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Acer unveils the future of gaming, debuts eight new gaming laptops and accessories



ACER, the leading global PC brands, unveiled a wide array of gaming laptops aimed at gaming enthusiasts across segments at a grand event in Mumbai. Acer is the first-ever player in the market to debut such a wide range of product portfolio at a time.

folio at a time.

Inheriting the advanced spirit of its predecessors, these devices are ready to conquer the gaming arena with the latest processor, integrated Pass-Through Feature, cutting edge 3D Technology, 4th Gen AeroBlade™, Waves MaxxAudio® Suite + Waves Nx® 3D Virtual Sound and much more to give the gamers an immersive gaming experience, more powerful devices that combine technical prowess. These exciting machines include the powerhouse Triton 900, a beast in a slim form the Triton 500, Helios 700, Helios 300- 17 inch, Helios 300- 15 Inch. To tantalize casual gamers and performance enthusiasts, Acer India also launched Nitro 7, Nitro 5 17-inch, Nitro 5 15-inch, and associated accessories.

XIAOMI MAKES FORTUNE GLOBAL 500 LIST FOR THE FIRST TIME

Xiaomi Corporation announced that the company has for the first time made the Fortune Global 500 list, nine years after its iteration.



The Beijing-based global technology leader is the youngest company on the Fortune Global 500 list for 2019, ranking 468th, with a revenue of US\$26,443.50 million and a net profit of US\$2,049.10 million in the

previous fiscal year. The company also ranks 7th in the Internet Services and Retailing category.

"It took Xiaomi only nine years to make the Fortune Global 500 list, a milestone that we owe a big thank you to all our Mi Fans and users for their unwavering support. We are also the youngest company on this year's list, a proud record that we will keep in mind and bring to another level in the global expansion journey," said Lei Jun, Founder, Chairman and CEO of Xiaomi.

"Over the past year, we have made significant improvements and adjustments in our core strategies, management structures, technology research and development systems, product lineups, brand developments, and much more. These moves have empowered Xiaomi to continuously shine, even in the face of fierce competition from domestic and international peers. This honor does not mark the end of our pursuit, but simply a new beginning. We remain committed to making amazing and highly innovative products at honest prices, as our philosophy states, in an effort to let our Mi Fans, users and investors enjoy a better life," Lei Jun added.

Hewlett Packard Enterprise Advances its Intelligent Data Platform with Acquisition of MapR's Business Assets



Hewlett Packard Enterprise announced it has acquired the business assets of MapR, a leading data platform for artificial intelligence and analytics applications powered by scale-out, multi-cloud and multi-protocol file system technology.

This transaction includes MapR's technology, intellectual property, and domain expertise in artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML) and analytics data management. HPE welcomes MapR customers and partners and plans to support existing deployments along with

ongoing renewals.

"The explosion of data is creating a new era of intelligence where the winners will be the ones who harness the power of data, wherever it lives," said Antonio Neri, president and CEO of Hewlett Packard Enterprise. "MapR's file system technology enables HPE to offer a complete portfolio of products to drive artificial intelligence and analytics applications and strengthens our ability to help customers manage their data assets end to end, from edge to cloud."

This asset acquisition accelerates HPE's Intelligent Data Platform capabilities and helps customers optimize workload solutions for mission-critical big-data workflows – whether they are cloud-native or on-premises.

Lenovo and Intel Announce Multiyear Global Collaboration to Extend HPC and AI Leadership



Intel and Lenovo announced a multiyear collaboration focused on the rapidly growing opportunity in the convergence of high-performance computing (HPC) and artificial intelligence (AI) to help accelerate solutions for the world's most challenging problems. Building on the companies' long-standing partnership in the data center, the multiyear global collaboration will speed the convergence of HPC and AI, creating

solutions for organizations of all sizes.

Lenovo, the leading global system provider of TOP500 supercomputers will be optimizing Intel's full portfolio of HPC and AI hardware and software solutions to serve as the foundation for its market strategy. Working together, the companies aim to accelerate the convergence of HPC and AI to unlock new levels of customer insight. The combination of 2nd Gen Intel® Xeon® Scalable platform and Lenovo Neptune™ liquid cooling technology has already produced remarkable results from joint engineering and utilizing a unique combination of HPC IP from the two companies. Today, 173 of the world's TOP500 fastest supercomputers, spanning 19 markets run on Lenovo servers. Additionally, 17 of the world's top 25 research universities rely on Lenovo infrastructure.

Huawei Announces H1 2019 Revenue: 23.2% YoY Growth

Huawei announced its business results for the first half of 2019: CNY401.3 billion in revenue, a 23.2% increase over the same period last year. The company's net profit margin for H1 2019 was 8.7%.

According to Huawei's Chairman, Liang Hua, operations are smooth and the organization is as sound as ever. With effective management and an excellent performance across all financial indicators, Huawei's business has remained robust in the first half of 2019.

"Revenue grew fast up through May," said Liang. "Given the foundation we laid in the first half of the year, we continue to see growth even after we were added to the entity list. That's not to say



we don't have difficulties ahead. We do, and they may affect the pace of our growth in the short term."

He added, "But we will stay the course. We are fully confident in what the future holds, and we will continue investing as planned – including a total of CNY120 billion in R&D this year. We'll get through these challenges, and we're confident that Huawei will enter a new stage of growth after the worst of this is behind us."

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Jio and Microsoft announce alliance to accelerate digital transformation in India



Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited (Jio), a subsidiary of Reliance Industries Limited, and Microsoft Corp. are embarking on a unique, comprehensive, long-term strategic relationship aimed at accelerating the digital transformation of the Indian economy and society. This 10-year commitment combines the world-class capabilities of both companies to offer a detailed set of solutions comprising connectivity, computing, storage solutions, and other technology services and applications essential for Indian businesses and will span the broad Reliance Industries ecosystem including its existing and new businesses.

In combining efforts, Jio and Microsoft aim to enhance the adoption of leading technologies like data analytics, AI, cognitive services, blockchain, Internet of Things, and edge computing among small and medium enterprises to make them ready to compete and grow, while helping accelerate technology-led GDP growth in India and driving adoption of next-gen technology solutions at scale.

As part of this new agreement:

- Jio will provide its internal workforce with cloud-based productivity and collaboration tools available with Microsoft 365 and will migrate its

non-network applications to the Microsoft Azure cloud platform.

- Jio's connectivity infrastructure that aims to connect everyone, everything, everywhere will promote the adoption of the Microsoft Azure cloud platform within its growing ecosystem of startups, as part of Jio's cloud-first strategy.
- Jio will set up data centers in locations across India, consisting of next-generation compute, storage and networking capabilities, and Microsoft will deploy its Azure platform in these data centers to support Jio's offerings. The initial two data centers, which can house IT equipment consuming upto 7.5 MW of power, are being set up in the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra. These are targeted to be fully operational in calendar year 2020.
- Jio will leverage the Microsoft Azure cloud platform to develop innovative cloud solutions focused on the needs of Indian businesses. Through these Jio-developed solutions:
- Indian startups will have access to efficient and affordable cloud infrastructure and platform services, enabling them to develop innovative products and services faster and more cost-effectively.

EDITORIAL

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- Small and medium businesses in India will have access to a range of cloud-based productivity, collaboration and business applications including Office 365, enabling them to compete more effectively in the Indian marketplace.
- Large companies will be able to accelerate their own digital transformations by leveraging new Jio solutions that can work with Microsoft offerings already in use today within many large enterprises.
- The partner ecosystem in India will have the opportunity to leverage Jio's new offerings to serve the unique needs of their customers and rapidly grow their businesses.
- Jio will be executing on its vision of integrated speech and computer vision solutions for Indian customers by working together with Microsoft to develop solutions that support major Indian languages and dialects, which will promote the adoption of technology across all cross-sections of Indian society.

Syntizen felicitated with “Top-10 Hot Startups in Hyderabad” Award for the year 2019 by HYSEA



Syntizen, one of the leading digital identity solutions providers in India, has now received the “Top-10 Hot Startups in Hyderabad” award by HYSEA (Hyderabad Software Enterprises Association). The award ceremony was a part of 27th edition of ‘HYSEA Product Awards & Showcase

2019’ held at Hyderabad International Convention Centre on 1st of August, 2019.

The annual summit is held to recognize interesting products and tech-driven startups across different categories that are both disruptive and futuristic. Several dignitaries attended the

award ceremony including Telangana Chief Secretary S K Joshi, IT Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, and Founder Chairman and CEO of Sampark Foundation, Veneet Nayar. Syntizen – the Aadhaar-based digital identity solutions provider – has developed a proprietary solution for the Telangana Government which has saved crores of rupees through targeted delivery of subsidies and government-funded programmes.

Speaking on the development, Siddharth Kukatlapalli, CBO and Co-founder, Syntizen said, “We are extremely delighted to be nominated and recognized as the ‘Top-10 Hot Startups in Hyderabad’. The entire Syntizen team has dedicatedly worked towards building the platform up from the scratch and has been charged with a renewed energy after receiving the award. We would like to thank all the jury members for recognizing the core competencies of the platform. This will further add fuel to our exponential growth trajectory.”

WAN is a Revolution for Enterprises with a Cloud-First Strategy



Just a few years ago, software-defined wide area networking (SD-WAN) was a “new” technology just breaking into the awareness of the IT market. It arrived at the time when enterprises were changing from moving applications and data to “a” cloud platform, to expanding to multiple clouds. SaaS application providers for CRM, HR, finance, and supply chain were firmly established as critical business resources that need to be accessible from anywhere via direct internet connections.

These were all positive changes, but not without a certain amount of pain. In particular, the traditional WANs were struggling with these new demands. The WAN architecture worked well when all connections from branches and a distributed workforce flowed back to a central data center through MPLS lines, where security policies were also applied. But the hub and spoke WAN architecture broke down as more direct internet connections were needed to access multi-cloud resources and SaaS applications. Continuing to backhaul all traffic to data centers before routing to internet cloud applications results in increasing MPLS costs, bandwidth inefficiencies, increased latency, and poor application quality of experience. In addition, WANs were often composed of components from multiple vendors, limiting the visibility and control over performance and troubleshooting.

SD-WAN was designed to answer these challenges. The technology provides methods to prioritize critical business traffic and take advantage of internet broadband connections—previously used for backup and redundancy—to connect directly to multicloud resources. SD-WAN simplifies the management of the wide area network fabric with a controller-first overlay that is independent of transport layers—MPLS, Ethernet, internet, leased lines, DSL, LTE networks, and soon 5G. SD-WAN controllers intelligently choose among the available transport mediums to deliver the best application performance as defined by IT service level agreements (SLA).

The Evolution of Cisco SD-WAN

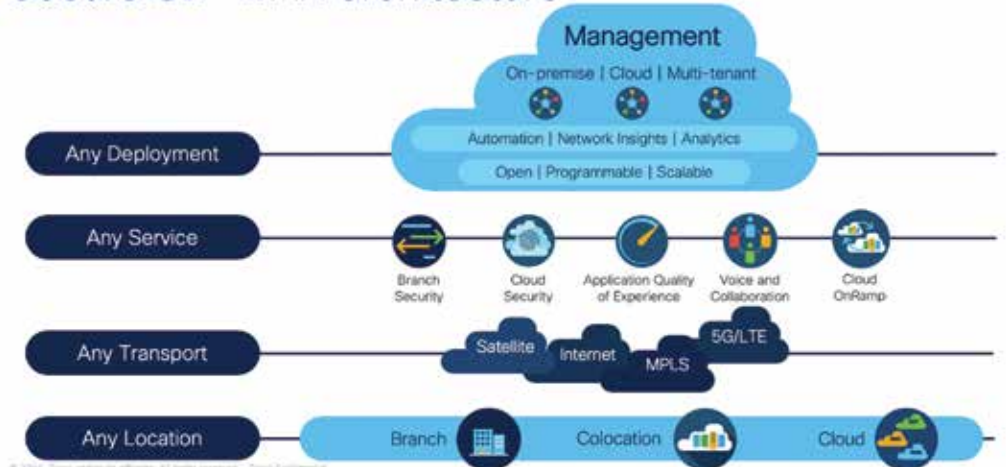
In the early stages of SD-WAN, engineers at Viptela developed a flexible SD-WAN architecture based on cloud management and controllers (vManage and vSmart) and virtualized network function edge routers (vEdge). Their version of SD-WAN followed the same software-defined architecture as Cisco’s Digital Network Architecture (DNA), separating the Data, Control, and Management Planes for maximum flexibility. Viptela’s architecture made it a natural extension to Cisco’s Intent-Based Networking vision. Viptela’s visionary team

and technology were acquired by Cisco two years ago this week—August 1st to be precise. Rapid innovations and integrations have been ongoing ever since.

Many of the innovations we’ve added come from listening to our enterprise customers who are seeking a solution to unite multi-domain cloud

that are already serving branches and campus networks worldwide. Cisco IOS XE, released a year ago, provides an instant upgrade path for creating cloud-controlled SD-WAN fabrics to connect distributed offices, people, devices, and applications operating on the installed base of ISR/ASR routers. At the same time, we added the ability to

Secure SD-WAN architecture



resources across a distributed organization. We hear that they need ways to simplify the interconnection of the domains with unified access and security policies applied across campus, branch, and cloud. Let’s look at the capabilities we’ve added to make Cisco SD-WAN powered by Viptela an enterprise-class platform that meets these needs and more.

Looking Deep Inside SD-WAN Operations

Networks are becoming much more complex as organizations tie data centers, remote branches, and a distributed workforce with multi-cloud applications using connectivity options like direct internet and LTE that are outside the direct control of IT. Therefore, it’s important to be able to see inside the WAN to monitor, measure, and adjust the parameters affecting performance. That’s why one of the first capabilities Cisco added to the SD-WAN stack was Cisco vAnalytics, a cloud-based tool for monitoring and analyzing SD-WAN performance via the vManage portal. vAnalytics provides specific information that enables IT to readily monitor bandwidth usage, application performance, and detect anomalies based on baseline application usage. Going forward, vAnalytics will incorporate more artificial intelligence and machine reasoning, as was recently introduced in Cisco AI Network Analytics.

Expanding SD-WAN to Cisco ISR/ASR Edge Routers

When considering a new technology, IT leaders prefer to avoid the need to “rip and replace”. Cisco alleviates that concern by making SD-WAN available to run on over a million ISR/ASR routers

run SD-WAN as virtualized network functions in a cloud provider’s IaaS platform, providing even more flexibility to quickly extend SD-WAN to the cloud.

SD-WAN Full Stack Security Protects Branch Data and Cloud Applications

When using the internet to connect branches and remote employees with cloud applications, sensitive data could pass over multiple networks outside of the control of IT, increasing security risks. Protecting the data while making it available on-demand to the workforce presents a series of technical and enforcement challenges.

To allay those concerns, Cisco, one of the top worldwide providers of network security solutions, integrated full-stack security into SD-WAN running on edge routers. Cisco SD-WAN Security is built-in, not composed of separate bolted-on components from a disparate variety of vendors, making security easy to manage via the vManage cloud portal. By integrating an application-aware firewall, intrusion detection and prevention, advanced malware protection, and Cisco Umbrella DNS cloud security layer, data security is easily and consistently maintained across branches.

In addition to securing branch and distributed workforce connections, IT wants to holistically address security concerns across multiple domains. That means setting access and security policies once and having them permeate the enterprise across data center, campus, and branch, to the cloud edge where IoT devices increasingly need to do local processing. Because Cisco designs security using an end-to-end perspective,

creating cross-domain policies is not only possible, but a necessary capability as applications, data, and devices become more distributed and the workforce more mobile. Cisco is enabling unified policy management by linking ACI in the data center with SD-Access in the campus and SD-WAN for branches so that segmentation and security are applied consistently all the way from people and devices to the application hosting cloud platforms.

SD-WAN Cloud OnRamp for CoLocation Consolidates Regional Branch Connectivity

With SD-WAN making it simpler to configure and manage connections from branches to cloud resources, it's just one more step to consolidate many regional branches under a common colocation facility. Creating an onramp connection from each of many branches to a colocation facility hosting a virtualized SD-WAN reduces the need for edge routers at each location and centralizes the management while providing all the same security and transport layer options.

In many cases, the target cloud providers and SaaS applications reside in the same colocation facility, thus shortening the paths and reducing latency to further improve application performance for potentially dozens to hundreds of branches. Additional virtualized SD-WAN instances in the colocations can also be quickly spun up to connect new branches as quickly as needed. SD-WAN Cloud OnRamp for CoLocation joins Cisco's Cloud

OnRamp for IaaS and SaaS to extend connectivity management from branches to multiple cloud platforms to provide granular control over application quality of experience via vManage.

Evolution of SD-WAN Continues for Revolutionary Results

All these innovations integrated into Cisco SD-WAN powered by Viptela are fundamental to building an Intent-Based Network. Built-in network intelligence translates business intents into network actions that provide consistent access policies, security for devices and data, and a high-quality application experience for a distributed workforce. Integrating multicloud compute resources with cross-domain access drives a revolution in business as enterprises strive to connect information to people anywhere at any time to improve employee productivity and customer experience.

National Instruments, an international leader in test and measurement systems, implemented SD-WAN to solve a number of IT and business problems. Like many organizations with a globally distributed workforce, the network supports communication services, software distribution, and access to applications and data resources among worldwide sites. The existing WAN greatly constrained video conferencing, slowed large software transfers, and couldn't provide acceptable application performance. Implementing SD-WAN turned those issues around by:

- Reducing MPLS spending by 25% while increasing bandwidth by 3,075%.
- Categorizing traffic by function and type, sending backup traffic over the Internet under an SLA, eliminating bandwidth bottle neck on MPLS circuits.
- Reducing the time for software updates to replicate across the network from 8 hours to 10 minutes.
- Adding new internet-based services used to take months, with the agility of SD-WAN new services can be deployed in the cloud immediately.
- Eliminating the need for call admission controls and limiting video quality for conferencing. Enterprises are gaining advantages such as these by upgrading their aging WAN technology to SD-WAN. It's not just cost savings by supplementing or replacing MPLS with direct internet connections that is motivating the transition to software-defined WAN architecture. It's also about gaining flexibility and stability with intelligent, continuously monitored connections to multicloud resources and SaaS applications that are fueling the transition. In a software-defined world, people, devices, applications, and data are all securely connected to ensure organizations run efficiently as they tackle digital transformation projects. How will you use SD-WAN to support your digital revolution?



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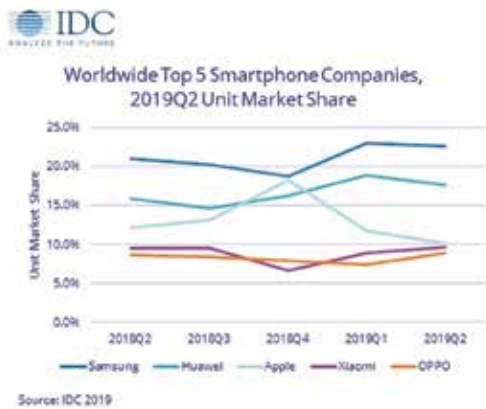
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Smartphone Shipments Decline 2.3% on Continued Challenges Across Most Major Regions



Smartphone vendors shipped a total of 333.2 million phones in 2Q19, which was up 6.5% over the previous quarter.

Challenges were seen across many markets with China and the United States experiencing the sharpest quarterly declines. However, the declines in China during the first half of 2019 have been less severe than the second half of 2018, suggesting some recovery is underway in the world's largest single market. Asia/Pacific (excluding Japan and China) continued the strong momentum from 2018 with shipments up more than 3% in the quarter fueled by growth across India and many Southeast Asia markets.

"Despite a lot of uncertainty surrounding Huawei the company managed to hold its position at number two in terms of market share," said Ryan Reith, program vice president with IDC's Worldwide Mobile Device Trackers. "When you look at the top of the market – Samsung, Huawei, and Apple – each vendor lost a bit of share from last quarter, and when you look down the list the next three – Xiaomi, OPPO, and vivo – all gained. Part of this is related to the timing of product launches, but it is hard not to assume this trend could continue."

The vendor landscape at the top of the market continues to get stronger while the struggles for

local OEMs and old school industry names got worse. In 2Q19, the top 5 vendors accounted for 69% of the total market volume, and the top 10 vendors accounted for 87%. This trend is making the vendor playing field for smartphones look more and more like the PC market. With 5G beginning to unfold in many markets around the world, the challenges are sure to increase for any vendors without strong consumer mindshare.

A key driver in the second quarter was the availability of vastly improved mid-tier devices that offer premium designs and features while significantly undercutting the ultra-high-end in price. Combine this with intensified and generous trade-in programs across major markets and channels and upgrading now makes more sense to consumers."

Smartphone Company Highlights

Samsung maintained the top position in the market for 2Q19 and returned to annual growth of 5.5% with a total of 75.5 million smartphones shipped. As noted in its recent earnings call, the company struggled to sell flagship devices as many consumers are holding onto devices longer than ever and opting for a less expensive replacement option. The pending announcement of the next Galaxy Note device likely held off some of those that are loyal to the brand. Meanwhile, Samsung's A-series devices did well in the quarter, particularly the A50 and A70.

Huawei saw its shipment volumes decline 0.6% when compared to 1Q19, which could be regarded as better than expected given U.S.-China trade tensions. Shipment volumes in China hit an all-time high and accounted for 62% of Huawei's 2Q19 total with 36.4 million units. The China success during the quarter was in part due to actions taken following the U.S. trade ban as Huawei relocated significant human resources back to China with a focus on distribution channel management in the Chinese lower-tier cities. The P30 and P30 Pro, which launched in mid-April, also had a relatively good reception as its

predecessor, P20 series, had created a positive ripple effect.

Apple shipped 33.8 million new iPhones during 2Q19, which was down significantly from the same quarter a year ago. However, when factoring in the success of the iPhone upgrade program as well as Apple's ability to sell more refurbished iPhones through its channels, the argument can easily be made that its position in the market is still dominant. Regardless of slightly lower market share and device selling prices, as pointed out in yesterday's earnings call, the iPhone installed base continues to grow. So irrespective of the hardware – as a new iPhone, an older model, or a refurbished product – the expansion of iOS users is what appears to matter most going forward.

Xiaomi experienced a small year-over-year decline during the quarter with a total of 32.3 million smartphones shipped. Xiaomi is still facing challenges in returning to positive year-over-year growth in China in part due to increased competition from Huawei. In India, the success story for Xiaomi continues as it has been able to maintain its momentum due to its focus on both offline and online channels. It continues to expand its offline network and aims to have 10,000 retail stores by the end of 2019.

OPPO performed well in China and India, which together accounted for nearly three-quarters of its shipments in 2Q19. India remains an important market for OPPO in the Asia/Pacific region, especially as Huawei ramps up its efforts in China. In India, the focus on strengthening its channel partnership by offering very attractive margins has been one of the major drivers for OPPO's local growth. In China, OPPO launched its Reno series in the quarter, but Huawei's new P series impacted its sales performance. Nevertheless, its low-end model the A9, and online-exclusive model, K3, did help to support its overall performance, especially during the "618" online shopping festival.

Top 5 Smartphone Companies, Worldwide Shipments, Market Share, and Year-Over-Year Growth, Q2 2019 (shipments in millions)

Company	2Q19 Shipments	2Q19 Market Share	2Q18 Shipments	2Q18 Market Share	Year-Over-Year Change
1. Samsung	75.5	22.7%	71.5	21.0%	5.5%
2. Huawei	58.7	17.6%	54.2	15.9%	8.3%
3. Apple	33.8	10.1%	41.3	12.1%	-18.2%
4. Xiaomi	32.3	9.7%	32.4	9.5%	-0.2%
5. OPPO	29.5	8.9%	29.4	8.6%	0.3%
Others	103.4	31.0%	112.4	32.9%	-8.0%
Total	333.2	100.0%	341.2	100.0%	-2.3%

Source: IDC Quarterly Mobile Phone Tracker, Q2 2019, July 31, 2019

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AI Augmentation Will Create \$2.9 Trillion of Business Value in 2021

Augmented intelligence is a human-centered partnership model of people and AI working together to enhance cognitive performance. This includes learning, decision making and new experiences. "Augmented intelligence is all about people taking advantage of AI," said Svetlana Sicular, research vice president at Gartner. "As AI technology evolves, the combined human and AI capabilities that augmented intelligence allows will deliver the greatest benefits to enterprises."

Business Value of Augmented Intelligence

AI business value forecast highlights decision support/augmentation as the largest type of AI by business value-add with the fewest early barriers to adoption (see Figure 1). By 2030, decision support/augmentation will surpass all other types of AI initiatives to account for 44% of the global AI-derived business value.

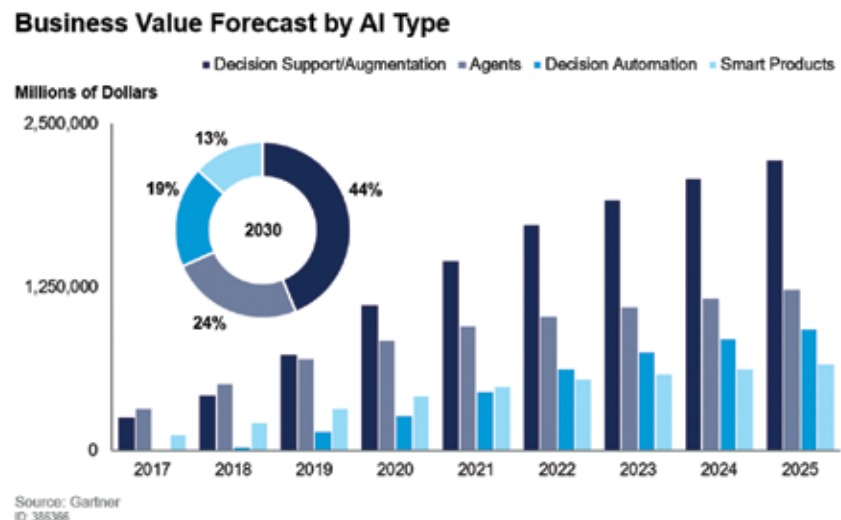
Augmented Intelligence Enhances Customer Experience

Customer experience is the primary source of AI-derived business value, according to the Gartner AI business value forecast. Augmented intelligence reduces mistakes while delivering cus-

tomers convenience and personalization at scale, democratizing what was previously available to the select few. "The goal is to be more efficient with automation, while complementing it with a human touch and common sense to manage the risks of decision automation," said Ms. Sicular. "The excitement about AI tools, services and

algorithms misses a crucial point: The goal of AI should be to empower humans to be better, smarter and happier, not to create a 'machine world' for its own sake," said Ms. Sicular. "Augmented intelligence is a design approach to winning with AI, and it assists machines and people alike to perform at their best."

Figure 1: Worldwide Business Value by AI Type (Millions of Dollars)



Open-Sourcing Photo- and Video-Matching Technology to Make the Internet Safer

At Facebook, we rely on a combination of technology and people to help keep our platforms safe. When we identify a harmful piece of content, such as child exploitation, terrorist propaganda, or graphic violence, technology can help us find duplicates and prevent them from being shared.

Today, we are open-sourcing two technologies that detect identical and nearly identical photos and videos — sharing some of the tech we use to fight abuse on our platform with others who are working to keep the internet safe. These algorithms will be open-sourced on GitHub so our industry partners, smaller developers and non-profits can use them to more easily identify abusive content and share hashes — or digital fingerprints — of different types of harmful content. For those who already use their own or other content matching technology, these technologies are another layer of defense and allow hash-sharing systems to talk to each other, making the systems that much more powerful.

"In just one year, we witnessed a 541% increase in the number of child sexual abuse videos reported by the tech industry to the CyberTipline. We're confident that Facebook's generous contribution of this open-source technology will ultimately lead to the identification and rescue of more child sexual abuse victims," said John Clark, President and CEO of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC).

Over the years, Facebook has contributed hundreds of open-source projects to share our technology with the wider community, but this is the first time we've shared any photo-



or video-matching technology. Building on Microsoft's generous contribution of PhotoDNA to fight child exploitation 10 years ago and the more recent launch of Google Content Safety API, today's announcement also is part of an industry-wide commitment to building a safer internet.

Known as PDQ and TMK+PDQF, these technologies are part of a suite of tools we use at Facebook to detect harmful content, and there

are other algorithms and implementations available to industry such as pHash, Microsoft's PhotoDNA, aHash, and dHash. Our photo-matching algorithm, PDQ, owes much inspiration to pHash although was built from the ground up as a distinct algorithm with independent software implementation. The video-matching technology, TMK+PDQF, was developed together by Facebook's Artificial Intelligence Research team and academics from the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia in Italy.

These technologies create an efficient way to store files as short digital hashes that can determine whether two files are the same or similar, even without the original image or video. Hashes can also be more easily shared with other companies and non-profits. For example, when we identify terrorist propaganda on our platforms, we remove it and hash it using a variety of techniques, including the algorithms we're sharing today. Then we share the hashes with industry partners, including smaller companies, through GIFCT so they can also take down the same content if it appears on their services.

PDQ and TMK+PDQF were designed to operate at high scale, supporting video-frame-hashing and real-time applications. We designed these technologies based on our experience detecting abuse across billions of posts on Facebook. We hope that by contributing back to the commu-

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nity we'll enable more companies to keep their services safe and empower non-profits that work in the space. This work is in addition to our ongoing research in these areas, including our partnership with The University of Maryland, Cornell University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and The University of California, Berkeley to research new techniques to detect intentional adversarial manipulations of videos and photos to circumvent our systems. We're announcing these technologies today to support our fourth annual cross-industry Child

Safety Hackathon at Facebook's headquarters in Menlo Park, California. The two-day event brings together nearly 80 engineers and data scientists from Technology Coalition partner companies and others to develop new technologies that help safeguard children.

This year's event is focused on developing new tools to help our partners, NCMEC and Thorn. For example, some teams will develop a prototype feature that will allow NCMEC's CyberTipline case management tool to query and compare data points within other nonprofit organi-

zations' databases for known hashes and other key information. This will help identify children at risk and highlight high value reports. The open source code released today also will be made available to teams at the hackathon.

Hackathons are an exciting way to bring people together from different organizations with a wide range of expertise to build tools that tackle problems such as the online sexual exploitation of children. All non-open-source code and prototypes developed at the event will be donated back to the Technology Coalition and our partners to be used in their child-safety efforts.

A look at how words impact men and women differently at work



LinkedIn released the new report, *Language Matters: How Words Impact Men and Women in the Workplace*. The report takes an in-depth look at how the words different genders use to describe themselves, could impact their experiences at work and during the hiring process.

This report intends to highlight data and insights that highlight professional trends and empower job-seekers and companies to make changes toward a more diverse, gender-balanced workforce. Please see below for key highlights:

Using certain words in your job description will discourage women from applying to your jobs. 44% of women (33% men) would be discouraged from applying if the word 'aggressive' was included in a job description and one in four women would be discouraged from working somewhere described as 'demanding.' Check words like these at the door.

Men and women characterize themselves differently at work. While the top 3 words for both men and women when describing themselves in a job interview were: "hard-working" (58% of women and 49% of men), "good at my job" (48% of women and 42% of men) and "confident" (42% of women and 40% of men), women also prioritized terms that relate to their character to describe themselves in an interview: like 'likeable' (38% of women and 29% of men) and 'supportive' (39% of women and 32% of men).

Both men and women think soft skills are their thing. More than half of women respondents (61%)

associate the female gender with the term 'soft skills' and interestingly, a majority of men (52%) associate soft skills with the male gender. Despite these findings, in practice, women are more likely to actively showcase their soft skills on LinkedIn, and men their hard skills.

Both men and women see themselves as 'powerful' in the workplace, but in the media, assumptions about professional traits are often tied strongly to gender. Both men and women react equally positively to being described by more definitive language such as 'powerful'; 'strong-willed'; and 'confident.' However, our research found that Mark Zuckerberg described as 'powerful' nearly 6X more than Sheryl Sandberg.

When it comes to benefits, men and women want similar things, but women often prefer to talk about a role in the context of workplace culture: atmosphere, structure, benefits. Positions that promoted flexible working (60%), working from home (30%) and additional medical benefits (45%) were most popular amongst women. However, flexibility is increasingly important for male workers, too, with 50% of men, just slightly less than 60% of women.

Email attacks are having a major impact on businesses



Barracuda, a trusted partner and leading provider of cloud-enabled security solutions, released key findings from a report with the title *2019 Email Security Trends*. Commissioned by Barracuda, the research surveyed global IT stakeholders to capture their experiences and attitudes about the current state of email security.

The survey includes responses from 660 executives, individual contributors and team managers serving in IT-security roles in the Americas, EMEA, and APAC. Companies surveyed include small, mid-sized, and enterprise businesses in technology, financial services, education, healthcare, manufacturing, government, telecommunication, retail,

and other industries. A wide range of questions captured hard data about phishing, insider threats and Office 365, as well as the related business impacts, security spending and costs of breaches. Overall, the study indicates that while most IT professionals are more confident about their email security systems than they were a year ago, email attacks continue to have a significant impact on businesses. Highlights include:

- Email attacks are having a direct business impact and impacting the personal lives of IT security professionals.
- ★ 74% of respondents said that email attacks are having a major impact on their businesses.
- ★ The most common effects cited were loss of employee productivity, downtime and business disruption, and damage to the reputation of the IT team.
- ★ Nearly three-quarters of respondents reported experiencing higher stress levels, worrying about potential email security even when they're not at work, and being forced to work nights and weekends to address email security issues.
- Phishing and ransomware are top concerns.

★ 43% of organizations have been the victim of a spear-phishing attack in the past 12 months.

• Breach costs and monetary losses are on the rise.

★ 78% of organizations said that the cost of email breaches is increasing.

★ 66% claimed that attacks have had a direct monetary cost on their organization in the past year.

★ Nearly a quarter of respondents advised that attacks have cost their organization \$100,000 or more.

• Employees remain a major weak link in an organization's security defenses.

★ More than three-quarters of organizations said their employees aren't good at spotting suspicious emails.

• There are growing concerns about insider threats and Office 365.

★ 79% of IT professionals said they are worried about attacks and breaches stemming from inside the organization.

★ 92% of Office 365 users have security concerns

Intel Launches First 10th Gen Intel Core Processors



Intel officially launched 11 new, highly integrated 10th Gen Intel® Core™ processors designed for remarkably sleek 2 in 1s and laptops. The processors bring high-performance artificial intelligence (AI) to the PC at scale, feature new Intel® Iris® Plus graphics for stunning entertainment and enable the best connectivity¹ with Intel® Wi-Fi 6 (Gig+) and Thunderbolt™ 3. Systems are expected from PC manufacturers for the holiday season. “These 10th Gen Intel Core processors shift the paradigm for what it means to deliver leadership in mobile PC platforms. With broad-

scale AI for the first time on PCs, an all-new graphics architecture, best-in-class Wi-Fi 6 (Gig+) and Thunderbolt 3 – all integrated onto the SoC, thanks to Intel’s 10nm process technology and architecture design – we’re opening the door to an entirely new range of experiences and innovations for the laptop.” –Chris Walker, Intel corporate vice president and general manager of Mobility Client Platforms in the Client Computing Group. 10th Gen Intel Core processors are foundational to Intel’s journey in enabling uncompromising and workload-optimized PC platforms with performance leadership across all vectors of computing. In addition to performance and responsiveness gains, AI, graphics, connectivity and I/O are optimized on the SoC for a solution that delivers a feature-rich suite of capabilities for OEMs to create laptops for people to watch, game and create more.

Samsung Electronics Takes 3D Memory to New Heights



Samsung Electronics, the world leader in advanced memory technology, announced that it has begun mass producing 250-gigabyte (GB) SATA solid state drive (SSD) that integrates the company’s sixth-generation (1xx-layer) 256-gigabit (Gb) three-bit V-NAND for global PC OEMs. By launching a new generation of V-NAND in just 13 months, Samsung has reduced the mass production cycle by four months while securing the industry’s highest performance, power efficiency and manufacturing productivity.

“By bringing cutting-edge 3D memory technology to volume production, we are able to introduce timely memory lineups that significantly raise the bar for speed and power efficiency,” said Kye Hyun Kyung, executive vice president of Solution Product & Development at Samsung Electronics. “With faster development cycles for next-generation V-NAND products, we plan to rapidly expand the markets for our high-speed, high-capacity 512Gb V-NAND-based solutions.”

HONOR announces “HONOR VISION” with “HONGHU 818” intelligent chipset



HONOR, a global smartphone brand under Huawei Consumer Business Group has announced “HONOR Vision” which introduces the “Honghu 818” intelligent chipset and smart pop-up camera for large screens.

The announcement was made at the Global Mobile Internet Conference (GMIC) in Guangzhou, where Mr. George Zhao, President of HONOR delivered a

keynote speech, titled “Only the toughest stands in the strongest storm”.

Alongside the launch of the two new technologies was the announcement of HONOR’s new “Sharp Tech” concept, which aims to embrace and explore to the fullest the latest cutting-edge technologies.

“5G commercialization in China began in 2019, which is also a turning point for the smart device industry. We believe 5G is key to this new era of digitalization, enabling a world where the Internet of Things is made possible. In line with our mission of creating an intelligent new world that belongs to young people, HONOR unveils the concept of ‘Sharp Tech’ to encourage and enable technology innovation,” said George Zhao, President of HONOR.

MediaTek Introduces New Helio G Series Chipsets – Helio G90 & G90T



MediaTek announced the launch of its Helio G90 series chipsets with Helio G90 & G90T exclusively designed to be the core of an incredible smartphone gaming experience.

The Helio G90 Series combines the latest CPU and GPU cores with ultra-fast memory and massive AI performance to deliver fast, fluid action. And for even more gaming power, the MediaTek Helio G90 series is paired with MediaTek’s HyperEngine game technology that tunes your entire

smartphone for the greatest gaming experience possible.

“The mobile gaming market is growing and device makers are looking to give consumers and especially gaming fans the best smartphone game-play experience. That’s why we designed the G90 series,” said TL Lee, General Manager of MediaTek’s Wireless Communication business unit. “Our combination of hardware and software delivers high performance, unrivaled image quality, uninterrupted connectivity to always stay in the game, and smooth responsive action even in the most demanding games.”

MediaTek’s Helio G90 series octa-core chipsets use Arm Cortex-A76 and Cortex-A55’s paired with the Arm Mali – G76 3EEMC4 with speeds of up to 800MHz. The combination of CPU, GPU and APU delivers up to 1TMACs performance, for peak power and smooth game play.

HyperX Sets DDR4 Overclocking World Record at 5902MHz



HyperX, the gaming division of Kingston Technology, announced that HyperX Predator DDR4 memory was used by MSI’s in-house overclocking team to set a new overclocking world record for the fastest DDR4 memory frequency at 5902MHz. The overclocker broke the record with a HyperX Predator DDR4 8G module and an Intel® Core™ i99900K on an MPG Z390I GAMING EDGE AC motherboard.

“HyperX is honored to be part of the revolutionary breakthrough in DDR4 overclocking history,” said HyperX. “An over-5900MHz record marked a new era of DDR4 memory since its release in 2014. HyperX engineers will continue to improve high-speed yields to get faster products and push previously unattainable performance records.”

Channel Partners Critical In Last-Mile Connectivity For BFSI, NBFC CIO

Dr. Suresh A Shan, Head – Innovation and Future Technologies Business Information Technology Solutions (BITS), Mahindra and Mahindra Financial Services



The sector comprises commercial banks, insurance companies, non-banking financial companies, co-operatives, pension funds, mutual funds, and other smaller financial entities. The banking regulator has allowed new entities such as payments banks to be created recently thereby adding to the types of entities operating in the sector. However, the financial sector in India is predominantly a banking sector with commercial banks accounting for more than 64 % of the total assets held by the financial system. Technology has become the most integral part of the financial institution and is investing heavily on the same. In a chat, Dr. Suresh A Shan, Head – Innovation and Future Technologies Business Information Technology Solutions (BITS), Mahindra and Mahindra Financial Services speaks on the way financial companies are adopting technology and how the channel partners can make difference in the last mile connectivity. Edited excerpts.

How much is the usage of IT is changing amongst the financial institutions in India? Compare it with other industry verticals.

It is purely very much positive in Agriculture and Related Social Sectors, infrastructure in rural India is also positive impact when compared to hospitality, retail services related in the changing movements and impact as feeling like a need to get add on values to disrupt in health and education aligned financial services strengthen by the Regulatory. We have to deploy such a strong customer based digital solutions in competitive to Corporate based digital solutions. Where every individual customer is treated as a corporate, and ensure the services solutions treating the individual customer as corporate and digital should move from “corporate digital to customer digital”. It should always resist change to be simple impact services solutions. Adopting consciously and continuously to technology solutions is also not growth.

What are the value-additions you expect from channel partners in deploying the solutions?

As part of rural financial services, Reach and speedy services are going to dominate the service solutions, all the major brands thrive on such promotional channel activities, which creates and participates part of ‘melas and haats’, rural fairs and remote cultural exhibitions in a great way to understand the consumers behavior and aware of the solutions and services planning to deliver as per the expectations. We publish the exact blaring local messages using the way to communicate and compute to the earn to pay customers, luring them through dealers, agents and brokers we anchored tailor-made schemes and solutions which matters a lot to the end customers and local was very much impressed and trusted, since we adopt to communicate and compute in the positive instinct.

As a CIO, what is your opinion on the role of channel partners in the digital adoptions of India's BFSI/ NBFC sector?

The main role of just Technology high respect channel partners, including the very big players in our industry, use different channel partners to reach to the major portion of our remote rural customers, since vast spread and geography, the real experience of such many share and care model high-tech companies over the past and current demonstrates only the brands or the influence of their product solutions instead the purpose of last-mile expectations. Such options were treated with lower cost and risk but couldn't react and impact the new business opportunities. Further, the channel partners do assists in their sale and even marketing to deliver the products and solutions what do they have done across the globe.

Channel partners in our operations could be retailers, distriaccops-poweredbybutors, vendors, consultants, value-added techy resellers, system integrators. We design the productive methods through channel partners, to create a faster and effective efficient way to penetrate new dynamic markets and expand the geography through the network created by the channel partner relationships.

As CIO's, you can focus on the main major strategic imperatives and core competencies, which will be easier and simple to route through channel partners who have establishes the rural level networks and are very close to the customers to communicate and connect multi-lingual enterprise industry to consume and transact faster.

In what ways technology adoption are different for NBF companies different from BFSI? Are the needs, threats and spends of NBFC companies are same as BFSI?

The new era of technology adoption creates a unique different model of high tech solutions to compete with the digital financial solutions natives, we reorganize around our rural customer journeys and combine digital capabilities and technologies. Simple easy Lean process redesign, digitalization, intelligent process automation, simplified advanced analytics, business process collection based outsourcing, innovation disrupt rural outpost, fenced of operational excellence digital rural factory, business unit accelerator, full such operations through the leadership of the channel partners spread across with the multiple expectations using the culture-based digital, which need to focus on more culture, which is one of the main current barriers that hinder digital transformation at NBFC rural India. Such high-tech recognizes the channel partner importance in meeting the top-line revenue objectives, successful collaboration with unique channel partners helps and guides the company to deliver the differentiated value localized to customers, ultimately achieve the local reach and speedy services. In the last mile we are looking to drive more improvement and enhancements on technology challenges through mobile and IoT improvements by changing aspects or our channel strategies, but doing so can be fraught with challenges, such engagements and new preparation for the vertical-specific enable and empower the finan-

cial services business and technology challenge changes.

What are the key expectations as a head of IT in an NBFC entity you have on a channel partner?

Our dramatic rural instincts and the overdramatic NBFC financial views, the channel partner management is through the expectations of the challenging change management with the NBFC expectations set to operate all the solutions services, since the spread and geography is high multiple entities do operate to maintain manage mentored and to monitor to get the incentivized several methods and model differently, majorly such long term channel is an investment of time and interest as programs and strategies which should be developed that are responsive to the said defined channel partners part of NBFC needs and drive them positioning the products and solutions to the end customers. If high tech firms nonavailability and localization make it easy for the channel partners to establish and execute the solutions seamlessly. Normally the products design and services solution is very easy to deploy and sell, when channel partners are better positioned to present it and make it easy and simple to rural customers., at the trust best-suited model to meet their unique specific customized tailor-made schemes.

It is very clear to explore an appropriate engaged and proper preferred channel partner for a rural NBFC business or rural technology change, we get the suggested best practices for the channel partner for BFSI/NBFC analysis and deployment segmentation, change management, global channel partner engagement and simple partner adoption timely.

What are the key suggestions you would like to provide for channel partners serving the financial institutions?

Twelve things are not as per the wish, about the world of finance, and still, we expect all the channel partners should perform better than what we would think. Really we all are excited to start providing the solutions in different ways of fact-based frameworks which yields more through simple thinking ways to understand the rural customer expectations to suit as localized solutions at all times. Execute the competition through the comparison of deliverables above average. Further, ensure the services solutions ad par with the comparisons of extremes irrespective of rural geography. Set a great benchmark with the high view of trust-based solutions up over there.

Mainly channel partner rural services experience analytics, NBFC segmentation, Delivery deployment solutions services considerations, strategy to execute channel partners, with the real benefit stakeholders, impact assessment to create a leadership mantra on speedy services and reachability. Training, communication channels, deployment change management fallback plans. Achieve adoptions through campaigns, the role of change internal audience, ensure the change management to avoid common adoption of rural barriers.

Industry's Top Voices and Technology Brands Team up at GATES India ICT Channel Summit

GATES announce a leading lineup of speakers and Vendors for the Fifth edition of the GATES India ICT Channel Summit, held 25-27 September 2019 at The Holiday Inn Resort in GOA. The conference program will feature Keynote presentations from vendors and industry experts, a panel discussion with top channel executives, and the highly-anticipated "Smart Pitch" session.

The must-attend event for senior channel executives, System Integrators, Value Added Distributors will come together from across India for 1-on-1 meetings with innovative technology brands, conference, networking and gala awards. The event will focus on the channel's shared opportunities and challenges in keeping pace with digital transformation.

Vendor executives scheduled to speak at the event include DESKERA, NETGEAR, RANSNET, REDHAT and TOSHIBA. The keynote presentations provide channel partners with a critical

opportunity to hear firsthand from the vendors driving the industry, including important updates on technology roadmaps, channel strategies and more.

Randy Ran, CEO RansNet: "Retailers today use expensive MPLS or leased lines to centrally connect all the outlets and some of them pay extra sets of Internet links for guest Wi-Fi, adding huge costs to businesses with high operational burdens. RansNet brings a game-changing solution with converged SD-WAN and Wi-Fi monetization capabilities for Hotel chains, F&B chains, Retailers, and more. At GATES India Summit, we will explain how we can simplify all the deployments, reduce connectivity costs, empower business owners to transact more securely, and increase revenue through more effective customer engagements over Wi-Fi."

Keynote Discussions will cover significant topics representing the Digital Transformation, Becoming Partners of Digital-Native Enterprise, Growth of Data Storage Requirements and Channel Survival Strategies etc.

Alongside, GATES Workshops will create inter-

active sessions and provide a platform to learn, share and debate the hottest topics in India's technology channel. Research Partners NAVO Informatica, SPIRE Research, Regent Partners and Quadmark International will each present at GATES Summit, sharing their research and forecasting directions for the marketplace.

GATES's proven concept creates an incredibly efficient business platform. The by-invitation-only event connects local reseller channel executives with top international technology vendors. The unique format not only hosts an informative conference, but also arranges pre-scheduled one-on-one meetings with vendors and creates valuable networking opportunities.

Ashish Kapahi, CEO at GATES APAC, said: "With support from the country's leading channel partners, this event has really become a 'meeting of the minds' for the industry. It's an important information exchange, with panel discussions and workshops, for distribution and reseller executives to share their knowledge and experiences with peers."

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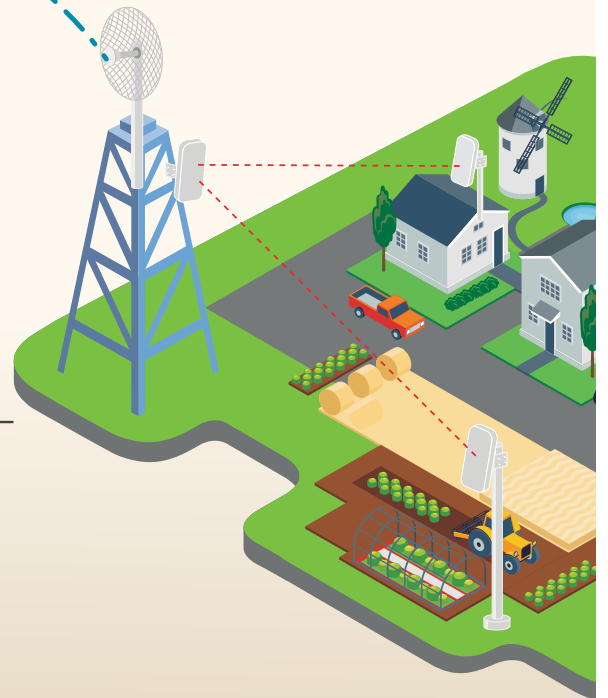


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