi- dimensional Awareness@2H

Huawei has introduced the industry's first encrypted traffic identification engine—Xingluo Identification Engine. This engine boasts an identification accuracy exceeding 95% for encrypted traffic flows. It also constructs a multidimensional user service characteristics database, which is detailed enough to create user profiles with an accuracy of 90%. This aids carriers in swiftly acquiring new customers.

Multi-dimensional Awareness@2B

Huawei's lossless intelligent computing boards enable zero packet loss transmission of computing power data, ensuring sustained computing efficiency. Leveraging the Xingluo lossless algorithm, Huawei transforms training-inference data into unbreakable high-dimensional vectors, safeguarding enterprise data and enabling carriers to offer distributed collaborative training-inference and storage-computing separation services.

Security & Resilience

Huawei provides intelligent intrinsic security boards, which enable devices to instantly detect any unusual activity related to files, memory, processes, and traffic. They also promptly identify and block intrusions to prevent attacks from lurking or spreading.

To address route hijacking, Huawei has introduced an intelligent resilient main control board. Utilizing a 40-dimension knowledge graph, this board dynamically identifies the attributes of routing addresses, paths, and any tampering of routing information, ensuring zero route hijacking in critical situations.

Security & Resilience

Huawei has introduced a quantum security solution. This solution assists carriers in establishing quantum-secure bearer networks, ensuring zero leakage of user data.

Carriers can leverage Huawei's Xsec multi-point dynamic deployment solution to rapidly set up PQC-encrypted connections, enhancing the deployment efficiency of quantum private lines by 60%. Additionally, for carriers choosing the QKD route, Huawei has introduced the industry's first intrinsic QKD board—LPUI-Q. This board can be directly inserted into NetEngine 8000 series routers. Utilizing Huawei's unique noise suppression algorithm, the board facilitates the integration of QKD with communication networks, helping reducing carriers' total investment by over 60%.

Network Autonomy

Huawei has introduced the intelligent O&M solution to offer round-the-clock network protection. Serving as the intelligent brain of the network, Netmaster simulates expert analysis, strategy formulation, and action execution, facilitating the transition from reactive to proactive O&M. T

Huawei proposes building an AI-centric all-optical target network to enhance service experience

At the Green All-Optical Network Forum hosted by IDATE during MWC Barcelona 2026, Huawei articulated a transformative vision for the future of connectivity: the building of an AI-centric all-optical target network. As artificial intelligence becomes the primary driver of global data traffic, Huawei proposed four strategic initiatives designed to overhaul network bandwidth, reliability, coverage, and latency. These enhancements are aimed at helping global operators unleash latent network value while providing the seamless, high-performance experience required by modern AI services.

The forum served as a premier gathering for the telecommunications ecosystem, attracting more than 200 industry leaders. Attendees included representatives from European telecom regulators, the FTTH Council, and major equipment vendors. Leading global operators, such as Bouygues Telecom and China Unicom, shared their successful deployment practices. The discussions centered on the evolving requirements of smart home services, the role of efficient computing in enabling AI innovation, and the transition toward fully intelligent network operations.

Engineering the Agentic UBB Network

Kim Jin, Vice President of Huawei's Optical Business Product Line, presented the roadmap for this next-generation architecture. He introduced the concept of Agentic UBB (Ultra-Broadband) networks, which utilize upgraded infrastructure to deliver premium, deterministic service experiences. Huawei's strategy is built upon several technological breakthroughs:

Pioneering Home Networking:

To address the growing demand for

high-speed smart home applications, Huawei introduced its Wi-Fi 7 tri-band FTTR (Fiber-to-the-Room) solution. This technology ensures a stable 4 Gbps rate in every corner of a home and seamless roaming with a latency of less than 10 ms. Furthermore, a new Wi-Fi mesh solution—bolstered by AI anti-interference technology—allows signals to penetrate an additional wall, boosting data rates by 20% even in congested environments.

Next-Generation PON Evolution:

Huawei is leveraging innovative OLT (Optical Line Terminal) app-level PON slicing and Wi-Fi air interface scheduling. These tools establish dedicated, "VIP" assurance channels for critical applications, ensuring tiered and deterministic experiences that are immune to standard network congestion.

Expanding OXC to the Metro:

The brand-new Optical Cross-Connect (OXC) solution extends all-optical switching from the core directly into metro networks. This reduces end-to-end latency and creates a mesh architecture capable of supporting millisecond-level computing for distributed AI services.

Eliminating Bandwidth Bottlenecks:

As traffic hotspots surge, Huawei is pushing the evolution toward 400G and 800G speeds. By combining a 3D-mesh backbone with Super C+L band technology and full-format submarine cables, the network can efficiently manage massive Data Center Interconnect (DCI) and cross-border traffic.

The "Zero-Outage" Guarantee:

To ensure AI services remain "always-on," Huawei utilizes eOTDR technology and coordinated hardware-software algorithms to identify risks before they cause downtime. Notably, the use of innovative liquid crystal materials enables Wavelength Switched Optical Network (WSON) switching in under 50 ms, providing ultra-high reliability.

Intelligent Operations and Maintenance (O&M)

Beyond hardware, Huawei is integrating AI directly into network management. The FANSpirit agent targets the access domain to proactively resolve home broadband issues and reduce user complaints. Meanwhile, the OTNSpirit agent in the transmission domain uses intelligent algorithms to recommend paths based on real-time bandwidth and latency requirements.

"The AI era brings operators a once-in-ten-years opportunity," Kim Jin concluded. Huawei remains committed to collaborating with global partners to build these AI-centric networks, unlocking new growth and ensuring a win-win future in the burgeoning digital economy.

GSMA Foundry and ESA announce access to new funding worth up to €100M for AI, NTN, D2D and 6G at MWC2026

GSMA Foundry and the European Space Agency (ESA) have announced new funding worth up to €100 million for projects to accelerate the convergence of space and mobile industries. This new initiative, funded by ESA, aims to scale innovations in AI for Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTN), Direct-to-Device (D2D) connectivity, 5G/6G Hubs and 6G Innovation.

Building on the success of the GSMA Foundry and ESA partnership established in 2024, this major financial commitment from ESA is designed to fast-track the commercialisation of hybrid networks, and help ensure seamless global connectivity through the integration of satellite and terrestrial assets. The funding targets four strategic pillars, focusing on:

• **AI x NTN:** Leveraging artificial intelligence to orchestrate dynamic spectrum and traffic across multi-orbit satellite and terrestrial networks.

• **Direct-to-Device (D2D):** Supporting pilots that deliver standards-based connectivity directly to consumer smartphones and IoT devices globally.

• **5G/6G Hubs:** Establishing collaborative testbeds for operators and developers to co-create the next generation of hybrid network infrastructure.

• **6G Innovation:** Focusing on early-stage 6G technologies, such as edge intelligence and advanced IoT, by emphasising areas where satellite-terrestrial convergence will play a crucial role.

Laurent Jaffart, Director of Resilience, Navigation and Connectivity at ESA, said: "Our Member States' unwavering support in our programmes, particularly during the ESA Council at Ministerial Level (CM25), has made this collaboration with GSMA Foundry possible. At Mobile World Congress, we're collectively marking a pivotal moment for the convergence of Europe's space and telecommunication sectors. By offering access to funding for AI, NTN, and D2D, we are not just supporting the development of technology – we are preparing for the seamless, global 6G infrastructure of tomorrow."

Alex Sinclair, Chief Technology Officer at GSMA, added: "By combining the reach of the mobile industry with ESA's space expertise, we are unlocking a new era of connectivity. This funding and our showcase demonstrate that hybrid networks are no longer a concept – they are a commercial reality. The collaborative breakthroughs you see today signal a step-change for digital transformation, making seamless and universal connectivity possible even in the most remote regions. Together, we are driving forward innovation that will empower businesses, revolutionise industries and bring transformative benefits to society as a whole."

SES brings satellite connectivity to refugees in Chad

SES is expanding humanitarian connectivity at the Farchana refugee settlement in Chad in cooperation with emergency.lu, the public-private partnership led by Luxembourg's Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Defence, Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade and the UN Refugee Agency. In the framework of the Connectivity for Refugees initiative, the deployment uses SES' O3b mPOWER satellite network to provide dependable, high-speed internet for humanitarian teams and essential services for refugees.

This is the first emergency.lu deployment using O3b mPOWER satellites in Medium Earth Orbit (MEO), an expansion beyond the program's previous use of geostationary (GEO) satellites for rapid disaster-response missions. It also marks a new application for the platform.

While emergency.lu has traditionally supported first responders and emergency operations, this deployment is designed to connect refugees and the humanitarian organizations enabling services such as online learning, digital skills training, community connectivity centers as well as reliable day-to-day communications.

The deployment was carried out by Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Defence, Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade's personnel on the ground, following hands-on training at SES' Luxembourg headquarters. Built for sustained use and flexible expansion, the communication kit is designed to support longer-term operations and evolving needs on site.

By adding O3b mPOWER to the emergency.lu toolkit, the partnership strengthens its ability to provide connectivity beyond the first days of a crisis, supporting continued access to education, healthcare services and communications when displacement and humanitarian response extend for months.

Huawei brings to market solutions for office, healthcare, and education

At MWC 2026, Huawei unveiled a range of new scenario-specific solutions for office, healthcare, and education. By integrating intelligent and digital technologies into its video conferencing solutions, Huawei provides a solid technical foundation to drive enterprises' digital transformation.

Intelligent Conferencing and Office Solution: Creating an All-Scenario Device-Cloud Synergy Ecosystem

Huawei's intelligent conference and office solution introduces groundbreaking smart features, including a voice assistant for scheduling meetings, real-time translation with subtitles during meetings, and role-based post-meeting summaries to improve efficiency. Devices such as the IdeaHub S3 and other meeting displays integrate with leading cloud conferencing platforms outside China, using AI to meet the seamless cross-regional, cross-device collaboration needs of multinational companies.

Telemedicine Solution: Making Quality Medical Resources More Accessible

The uneven distribution of medical resources often hinders patients from receiving timely and effective diagnosis and treatment, a longstanding issue in the healthcare sector. Huawei's telemedicine system facilitates real-time remote communication between doctors and patients, breaking down barriers across departments, hospitals, and regions. The immersive telepresence system provides a face-to-face communication experience in scenarios such as remote multidisciplinary consultations and emergency command. Ge Fangmin, Director of the Internet Medicine Center at the Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University, delivered a keynote speech at the event on how AI-assisted digital collaboration is transforming the telemedicine ecosystem and helping small- and medium-sized medical institutions conveniently access remote medical resources from central hospitals. The keynote included practical experiences in scenarios such as multi-hospital collaboration and multi-disciplinary remote consultation.

AI Classroom: Redefining Education

Huawei also introduced the AI smart classroom solution, centered on the IdeaHub K3 series in various sizes, to foster a new way of teaching that emphasizes AI, efficient interactions, and environmental sustainability. In partnership with industry-leading companies such as ULearning and Chaoxing, Huawei has developed smart teaching platforms to deliver a seamless educational experience.

The IdeaHub K3 boasts physical anti-blue light and ultrasonic projection capabilities, and it seamlessly adapts to multiple systems and ecosystems. The IdeaManager facilitates unified device operation and management, promoting energy saving. Huawei and Chaoxing Fanya jointly launched the Newvar AI-LMS smart teaching platform. This platform seamlessly integrates online and offline learning, enables instant, personalized AI-driven instruction, and introduces a new hybrid teaching model that leverages AI data to improve learning outcomes. The AI classroom solution will accelerate the digital transformation of education.

Huawei pitches its AI data platform to power faster AI adoption for enterprises

At the Huawei AI DC Innovation Forum at MWC 2026, Huawei pitched its AI Data Platform, designed to address the key challenges in adopting AI agents and strengthen the data foundation for enterprise digital and intelligent transformation.

AI agents now lie at the heart of transformation. Yet, despite having massive amounts of data, enterprises still struggle to deploy AI agents at scale due to multiple challenges, including delayed knowledge acquisition and low retrieval accuracy, inefficient inference in long-sequence and multi-turn interaction scenarios, and the lack of task memory and experience accumulation. These gaps keep most AI agents confined to the demonstration stage, far from being ready for production-level enterprise applications.

In direct response to these shared challenges, Xie Liming, the President of the Flash Storage Domain of the Huawei Data Storage Product Line, introduced the AI Data Platform. It integrates the knowledge base, KV cache, and memory bank, and is coordinated by UCM. This platform enables enterprise AI agents to move beyond demonstrations and become real production tools.

• **Knowledge generation and retrieval with real-time, high-accuracy multimodal knowledge retrieval for agents:** This technology uses knowledge bases to continuously detect source data changes and convert raw data into knowledge in near real-time. It converts multimodal data into high-accuracy knowledge through multimodal lossless parsing and token-level encoding, with a retrieval accuracy of over 95%.

• **KV cache for inference acceleration, using historical memory data to improve the inference efficiency of agents:** The intelligent tiering and management of the KV cache greatly reduce repeated computing during inference for lower inference latency, improve inference throughput and user experience, and deliver strong performance support for long-sequence and complex agent inference.

***Xie Liming**, the President of the Flash Storage Domain of the Huawei Data Storage Product Line*

• **Memory extraction and recall with personalized and continually summarized memory for agents:** This technology uses memory banks to accumulate working memory and experiential memory during AI agent interaction. It supports memory backtracking and multi-agent collaborative learning to continuously optimize inference accuracy and efficiency, making models smarter with use.

MWC Barcelona 2026: Next-gen fiber sensing solutions slash downtime in oil & gas and logistics

At MWC Barcelona 2026, Huawei unveiled two intelligent fiber sensing solutions designed to automate industrial inspections and boost operational safety across the mining, logistics, and energy sectors. These innovations replace manual monitoring with real-time data to prevent costly accidents and downtime.

1. Conveyor Idler Health Prediction

In industries like mining and power generation, belt conveyors are critical "arteries," with idlers acting as essential joints. Traditional manual inspections are inefficient and prone to error, often leading to belt misalignment, breakage, or friction-induced fires. Huawei's new solution uses fiber sensing to detect abnormal acoustic signatures from failing idlers.

Performance: It achieves over 90% accuracy with a missed alarm rate of less than 1%.

Benefit: This provides timely alerts, reducing manual inspection costs and preventing catastrophic equipment failure.

2. Pipeline Pig Tracking

Oil and gas operators use "pigs" to clean pipelines, but tracking them typically requires manual monitoring at fixed points. If a pig becomes stuck, locating the blockage can take several hours, leading to massive economic losses. Huawei's distributed fiber sensing technology tracks the pig's running path in real-time.

Performance: It identifies signals along the entire pipeline and reports blockages instantly.

Benefit: Fault-location time is slashed from hours to minutes, ensuring rapid recovery.

The Impact

By integrating intelligent sensing into heavy industry, Huawei is replacing "listening and looking" with automated intelligence. These innovations accelerate the transition to a new era of smart inspection, helping global partners overcome high-risk operational challenges while improving efficiency.

vivo and UNESCO Man and the Biosphere programme partner to launch "Capture the Future" Global Youth Storytelling Initiative for People and Nature

At MWC 2026, vivo and the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme officially announced the launch of "Capture the Future: Global Youth Storytelling Initiative for People and Nature". This partnership empowers youth worldwide to utilize mobile imaging to document the intricate and harmonious relationship between humanity and nature, fostering a shared commitment to a sustainable global future.

Youth Leading the Story: Building a Shared Global Commitment

As mobile imaging technology matures, it has evolved into a vital medium for public observation and social engagement. Today's young creators are increasingly directing their lenses toward the intersection of social and environmental dynamics. As a pioneer in mobile imaging innovation, vivo has long been committed to supporting creators in using visual storytelling to reflect on real-world challenges and bridge the gap between individual perspectives and community action.

UNESCO Biosphere Reserves serve as "demonstration sites" that integrate ecological conservation with sustainable community development. These sites require the fresh, innovative expressions of the young generation to highlight successful models of sustainable living. Through this initiative, vivo and UNESCO MAB are systematically empowering youth to become core advocates for ecological documentation and the advancement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Yu Meng, Vice President of Imaging at vivo emphasized: "Meaningful technology starts with people and ends with a better society. Through this collaboration, we aim to translate our professional expertise in mobile imaging into tangible support for young creators worldwide as they document ecological biodiversity and community resilience. We aspire for vivo to be a trusted companion for youth exploring the world and shaping the future.

Prof. Antonio De Sousa Abreu, Director of the Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences at UNESCO added: "Young people are essential drivers of sustainable development. Their unique outlook and creative energy are invaluable. Through this partnership with vivo, we are providing a global platform for them to use the universal language of imagery to transform stories from Biosphere Reserves into real-world impact, driving progress in areas such as human-nature relationship, education and public science, as well as indigenous and local knowledge."

A Collaborative Journey: From Observation to Impact

The initiative launches with a global open call for visual storytelling submissions via UNESCO MAB youth networks, running from March to May. Centered on the synergy between biodiversity, climate resilience, cultural heritage, and sustainable innovation, the program aims to spotlight forward-thinking solutions through a youthful lens. Winners will travel to European biosphere reserves for the Global Youth Visual Storytelling Co-Creation Camp, where their narratives will help bridge the gap between humanity and the natural world, inspiring global action for a sustainable future.

To ensure these narratives achieve both technical excellence and environmental depth, participants will be guided by a "dual-mentor" team consisting of vivo imaging specialists and UNESCO sustainability experts. These immersive experiences, bolstered by regional capacity-building workshops, are designed to empower young participants to evolve from observers into influential storytellers. The journey will culminate in a global showcase, bringing these amplified youth perspectives to the world stage to drive meaningful impact.

Vision for a Resilient Future

Looking ahead, vivo and UNESCO MAB remain dedicated to mobilizing youth creativity to translate the complex actions of biosphere reserves into visually compelling narratives. By blending cutting-edge imaging technology with human-centric actions, this partnership seeks to transcend regional and cultural boundaries. Together, these visual stories will converge into a global movement for sustainable development, helping to build a more resilient, harmonious, and promising future for all.

HONOR CEO takes center stage at MWC 2026

James Li, CEO of global AI device ecosystem company HONOR, delivered a forward-looking keynote address on the main stage of MWC 2026, outlining how AI can enhance human potential.

"We believe the essence of AI must remain human-centric," said James Li, as HONOR takes the center stage at MWC for the first time. "Our goal is to give intelligence both IQ and EQ, the power to solve, and the soul to understand. It will help us navigate a fast-changing world, so we can live each moment with joy, love, and wisdom."

HONOR delivered an outstanding performance at this year's event, anchored by a bold vision for the future—Augmented Human Intelligence (AHI)—and crowned by a true showstopper: the HONOR Robot Phone.

HONOR was rewarded the "Best Disruptive Device innovation" for the implementation and commercialisation of silicon carbon battery technology by Global Mobile (GLOMO) at MWC 2026.

This innovation empowers HONOR Magic V6 to achieve an industry-first silicon content of 25%, supporting higher energy density in an ultra-thin foldable design. At MWC 2026, HONOR also demonstrated next-generation battery innovation with the all-new HONOR Silicon-carbon Blade Battery, featuring 32% silicon content and 985 Wh/L. It signals a further leap in ultra-thin, ultra-high energy battery technology.

Furthermore, numerous global institutes has awarded a series of HONOR products, including HONOR Robot Phone, HONOR Magic V6, HONOR MagicPad4, and HONOR MagicBook Pro 14 "Best in Show"for MWC 2026, while media and analysts praised its human-centric innovation and its integration of robotics, AI, and mobile communication technologies.

HONOR's Robot Phone is the best showcase of HONOR's AHI vision, which places humanity at the center of the AI revolution, advocating for technology that seeks to enhance, not replace, human potential and creativity.

To turn this vision into reality, three forms of intelligence must work together: personal intelligence: the AI agent that lives on users' personal devices, universal intelligence: the collective brain of humanity, bringing the world's knowledge to users; and edge intelligence: like robots and electric vehicles, acting as users' new "eyes" and "hands" in the physical world.

As an embodied AI device that can sense and interact with the world, the HONOR Robot Phone exemplifies how these three intelligences can seamlessly integrate to empower anyone to become a professional filmmaker: bring AI and imaging together, unlock a whole new world of self-expression."It makes creation not only effortless, and far more exciting," says James Li.

On the stage, James Li also issued an open invitation for collaboration across the industry to create an AI device ecosystem. "We aspire to be a cool company, teaming up with the coolest minds. Together, for a cool future of AI!" he said.

Siemens delivers verified AI-driven cybersecurity solution for Industrial 5G with Palo Alto Networks

At Mobile World Congress 2026, Siemens announced a verified cybersecurity solution for industrial private 5G Networks in collaboration with Palo Alto Networks. The solution combines Siemens' Private 5G infrastructure with Palo Alto Networks' Next-Generation Firewall (NGFW), specifically optimized for AI, extensively tested to verify high availability, network resilience, and uninterrupted operations. It enables manufacturers to meet diverse industrial security requirements while maintaining the critical performance their increasingly AI-driven productions demand.

"A pharmaceutical plant has different security requirements than an automotive assembly line," said Michael Metzler, Vice President Horizontal Management Cybersecurity for Digital Industries at Siemens. "Siemens' verified solution with Palo Alto Networks addresses these industry-specific needs through purpose-built architecture. Manufacturers get secure 5G connectivity tailored to their operations without performance trade-offs."

"Palo Alto Networks and Siemens are not just connecting the factory floor, we are building the central nervous system for the future of industry - a future that is intelligent, autonomous, and secure by design," said Dharminder Debisarun, Smart Industries Cybersecurity Executive at Palo Alto Networks.

Verified solution delivers industrial-grade security

Data-driven production systems require wireless connectivity for countless sensors and mobile assets, making private 5G essential infrastructure. At the same time, cyberattacks can cause costly downtimes or compromise worker safety. Additionally, regulations like NIS2 mandate defense-in-depth security architectures meeting IEC 62443 standards. Off-the-shelf IT security solutions often create performance bottlenecks or fail to address OT-specific threats in industrial environments.

The collaboration between Siemens and Palo Alto Networks addresses this gap. Palo Alto Networks has specifically optimized its NGFW technology for Siemens' Private 5G infrastructure through Siemens' extensive testing across multiple deployment scenarios. This verification process validates that the solution delivers industrial-grade security without compromising the low latency and high throughput required for real-time production systems – a critical distinction from generic IT security approaches.

Three security elements

The solution combines three elements for enhanced cybersecurity. Siemens has specifically tested and verified the solution for industrial environments in its Digital Connectivity Lab in Erlangen (Germany):

• *Siemens' private 5G Infrastructure provides on-premises, deterministic wireless connectivity for mobile and moving assets with built-in security features protecting the core network infrastructure. The solution ensures data sovereignty and low-latency communication independent of mobile network operators.*

• *SINEC Security Monitor: Siemens software for passive, non-intrusive, continuous on-premises security monitoring during production. The system identifies communication anomalies, unauthorized devices, or potential threats without impacting production operations.*

• *Palo Alto Networks Firewall delivers Layer 7 security and dedicated OT protocol analysis specifically optimized for industrial environments. Unlike generic IT security solutions, it provides deep packet inspection for OT protocols while maintaining the low latency required for real-time control applications – now also in wireless communications via private 5G networks. This includes protection against malware, intrusion attempts, and data exfiltration without the performance degradation typical of off-the-shelf security tools.*

This verified architecture meets IEC 62443 requirements for industrial automation and control systems security while maintaining the performance characteristics essential for time-critical production applications. The solution is now available as part of the Siemens Xcelerator portfolio. T

AI × Fibre Leading an Intelligent Future: YOFC showcases all-optical innovations at MWC 2026

At MWC Barcelona 2026, Yangtze Optical Fibre and Cable Joint Stock Limited Company (YOFC), a global leader in optical communications, made a definitive statement on the future of digital infrastructure. Under the ambitious theme "AI × Fibre Leading an Intelligent Future," the company unveiled a suite of groundbreaking innovations designed to bridge the gap between traditional networking and the high-density demands of the artificial intelligence era.

The YOFC exhibition was meticulously organized into dedicated solution zones, including the AI Computing Center, Link the Global AI, Empower AI Applications, All Optical Home, and a high-profile Hollow-Core Fibre VIP Showcase. These zones collectively highlighted the company's end-to-end optical communication solutions and its latest technical milestones, signaling a shift toward more intelligent, low-latency, and sustainable global networks.

The Breakthrough of Hollow-Core Fibre

The undisputed centerpiece of YOFC's showcase was its hollow-core fibre technology, which emerged as a key technical highlight of the entire MWC event. Traditionally, optical signals travel through a solid glass core; however, YOFC's hollow-core design allows light to travel through an air-filled center. The performance gains are transformative:

Latency Reduction: It reduces transmission latency by approximately 31% compared to traditional solid-core fibres.

Nonlinear Effects: It lowers nonlinear effects by nearly three orders of magnitude, allowing for much cleaner signal transmission over long distances.

AI Readiness: These attributes directly meet the extreme high-bandwidth and ultra-low-latency requirements of large-scale AI model training and distributed computing environments.

While hollow-core technology has been a theoretical goal for years, YOFC has moved beyond the laboratory. Leveraging decades of manufacturing expertise, the company has achieved commercial-scale production of long-length, ultra-low-loss (<0.1 dB/km) hollow-core fibre. This accomplishment places YOFC among an elite group of global companies with both the core technical capability and the proven commercialization readiness to deploy this technology at scale.

A Cohesive All-Optical Ecosystem

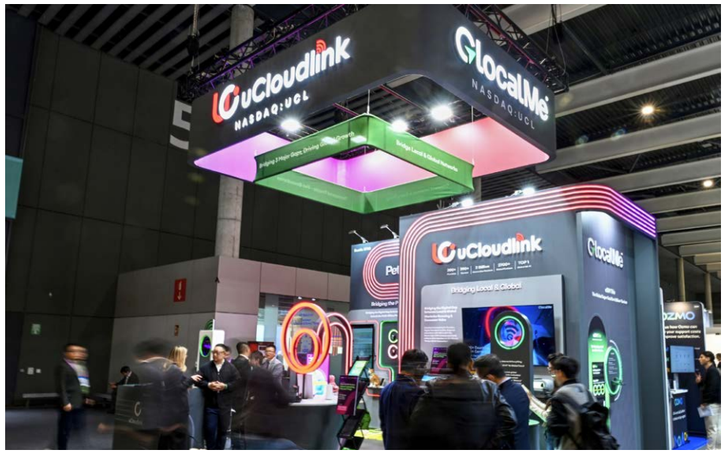
Beyond individual components, YOFC demonstrated a fully integrated all-optical ecosystem. The AI Intelligent Computing Center zone showcased how hollow-core fibre integrates seamlessly with multi-core fibre and 400G/800G optical transceivers to create high-efficiency, low-carbon computing infrastructure. Meanwhile, the Global AI Network Connectivity solution illustrated the use of G.654.E fibre and advanced submarine cables to forge intercontinental all-optical corridors.

Zhuang Dan, Executive Director and President of YOFC, emphasized the strategic importance of these developments: "The scaled deployment of hollow-core fibre represents a major step forward—from supporting the digital economy to enabling next-generation intelligent networks. We will continue to drive innovation in emerging fields such as quantum communications and intelligent computing."

By embedding low-carbon considerations throughout the R&D and production lifecycle, YOFC is ensuring that the transition to an AI-driven world is both technologically superior and environmentally responsible, supporting the long-term sustainability of digital infrastructure worldwide. T

uCloudlink mining new revenue frontiers through global connectivity, IoT, and pet tech

uCloudlink unveiled its strategic roadmap at Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2026, focusing on unlocking significant market opportunities through its unique terminal-side advantages. Driven by its proprietary CloudSIM® and AI HyperConn® technologies, the company is empowering partners to scale global networks with zero infrastructure cost while capturing untapped profits across three digital frontiers.



To turn this vision into reality, uCloudlink is aggressively bridging three critical divides to create new business gold mines:

Bridge Borders & Networks: Turning cross-border friction into limitless roaming.

Connect Everything & Internet: Uniting isolated IoT silos into a seamless worldwide web.

Transcend Species Boundaries: Closing the emotional and digital gap between humans and pets.

The Three Strategic Engines of Growth

1. The Global Connectivity Disruptor: eSIM Trio

Targeting a multi-billion-dollar "legacy" market of 4 billion smartphones with physical SIM slots, uCloudlink introduced the eSIM Trio—the industry's first "Global Super Black Card".

• **Commercial Validation:** A recent successful pilot with a major Mobile Network Operator has established a solid foundation for joint card-issuance and live network provisioning.

• **Partner Value:** With the power of "eSIM-izing" legacy handsets, the solution offers MVNOs the easiest, lowest-cost pathway to global scale, lifting these operators to prioritized positions and reducing churn.

2. The Empathetic Frontier: petpogo Ecosystem

Capitalizing on the $320 billion global pet market, uCloudlink debuted petpogo, a digital ecosystem designed for pets in the AI Era.

• **Innovation Debut:** The ecosystem features the PetPhone, an intelligent wearable, and the European debut of PetCam, an immersive 1080P Pet POV camera.

• **New Revenue Streams:** This frontier empowers carriers to move beyond basic data plans. By tapping into high-margin subscription services, partners can provide proactive care and AI-enhanced emotional connection to millions of households.

3. IoT Hyper-Growth: Operations + Algorithms

uCloudlink is committed to bringing in breakthroughs in the world of IoT. The patented technologies help our partners scale the service and streamline the process.

• **Exponential Scaling:** With IoT adoption rate growing at over 10 times year-over-year, the company's "One Platform, Unified Settlement" model enables manufacturers to transition from selling "things" to operating global "services".

• **Market-leading Precision:** Leveraging AI HyperConn®, uCloudlink manages millions of devices—from dash cams to CarPlay hubs—with millisecond-level precision across 390+ carriers.

Accelerating the "Business in Motion" Lifestyle

uCloudlink continues to lead the MBB (Mobile Broadband) and LIFE segments with flagship solutions, including:

• **MeowGo G50 Max:** An AI-powered hub integrating satellite, in-flight, and ground networks for a "Zero-Drop" travel experience.

• **OmniFlex Pro:** A Wi-Fi 7 "Always-On" guardian for the surging RV market and digital nomad lifestyle.

• **"Invisible Wi-Fi" (LIFE):** Redefining essential tools like the UniCord Pro (charging cable) and RoamPlug (travel adapter) by embedding connectivity directly into the hardware users already carry. T

MWC 2026: FiberHome highlights top 10 innovations

AT MWC 2026, FiberHome unveiled its theme 'Connecting the Bright Intelligent Future' and showcases 10 groundbreaking innovations. These cutting-edge advancements span optical-computing infrastructure, boundless intelligent networks, and industry intelligence elevation, fully presenting FiberHome's leading strength in optical communication and AI-ICT integrated innovation.

Optical-Computing Infrastructure: Guided by the vision of micro-level chip integration and macro-level cloud connectivity, FiberHome provides comprehensive optical interconnect component solutions covering the E2E "chip-cabinet-data center" scenarios, building a solid technical foundation for the AI era with leading optical technologies to ignite the leapfrog evolution in computing power.

1. Extreme Transmission:

Explore FiberHome's hollow-core fiber, which achieves an ultra-low loss of 0.06dB/km@1550nm and sets a new global benchmark for ultra-high-speed optical transmission.

2. Space Reconfiguration:

Witness the Ultra-high-core-count optical cables with "ultra-large core count + ultra-low outer diameter" that save 80% of pipeline resources, leading the high-density cabling trend.

3. Optical-Computing Interconnection:

Discover how FiberHome's OM4 PRO and OM5 series enable cost-effective 400G/800G technology evolution, empowering the upgrading of AI data center infrastructure upgrading.

Boundless Intelligent Networks:
FiberHome's full-scenario intelligent networks are purpose-built to break through long-standing capacity bottlenecks, reduce overall costs, boost operational efficiency, and help deepen value-oriented business operations.

4. Tbit + Future Optical Network Foundation:

FiberHome showcases the industry-first FliexO 1.6T Dual-Carrier Hybrid Networking System with electrical cross-connect, laying a solid cornerstone for Tbit+ future optical networks.

5. Intelligent Submarine Cable Application:

FiberHome introduces its commercially proven 400G submarine cable system, mass-deployed multi-core fiber submarine cables, and a global O&M center enabling intelligent collaborative response worldwide.

6. 10Gigabit Intelligent Connectivity:

See how an Ultra-wide intelligent 50G PON with native OLT computing power advances computing and networking convergence, and raises O&M efficiency by 30% with the support of a distributed AI engine.

7. Full-stack Innovative V-PON:

Discover FiberHome's fully self-developed V-PON featuring end-to-end independent control over core standards, chips and platforms, plus a complete automotive-grade solution ranging from OLT/ONU modules to optical cables.

8. AI-Enabled Network Operation:

Explore how FiberHome's Full-link digitalization solutions across design, construction and operation cut TCO by 15% and boost ARPU by 25% for revenue growth.

Industry Intelligence Elevation: FiberHome delivers core driving force for the in-depth digital-intelligent upgrading of global vertical sectors with its integrated "Optical + Computing + AI" intelligent solutions, injecting solid momentum into the high-quality transformation of thousands of industries.

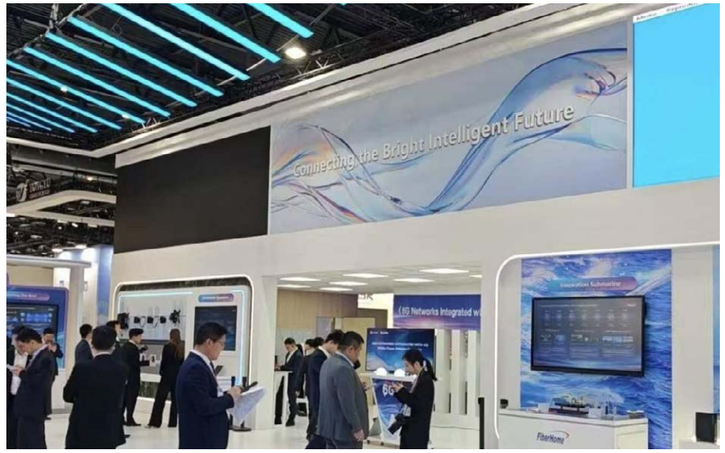
9. AI-Empowered Smart Grid Innovation:

Discover the reliable, high-efficiency intelligent grid solution, which delivers over 100km of line monitoring capability and cuts labor costs by 40%.

10. Intelligent Computing Base for Industrial Upgrade:

Witness FiberHome's 2U to 6U computing solutions covering full training scenarios, with heterogeneous computing power supporting 600W AI cards and enabling the stable single-unit operation of the full-capacity DeepSeek. T

Optical Intelligence Convergence: Connecting the Bright Intelligent Future



FiberHome at MWC 2026 has stepped into the spotlight under the theme "Connecting the Bright Intelligent Future", highlighting three core strategic areas: optical-computing infrastructure, boundless intelligent network connectivity, and industrial intelligence elevation, and fully demonstrating its cutting-edge innovations and proven global delivery capabilities.

Optical-Computing Infrastructure

AI is accelerating the rearchitecture of data centers, with emerging formats such as supernodes reshaping optical interconnection requirements across four dimensions: scale, density, distance, and speed. This has left the industry grappling with three critical pain points: space constraints, thermal management bottlenecks, and slow deployment efficiency.

To address these challenges, FiberHome has introduced an all-scenario optical interconnect component solution covering the full end-to-end chain from chips and cabinets to data centers. For intra- and inter-cabinet scale-up/out expansion, FiberHome's solutions multiply space utilization and boost deployment efficiency by 70%. For cross-scale expansion, the company delivers ultra-low-loss fiber that extends transmission distance by 50% to 100%, alongside a hollow-core fiber solution that further reduces latency by 30% with optical loss controlled below 0.1 dB/km, enabling long-haul, low-latency and low-power transmission.

Meanwhile, FiberHome has presented phase-change cooling and immersion liquid cooling solutions, achieving over 50% reduction in energy consumption while significantly improving cooling efficiency. These solutions have been deployed in AI data centers in Shanghai, Changsha and other cities.

Boundless Intelligent Network Connectivity

FiberHome's full-scenario intelligent networks, spanning from wireless technologies and V-PON to smart marine networks, are purpose-built to construct a stable and boundless intelligent network and enable efficient transmission of massive data flows in the era of AI intelligent computing.

This year, FiberHome has globally launched its new generation of compact high-efficiency antennas. While maintaining excellent performance, the antennas achieve a smaller size, lower wind load and lighter weight through the integration of multiple innovative design concepts, bringing greater flexibility and sustainability to network deployment.

As the initiator of the V-PON standard, FiberHome delivers an automotive-grade end-to-end in-vehicle optical solution with full-stack in-house R&D, empowering smarter connected vehicles.

In smart marine networks, FiberHome's transoceanic submarine cable system supports 10,000 km transmission with 26 Tbps single-fiber capacity. The company has participated in the deployment of the world's first 7-core MCF submarine cable and other commercial projects, driving innovation in global marine communications.

Industrial Intelligence Elevation

FiberHome has introduced integrated AI + industry solutions for vertical sectors including power, transportation, smart cities and emergency communications, delivering end-to-end capabilities from AI servers and unified computing platforms to scenario-based vertical applications.

The "Fiber Optic Sensing+" solution features high precision, high sensitivity, anti-electromagnetic interference and long-distance transmission, enabling real-time monitoring of temperature, vibration and strain to elevate industrial intelligence in power, transportation and emergency communications. In addition, FiberHome's industry-specific large models and intelligent interaction platforms provide cost-effective, zero-threshold AI deployment capabilities for various industries.

Moving forward, FiberHome will continue to deepen AI-ICT integrated innovation, collaborating with global partners to build an efficient, bright and intelligent future. T

Visionox at MWC 2026: AI is redefining devices and displays are becoming the experience layer

At MWC Barcelona 2026, AI is everywhere — in chips, operating systems, and cloud services. But the way people experience AI still depends on what they can see clearly, comfortably, and efficiently. That's why display technology is quietly becoming a critical layer of next-generation devices.

Visionox is presenting a portfolio focused on real-world usability across AI-driven products. One highlight is an anti-glare AMOLED laptop solution designed to reduce reflections and glare in bright environments. By using a diffused optical approach, the display keeps content readable in offices, near windows, and outdoors — while also helping reduce eye strain during long working sessions.

Power efficiency is another key theme. Visionox is showing an LTPS 20Hz low-refresh smartphone solution that lowers power consumption by more than 20% in low-brightness scenarios while maintaining stable visual performance. As AI features increasingly run in the background — from always-on assistants to contextual services — energy efficiency becomes a user-facing advantage, not just an engineering metric.

On color performance and energy balance, Visionox highlights its pTSF material system (phosphorescent-assisted sensitized fluorescence). The company states that pTSF entered commercial mass production in Q4 2025 and has been deployed in flagship smartphone models. The material expands color performance beyond DCI-P3 toward Adobe RGB and BT.2020 coverage, while also reducing power consumption by over 6% and extending device lifetime by approximately 20%.

At the high-performance end, Visionox also references its Intelligent Pixelization Technology (ViP), a lithography-based pixel patterning approach that increases the light-emitting aperture ratio from 29% to 69%, supporting pixel densities above 1700ppi. Combined with tandem stacking structures, the system is positioned to deliver significantly higher brightness or longer lifetime under demanding use cases.

Visionox develops and commercializes OLED display technologies for smartphones, wearables, IT, automotive, and emerging AI-driven devices. T

Fibocom and MediaTek launch flagship Wi-Fi 8 CPE solution

At MWC 2026, Fibocom and MediaTek unveiled a flagship CPE solution powered by the FG390 5G module and Filogic 8800 Wi-Fi 8 chipset. The new design combines 5G-A's high-speed connectivity with Wi-Fi 8's enhanced wireless performance, delivering faster, smarter, and more reliable network access for global users.

Key Highlights:

• **Powerful 5G + Wi-Fi 8 integration:** The solution integrates with the Filogic 8800 Wi-Fi 8 platform and the FG390 5G module powered by MediaTek T930, bringing together the best of 5G-A and Wi-Fi 8 to create seamless, high-performance connectivity for homes and SMB.

• **Smarter multi-AP collaboration:** Reduces interference by over 40% and boosts spectrum efficiency for smoother multi-device operation.

• **Extended coverage and stronger stability:** With Enhanced Long-Range (ELR) and dRU technologies, wall penetration and coverage increase by up to 40%, keeping edge connections stable.

• **Lower latency, higher throughput:** Latency drops to sub-millisecond levels, while throughput doubles — even with 200+ devices connected simultaneously.

• **Designed for the AI era:** Supports 2.4/5/6GHz tri-band concurrency, ensuring reliable connections for AI devices, AR/VR applications, and smart-home networks.

Evan Su, General Manager of Wireless Communications at MediaTek, stated: "MediaTek and Fibocom have maintained a long-term partnership, leveraging our complementary strengths in chip development and solution delivery. Together, we continuously innovate to unlock new FWA applications and value, empowering operators and customers globally with high-performance, intelligent, and competitive connectivity solutions." T

Viettel exhibits next-generation tech ecosystem at MWC Barcelona 2026

Viettel Group exhibited an ecosystem of 24 products and services developed end-to-end by Vietnamese engineers.

Viettel's display was organised around a full-stack approach, spanning telecom infrastructure, digital safety, and new forms of connectivity.

• **5G Open RAN Infrastructure:** Viettel's 5G Open RAN portfolio, including its 5G Open RAN ecosystem (recognised by Gartner as a Niche Player in the 2025 Magic Quadrant for CSP 5G RAN), plus 5G Core, 5G Private, security chips, and operations platforms such as NetMind AI Agent and NOCPRO. The zone also features Viettel Cloud and enterprise solutions, including Viettel Smart IP for smart industrial parks.

• **Zero Trust Lifestyle:** Consumer services built on a "Zero Trust" approach, featuring Tammi (family platform), an AI-scored lending platform, V-Shield (anti-scam protection), and the Viettel Flagship Camera for AI-enabled traffic monitoring.

• **Intelligent Connect:** Next-generation connectivity and immersive technologies, including 5G NTN via LEO satellites, a low-altitude ecosystem for eVTOL/UAV use cases, Robotic AI, Birdly VR, and the Xense AR platform.

Viettel fast-tracks 6G roadmap, targets commercial launch by 2029

At MWC Barcelona 2026, Viettel announced it is accelerating the R&D and commercialization of its proprietary 6G technology. The Vietnamese telecommunications giant has joined a global strategic alliance initiated by Qualcomm Technologies to expedite the development and global deployment of 6G, with a commercial rollout slated for 2029.

According to the roadmap, Viettel is designing 6G as an AI-native system, deeply integrating artificial intelligence across devices, networks, and cloud computing infrastructure. The technology is built on three strategic pillars: next-generation connectivity, wide-area sensing, and high-performance computing.

Viettel's 6G strategy involves active research into network architecture, with plans to conduct early testing of pre-commercial systems and devices by 2028. Beyond connectivity services, Viettel defines "6G commercialization" as a comprehensive business model encompassing homegrown network equipment, software platforms, and an AI-integrated smart device ecosystem.

Tao Duc Thang, Chairman & CEO of Viettel, stated: "Joining this global alliance underscores Viettel's commitment to mastering core technologies from the ground up. We aim to collaborate with international partners to drive innovation while integrating Vietnamese-developed technology into the global value chain."

In a significant move toward hardware autonomy, Viettel also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Qualcomm Technologies, Inc. to establish a strategic partnership for AI-integrated smart mobile devices. Under this agreement, the two parties will co-develop a flagship smartphone line. Qualcomm will provide reference designs and technical support, while Viettel will lead the development, manufacturing, and commercialization of products featuring its Agentic AI software ecosystem.

The synergy between Qualcomm's premium hardware and Viettel's Agentic AI platform is expected to define a new generation of smart devices, serving as critical endpoints in the current 5G landscape and paving the way for the 6G era.

Viettel is currently a pioneer in the large-scale deployment of 5G and Open RAN technology. With this latest announcement at MWC Barcelona 2026, the company continues to solidify its role in shaping the global 6G technical platform through architecture research, core technology testing, and international standardization efforts.

Longsys showcases storage innovations to accelerate on-device AI

At MWC Barcelona 2026, Longsys, showcased its latest suite of embedded integrated storage solutions. Operating under the evocative theme "AI Storage for the Mobile World," the company demonstrated how its next-generation offerings are facilitating a critical industry shift. As the global technology landscape moves rapidly from basic functionality toward precision-driven, high-performance storage, Longsys is positioning itself as the foundational backbone for the burgeoning era of on-device AI.

The comprehensive portfolio presented at the event covers multi-scenario AI storage products specifically engineered for the high-intensity demands of smartphones, wearables, and PCs. As AI terminals evolve, storage technology must transcend traditional limits, meeting escalating requirements for massive capacity, high-speed performance, and ultra-low power consumption. Crucially, Longsys emphasizes deep software-hardware co-optimization and system-level integration as the new industry standard to ensure complex AI models run efficiently without relying solely on the cloud.

Transforming the AI Mobile Experience

To address the ongoing DRAM supply-demand challenges in the global smartphone market, Longsys introduced its proprietary HLC (High Level Cache) technology. By integrating HLC into its UFS (Universal Flash Storage) products, the system can handle "warm" and "cold" data that was traditionally cached in expensive DRAM. This innovation significantly optimizes Bill of Materials (BOM) costs for manufacturers of AI smartphones, tablets, and embodied robots, all while maintaining a seamless, lag-free user experience.

Furthermore, Longsys is integrating pTLC technology within its UFS lineup. This allows for intelligent, firmware-driven mode switching between QLC, TLC, and SLC. This flexibility delivers TLC-grade data retention and performance but with superior cost advantages, effectively balancing capacity and endurance for demanding AI applications that require frequent data read/write cycles.

Scaling Down for AI Wearables and Scaling Up for AI PCs

As AI-powered glasses and smartwatches become high-growth categories, Longsys featured its ePOP5x, ePOP4x, and Subsize eMMC solutions. The new flagship ePOP5x is a marvel of engineering; it maintains the footprint of its predecessor while reducing thickness by 35% to a mere 0.52mm. It doubles DRAM speed to 8533Mbps, providing the ultra-compact form factor and low power consumption essential for next-generation smart eyewear and high-performance wearables.

For the AI PC segment, Longsys highlighted its high-bandwidth, low-latency mSSD storage medium. Leveraging this technology, its high-end consumer brand, Lexar, developed the industry-first AI Storage Core architecture. This enables hot-swappable, high-capacity solutions, such as the new AI-Grade Storage Stick for notebooks, designed to handle the massive real-time data throughput required for local AI processing without thermal throttling or performance bottlenecks.

By controlling the entire value chain—from controller design and firmware R&D to advanced packaging and manufacturing—Longsys is evolving from a standard storage provider into a premier branded semiconductor enterprise, building a complete ecosystem for the on-device AI era and delivering competitive integrated solutions for a diverse global market.

Back Market and Google launch ChromeOS Flex USB pilot to keep older laptops in use longer

Back Market has announced a partnership with Google to expand access to ChromeOS Flex through a limited USB pilot program designed to help compatible older laptops stay secure, fast, and useful for years.

The idea is simple: many devices still function well; they just need the right software to stay secure and relevant.

Through this initial partnership, Back Market will offer ChromeOS Flex USB keys, giving sellers, buyers, schools, and small businesses a straightforward way to install a secure, cloud-first operating system on compatible laptops. The initial pilot will be limited in scale and focused on learning how to make device extension more accessible for everyday users.

ChromeOS Flex is a secure, cloud-first operating system from Google that can be installed on many existing Windows and Mac devices. It's designed to deliver a modern web-based experience while shifting more intelligence, updates, and security to the cloud, helping compatible hardware remain useful for everyday tasks like browsing, streaming, document creation, and web-based work.

"Millions of laptops are approaching the end of their supported operating systems, even though the hardware is still perfectly fine and works," said Alexander Kuscher, Senior Director at Google. "With ChromeOS Flex and this pilot with Back Market, we're giving people a sustainable way to take back control and extend the life of their compatible devices, helping them save money while reducing unnecessary waste at the same time."

At the same time, computing itself is evolving. As AI, applications, and security updates increasingly move to the cloud, performance is no longer defined solely by what is built into a device on day one. With the right software, many older machines can continue operating as secure, capable access points to modern, cloud-powered systems.

TCL CSOT shapes a "Beyond Limits" future for displays at MWC 2026

TCL CSOT, a TCL Technology subsidiary and leader in advanced display solutions, debuted its next-generation innovations at MWC 2026. Under the "Super Pixel Beyond Limits" theme, the company showcased its Super Pixel technology and major Inkjet-printed OLED (IJP OLED) advancements.

Super Pixel: Performance Redefined

By re-engineering pixel arrangements, Super Pixel delivers three key benefits:

- ***High Clarity:*** *Increases sub-pixel density by 1.8%.*
- ***Smart Power:*** *Reduces energy consumption by up to 25%.*
- ***Rapid Refresh:*** *Boosts refresh rates by 40% for smoother motion.*

This technology debuted in three world-first 6.9-inch mobile displays focusing on clarity, low power, and high refresh rates.

IJP OLED: Manufacturing Excellence

TCL CSOT showcased transformative IJP OLED products that simplify production and unlock new performance levels:

- **Ultra-thin Notebook (14"):** At 0.77 mm and 77 grams, it is 50% lighter than conventional displays.
- **Foldable Monitor (28"):** A revolutionary tri-fold design that transforms from a 16-inch device into an ultra-wide screen.
- **Real Stripe RGB Mobile (5.65"):** Achieves 390 PPI with a Real Stripe arrangement for flawless text rendering.

These advancements, supported by the world's first 8.6-generation IJP OLED production line, demonstrate TCL CSOT's capability to manufacture high-end displays across all formats while prioritizing human-centric design and environmental sustainability.

GLOBAL ICT, TELECOM & SATCOM EVENTS 2026

23-26 March 2026 — SATSHOWWEEK — Washington, DC	05-07 May 2026 — GISEC GLOBAL — Dubai, UAE	11-14 September 2026 — ib — Amsterdam, Netherlands
01 April 2026 — 20 Years Standing for Digital Economies GAMENA LEADERS' SUMMIT 2026 — Dubai, UAE	20-22 May 2026 — COMMUNIC ASIA — Singapore	13-15 October 2026 — NETWORK X — Messe Wien Vienna, Austria
07-09 April 2026 — GITEX AFRICA Morocco — Marrakesh	20-22 May 2026 — SatelliteAsia — Singapore	27-28 October 2026 — TELECOMS WORLD Asia — SEE YOU AT ASIA'S NO.1. TELCO EVENT — Bangkok, Thailand
09-10 April 2026 — GITEX ASIA Singapore — Singapore	02-04 June 2026 — CABSAT — Dubai, UAE	02-05 November 2026 — GLOBAL MILSATCOM CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION — London, UK
13-16 April 2026 — LEAP — Riyadh, KSA	02-04 June 2026 — SATEXPO — Dubai, UAE	17-19 November 2026 — AFRICA TECH FESTIVAL — CapeTown, SA
20-21 April 2026 — DCD Connect | MENA — Dubai, UAE	24-26 June 2026 — GSMA MWC Shanghai · 上海 — Shanghai, China	08-11 December 2026 — GITEX GLOBAL — Dubai, UAE

Es'hailSat سهيل سات
Qatar Satellite Company الشركة القطرية للأقمار الصناعية

CONNECTING QATAR TO THE WORLD AND BEYOND

At Es'hailSat, we power Qatar's communications through cutting-edge satellite technology. From broadcasting and government services to business connectivity and beyond, we ensure secure, reliable, and high-performance satellite solutions across the region. Proudly rooted in Qatar, we're enabling a future that's always connected, always advancing.

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