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TATA COMMUNICATION DATA CENTRE FIRE SPARKS FRESH DEBATE ON ENTERPRISE RESILIENCE

Incident underscores the critical need for robust disaster recovery, multi-site strategies and unwavering business continuity



KEY TAKEAWAYS FOR CXOs & PARTNERS

-  Data availability is the new business currency
-  Invest in tested scalable and automated DR frameworks
-  Adopt multi-cloud and multi-site resilience models
-  Partner with solution providers who build resilience by design

DATA CENTRE OUTAGES: THE REAL COST



\$9,000

Average cost per minute of downtime

Source: Uptime institute



60%

Enterprises experienced an outage in the last 12 months

Source: Gartner



2.5X

Increase in outages caused by fire incidents in 2024

Source: E&Y



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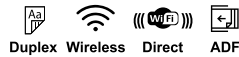
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Incident underscores the critical need for robust disaster recovery, multi-site strategies and unwavering business continuity

KEY TAKEAWAYS FOR CXOs & PARTNERS



Data availability is the new business currency



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Adopt multi-cloud and multi-site resilience models



Partner with solution providers who build resilience by design



A fire at TATA Comm data centre facility in New Delhi has reignited concerns over enterprise resilience after disrupting services for

multiple customers, affecting Google Cloud network connectivity in parts of India, and leaving some businesses fearing the loss of decades of operational data. The

incident has highlighted the growing importance of robust disaster recovery strategies as organisations become increasingly dependent on digital

infrastructure.

The fire broke out on 5 June at the STT Global Data Centres India facility in Greater Kailash, a site jointly operated by ST Telemedia



Global Data Centres and Tata Communications. Following the incident, Tata Communications activated its business continuity protocols to minimise service disruption, while affected customers began recovery efforts. Authorities have indicated that the fire may have originated in lithium battery units, although an independent root cause analysis is still underway.

Among the affected

organisations, Matrix Cellular, an international SIM services provider, said it may have lost access to more than 20 years of accumulated operational and business data stored at the facility. Other enterprises also reported service interruptions and financial losses as recovery efforts continued. The incident also had wider implications for the cloud ecosystem. Google Cloud confirmed that a fire

at a third-party data centre required an emergency shutdown of networking equipment, reducing network capacity in the Delhi region and resulting in intermittent latency and routing issues for some customers until traffic could be rerouted.

In its latest update, Tata Communications stated that the overall business impact has not been material and said it had successfully

recovered the majority of affected customer data. The company added that customers with resilient multi-location architectures and subscribed recovery services experienced minimal or no disruption, while recovery efforts continue for the remaining impacted systems. For enterprise leaders, the event serves as a reminder that business continuity extends beyond infrastructure availability. Modern resilience strategies increasingly require geographically distributed backups, multi-cloud or multi-site architectures, regular disaster recovery testing, and clearly defined recovery objectives to minimise operational risk during unforeseen events.

As organisations accelerate digital transformation and AI adoption, the Delhi data centre fire underscores a critical boardroom priority: resilience must be designed into enterprise architecture from the outset, rather than treated as an afterthought. In an always-on digital economy, the ability to recover quickly can be just as important as the ability to scale.



THE AI PRODUCTIVITY PARADOX

WHY EMPLOYEES ARE FASTER THAN EVER—BUT NO LESS BUSY



Artificial intelligence is transforming the modern workplace at an unprecedented pace, enabling employees to complete tasks that once required hours in just a matter of minutes. From drafting business documents and analysing large volumes of data to summarising meetings and generating software code, AI is significantly boosting productivity across industries. However, as organisations continue to embed AI into everyday workflows, a surprising trend is emerging: despite becoming more efficient, many professionals say they are no less busy than before.

Employees at leading technology companies describe AI as a powerful productivity accelerator. Priyanka Devi Ramesh, a Product Manager at Amazon, said AI has fundamentally changed how she

approaches documentation. “One of the biggest time savers has been writing product documents. AI helps me create a structured first draft in minutes instead of hours,” she said, explaining that she now spends more time refining ideas and adding strategic context rather than starting from a blank page.

At Google, Product Manager Prerit Pathak shared a similar experience, highlighting AI’s ability to process large amounts of information in a fraction of the time. “What would have taken hours of searching and reading can now be summarised in minutes,” he said, noting that AI enables faster decision-making by quickly surfacing relevant insights from months of documentation and meeting notes.

Yet the productivity gains have not necessarily translated into shorter

working days. One Amazon data scientist explained that while AI dramatically reduces the time needed for repetitive tasks, deploying AI effectively requires considerable upfront effort. “My overall working hours right now are running longer than normal,” the employee said, adding that building AI workflows, integrating tools, validating outputs and redesigning existing processes demand substantial investment before long-term efficiencies can be realised.

Industry experts suggest this reflects a broader shift in the nature of work rather than a reduction in workload. As AI automates routine activities, organisations often redirect the time saved into additional projects, faster delivery expectations and higher-value responsibilities. Employees are increasingly expected to oversee AI-

generated outputs, verify accuracy, refine prompts and apply human judgement where automation alone is insufficient. Rather than replacing knowledge workers, AI is reshaping their responsibilities and raising the bar for productivity.

For Australian enterprise leaders, the findings highlight an important reality. The value of AI extends beyond operational efficiency—it is redefining how work is organised, how decisions are made and what skills will be required in the future. As organisations continue investing in generative AI, success will depend not only on adopting new technologies but also on redesigning workflows, investing in employee capability and ensuring that productivity gains translate into sustainable business outcomes rather than simply increasing the volume of work.

WHY AI SOVEREIGNTY IS BECOMING A STRATEGIC PRIORITY



The global artificial intelligence boom is beginning to face a sharper question inside enterprise boardrooms: is AI delivering enough measurable business value to justify its rapidly rising cost? While AI continues to reshape software development, customer experience, operations and productivity, a growing number of signals suggest that the economics of enterprise AI may be far more complex than the market excitement suggests. Zoho founder Sridhar Vembu has warned that the current AI investment cycle resembles an “insane bubble” and could be even bigger than the dot-com excesses of 1999. His comments add to a wider debate around whether AI valuations, infrastructure spending and enterprise adoption costs are moving faster than actual business returns. The concern is no longer about whether AI is powerful. The concern is whether organisations are underestimating the operating cost of AI at scale.

Microsoft has reportedly cancelled most Claude Code licences across parts of its internal teams, with cost concerns emerging as a key factor. The development has triggered discussion across

the technology industry because Microsoft itself is among the world’s most AI-forward companies. If even large technology firms are becoming cautious about usage-based AI costs, the implications for broader enterprise adoption are significant. Uber’s leadership has also acknowledged the difficulty of linking growing AI usage to direct customer value. Uber president and COO Andrew Macdonald reportedly said it is becoming harder to draw a clear line between AI token consumption and more useful consumer-facing features. He also pointed to the need for companies to compare token consumption and associated cost with headcount and actual product output.

This marks an important shift in the AI conversation. For the past two years, the dominant narrative has been productivity. The new boardroom question is cost-to-outcome. Starbucks offers another cautionary example. The company has scrapped its AI-powered inventory counting tool across North America just nine months after deployment. The tool was expected to improve store-level inventory accuracy, but reports suggest it frequently miscounted and mislabelled items, including

similar milk types. Starbucks said the move was aimed at standardising how inventory is counted, with the broader goal of ensuring customers can order what is available on the menu. Pizza Hut is facing an even sharper operational challenge. A major US franchisee, Chaac Pizza Northeast, which operates over 100 outlets, has sued over the Dragontail AI delivery system, alleging significant damages. The lawsuit claims the system caused operational disruption and customer dissatisfaction, arguing that a technology introduced to improve efficiency ended up creating the opposite effect.

Together, these examples reveal a pattern that CIOs, CTOs and business leaders cannot ignore. AI is not a simple software licence. It is becoming a live operating cost. Tokens, model usage, integration, data access, training, governance, workflow redesign, employee behaviour and exception handling all add hidden layers of expense. In many cases, the cost of AI does not stop at the subscription. It begins there. For enterprises, the real challenge is not adopting AI. The challenge is adopting AI with clear ROI discipline.

AI tools may improve employee productivity, but productivity gains must

eventually translate into business outcomes: faster product release, better customer experience, lower operating cost, higher revenue, improved compliance or stronger decision-making. Without that link, AI risks becoming another expensive technology cycle driven more by fear of missing out than measurable value. The AI bubble debate does not mean AI is failing. It means the market may be entering a more mature phase where spending will be questioned, pilots will be scrutinised, and business leaders will demand clearer evidence of return. For CIOs and enterprise technology leaders, the message is clear: AI strategy can no longer be built only around experimentation. It must be built around governance, cost visibility, usage discipline and outcome tracking.

The next phase of AI adoption will not be won by companies that simply deploy the most tools. It will be won by companies that understand where AI creates real value, where it adds complexity, and where its cost can quietly outrun its benefit. As the AI frenzy continues, the biggest risk for enterprises may not be missing the AI wave. It may be riding it without knowing the true cost.

Alarm Bells Ring Over AI Frenzy as Enterprise Costs Raise Bubble Fears Bigger Than 1999



The global race for artificial intelligence is entering a new phase. What began as a competition to build the most powerful large language models (LLMs) is rapidly evolving into a broader debate around AI sovereignty—the ability of nations and regions to control their own AI infrastructure, models, data, and digital destiny. The latest signal comes from French cloud provider OVHcloud, which has announced plans to develop frontier AI models, positioning itself as a potential challenger to Europe’s current AI leader, Mistral. The company aims to become Europe’s second major LLM player at a time when governments and enterprises are increasingly looking for alternatives to

US- and China-controlled AI ecosystems. According to OVHcloud CEO Octave Klaba, advances in AI infrastructure, training techniques, and synthetic data have significantly lowered the cost of building frontier models, creating an opportunity for Europe to develop sovereign AI capabilities rather than relying exclusively on external providers.

Europe’s Wake-Up Call

The conversation around AI sovereignty intensified following recent restrictions on access to some advanced AI models, prompting concerns among policymakers and enterprises about dependence on foreign-controlled AI technologies. European leaders have increasingly

argued that access to critical AI capabilities should not be determined solely by decisions made outside the region. Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, emphasized the importance of transatlantic cooperation while also highlighting Europe’s need for access to world-class AI capabilities and trusted AI infrastructure.

Industry observers note that Europe’s push extends beyond models. It includes sovereign cloud infrastructure, AI compute, semiconductor investments, and open-source ecosystems designed to reduce long-term dependence on external technology providers.

APAC Leaders Focus on Strategic

Independence

Across Asia-Pacific, the conversation is increasingly centred on balancing innovation with technological self-reliance. An opinion piece in India’s Economic Times recently argued that frontier AI has become a geopolitical tool and that countries must build domestic capabilities while leveraging their market influence to shape future AI governance. The article warns that AI access restrictions have exposed vulnerabilities in relying solely on foreign-developed models. For many APAC governments and enterprises, sovereign AI is no longer viewed as a technology initiative alone but as a strategic economic and national competitiveness

priority. This has accelerated investments in domestic AI infrastructure, regional cloud providers, and localised AI ecosystems.

China Continues to Advance Indigenous AI

China has long pursued a strategy of reducing dependence on foreign technology platforms through investments in domestic cloud, semiconductor, and AI capabilities. While Western nations debate AI sovereignty, China continues to expand its ecosystem of locally developed foundation models and AI infrastructure designed to operate independently of external technology dependencies. Industry analysts increasingly view China's approach as an early example of sovereign AI in practice, where control over compute, models, data, and deployment environments forms part of a broader national technology strategy. The Enterprise Impact

For CIOs, CTOs, Enterprise Architects, and digital transformation leaders, the AI sovereignty debate raises important questions:

- Who controls access to mission-critical AI capabilities?
- Where is enterprise data stored and processed?
- What happens if access to a model is restricted?
- How should organisations balance innovation with long-term resilience?

As enterprises integrate AI deeper into business operations, technology leaders are increasingly evaluating not only model performance but also provider jurisdiction, infrastructure control, compliance requirements, and long-term strategic independence.

The Road Ahead

The AI race is no longer just about building the smartest model. It is becoming a contest over who controls the infrastructure, data, compute resources, and governance frameworks that will define the next generation of digital economies. As Europe builds sovereign AI champions, APAC nations strengthen domestic capabilities, and China expands its indigenous ecosystem, AI sovereignty is emerging as one of the defining technology and geopolitical themes of the decade. India News



Enterprise procurement technology continues to evolve with the growing adoption of artificial intelligence, particularly multi-agent AI systems designed to automate complex sourcing and procurement processes. Against this backdrop, procurement technology company Procol has been included in the Gartner Hype Cycle for Procurement & Sourcing Solutions, 2026 under the Multi-Agent Systems for Procurement category.

The Gartner Hype Cycle identifies emerging technologies that are expected to influence enterprise procurement strategies over the coming years. According to the report, Multi-Agent Systems (MAS) combine multiple specialised AI agents that work collaboratively to execute procurement activities, enabling automation across both strategic and operational workflows. Gartner also suggests that organisations evaluate MAS for procurement scenarios where a single AI model may not be sufficient to address increasingly complex sourcing requirements. The increasing interest in agentic AI reflects a broader shift in enterprise procurement, where organisations are seeking technologies capable of improving operational efficiency, supplier collaboration, spend visibility and decision-making while reducing manual intervention. Procol's platform applies multiple AI agents across procurement functions including sourcing,

supplier management, purchasing, approvals, negotiations and spend management. The approach is intended to support end-to-end procurement workflows through coordinated AI-driven automation rather than isolated task execution.

Industry analysts continue to view procurement as one of the enterprise functions where AI adoption is accelerating due to increasing supply chain complexity, compliance requirements and cost optimisation initiatives. Multi-agent AI architectures are emerging as a potential solution for organisations seeking greater automation while maintaining governance across procurement operations. According to the Gartner Hype Cycle, Multi-Agent Systems for Procurement are currently positioned at the Innovation Trigger stage, with mainstream enterprise adoption projected within the next two to five years. This suggests that while the technology remains in its early adoption phase, organisations are actively evaluating its long-term role in procurement transformation. Founded in 2018, Procol develops an AI-powered source-to-pay procurement platform designed to consolidate procurement activities within a unified digital environment. The platform focuses on replacing fragmented procurement processes with integrated workflows supported by AI-driven automation and visibility across the procurement lifecycle.

Top 10 CEO Movements of May 2026 in India



India's corporate landscape continues to witness major leadership transitions as companies

across manufacturing, fintech, FMCG, automotive, finance, and lifestyle sectors appoint experienced

executives to drive growth, innovation, and transformation. Here's a detailed look at the latest

CEO and MD appointments making headlines across industries.

Bithal Bhardwaj Appointed CEO of GRAMAX

Bithal Bhardwaj has taken charge as the CEO of GRAMAX, bringing extensive experience in business strategy, operational leadership, and market expansion. His appointment comes at a time when the company is looking to strengthen its position in the industry and accelerate innovation-led growth. Industry experts believe his leadership could help the

organization scale aggressively in competitive markets.



Roopak Chaturvedi Named CEO of Jagatjit Industries Limited

Roopak Chaturvedi has been appointed CEO of Jagatjit Industries Limited, a well-known player in India's alcoholic beverages and diversified business sector. With strong expertise in brand building and corporate operations, he is expected to focus on business transformation, premiumization strategies, and expanding

the company's national presence.



Hemant Lakhotiya Takes Over as CEO of KSH International



Hemant Lakhotiya has assumed the role of CEO at KSH International. Known for his expertise in industrial manufacturing and business operations, he is expected to lead the company's next phase of modernization, operational efficiency, and international market growth. His appointment reflects the company's ambition to strengthen its global footprint.

Sudhir Sitapati Continues Growth Journey at Godrej Consumer Products Ltd



Under the leadership of Sudhir Sitapati, Godrej Consumer Products Ltd continues to focus on innovation, digital transformation, and expanding its FMCG market share globally. Sitapati has played a key role in reshaping the company's growth strategy while driving profitability and consumer-centric product innovation across multiple categories.

Sumit Singla Elevated as CEO of CarDekho Group



Sumit Singla has been appointed CEO of CarDekho Group, one of India's leading auto-tech and mobility platforms. His leadership is expected to strengthen the company's digital automotive ecosystem, fintech services, and used-car business operations. The move highlights CarDekho's continued focus on technology-driven growth and customer experience..

Ankit Fitkariwala Takes Leadership Role at MoneyControl Hindi



Ankit Fitkariwala has been appointed CEO – Lending at MoneyControl Hindi. With deep experience in financial services and digital lending ecosystems, he is expected to drive fintech innovation, expand lending solutions, and enhance customer engagement in India's rapidly evolving digital finance landscape.

Saravanakumar A Appointed MD & CEO of BOBCARD

Neeti Wahi, Chief Digital & Information Technology Officer at Indus Towers, leads digital transformation for critical telecom



infrastructure. She focuses on scalable platforms, process automation, and data-driven operations to improve delivery reliability and efficiency. Her industry contribution is modernizing tower operations—supporting India's connectivity at national scale today, securely.

Gaurav Nanda Named CEO of SupremeGroup

Gaurav Nanda has been appointed CEO of SupremeGroup. With years of leadership experience in manufacturing and industrial



businesses, he is expected to focus on innovation, operational scalability, and sustainable business expansion. His leadership could help the group accelerate modernization initiatives and strengthen market competitiveness.

Brajesh Kumar Appointed CEO of CPDL

Brajesh Kumar has stepped into the role of CEO at CPDL. Industry observers expect him to bring strategic direction and operational expertise to the organization



while driving growth initiatives, digital adoption, and customer-focused transformation.

Sukhleen Aneja Takes Charge as CEO of Pure Home + Living (PHL)

Sukhleen Aneja has been appointed CEO of Pure Home + Living (PHL). Recognized for her strong leadership in retail and consumer businesses, she is expected to lead the brand's growth strategy, customer experience enhancement, and expansion across India's premium home décor and lifestyle market.

These leadership appointments reflect the growing emphasis on digital transformation, operational excellence, customer-centric innovation, and aggressive market expansion across India Inc. As these executives take charge, their strategic decisions are expected to shape the next phase of growth for their respective organizations.



AI Regulation vs Innovation: India Seeks Balance as Anthropic Restrictions Reignite Sovereignty Debate



The global debate around AI regulation and innovation has intensified after the U.S. government directed Anthropic to restrict access to its most advanced AI models, triggering discussions across India on technology sovereignty, export controls, and dependence on foreign AI infrastructure.

The move has raised a critical question for policymakers and enterprises alike: can governments regulate frontier AI without slowing innovation? The restrictions affected access to Anthropic's latest models outside the United States and have become a wake-up call for technology leaders who argue that AI is rapidly becoming a strategic national asset rather than just a commercial technology. Indian developers, enterprises, and researchers were among those impacted, reigniting concerns about long-term reliance on overseas AI providers. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently reiterated India's vision for responsible AI, emphasizing that AI must be "human-centric" and accessible to all. Speaking at VivaTech 2026 in Paris, Modi promoted the concept of "AI for All," arguing that technological progress delivers value only when innovation is widely democratized. The Anthropic episode has also strengthened calls for indigenous AI capabilities. Zoho founder Sridhar Vembu argued that India should focus on building a sovereign technology stack rather than relying solely on access to foreign AI models.

According to Vembu, AI models

represent only one layer of a much broader ecosystem that includes hardware, compute infrastructure, software, and data platforms. A similar sentiment was echoed by Pratyush Kumar of Sarvam AI, who noted that the incident highlighted the difference between access and ownership. He argued that countries and enterprises need greater control over the AI systems they depend upon, particularly as frontier models become subject to geopolitical and national security considerations. Meanwhile, proponents of regulation argue that governments cannot ignore the risks associated with increasingly powerful AI systems.

The U.S. administration has justified tighter controls on advanced models by citing national security concerns and the need to ensure that frontier AI capabilities are deployed responsibly. For India's CIOs, CTOs, and Enterprise Architects, the issue extends beyond regulation. It raises strategic questions around AI resilience, provider concentration risk, data sovereignty, and the long-term availability of critical AI services. Industry observers believe enterprises will increasingly evaluate not just model performance but also where those models are hosted, who controls access, and what regulatory frameworks govern their use. As global governments attempt to balance safety, security, and innovation, the Anthropic restrictions may ultimately be remembered as a turning point—one that accelerated India's conversation around sovereign AI, domestic innovation, and the future of frontier AI governance.

India's Data Centre Boom Gains Momentum as Meta, AirTrunk and Global Investors Double Down



India is rapidly emerging as one of the world's most attractive destinations for hyperscale data centres and AI infrastructure, with fresh multi-billion-dollar commitments from global technology and digital infrastructure leaders expected to transform the country's IT landscape, create thousands of jobs, and accelerate AI adoption. In one of the biggest announcements this year, Meta Platforms has partnered with Reliance Industries to establish its first AI-enabled data centre in India. The 168 MW facility, coming up in Jamnagar, Gujarat, will support Meta's growing AI and digital services requirements while strengthening India's position as a global AI infrastructure hub.

Adding further momentum, AirTrunk, the Blackstone-backed hyperscale data centre giant, has

unveiled plans to invest nearly US\$30 billion (approximately ₹3 lakh crore) in India by 2030. The company aims to build 5 GW of data centre capacity across key markets including Mumbai, Chennai and Hyderabad, making it one of the largest digital infrastructure commitments in India's history. The surge is not limited to Meta and AirTrunk. Major domestic players such as Adani Group and Reliance Industries have announced investments of US\$100 billion and US\$110 billion respectively towards AI-ready infrastructure, renewable energy and next-generation data centres.

Industry analysts believe India's data centre market could nearly double over the coming decade, driven by AI workloads, cloud adoption, data localisation regulations and the country's expanding digital economy. According to recent estimates, the sector

could reach nearly US\$46 billion by 2033, making it one of the fastest-growing infrastructure segments globally. Major Impact on Jobs and IT Infrastructure

The investment wave is expected to generate significant employment across:

- Data centre operations and maintenance
- Cloud infrastructure management
- Cybersecurity and network engineering
- AI and machine learning platforms
- Construction and facility management
- Renewable energy and power infrastructure

Experts note that while operational data centres require highly skilled technical talent, the construction and ecosystem build-out create thousands of additional

jobs across supply chains, logistics, engineering and manufacturing.

India's AI Infrastructure Moment With global cloud providers, AI companies and hyperscalers seeking new capacity outside traditional markets, India is increasingly being viewed as the next major growth destination. Government incentives, digital adoption, renewable energy availability and a vast technology workforce are helping attract unprecedented investment into the country's digital infrastructure ecosystem. As Meta, AirTrunk, Reliance, Adani and other global players accelerate investments, India's data centre sector is poised to become a cornerstone of the nation's AI ambitions, strengthening its position as a leading digital and technology powerhouse in the decade ahead.



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Why Failure May Be Marketing's Biggest AI Advantage, According to AWS CMO Julia White

As generative AI rapidly reshapes enterprise marketing, many organisations are racing to deploy new tools while expecting immediate returns. However, Julia White, Chief Marketing Officer and Vice President of Worldwide Marketing at Amazon Web Services (AWS), believes that mastering AI requires a very different mindset—one built on experimentation rather than perfection. Speaking about AI adoption within AWS, White emphasised that organisations should not be afraid of failure during the learning process. “Failure is necessary on the path to mastery. We’re never going to get great at AI if we don’t try and fail,” she said, encouraging leaders to create environments where teams can safely

experiment with emerging AI capabilities.

To reinforce that culture, White revealed that AWS has introduced an internal “Be Brave” award, recognising employees who take calculated risks with AI—even when the outcome is unsuccessful. Rather than celebrating only successful projects, the initiative acknowledges that meaningful innovation often emerges through trial, iteration and continuous learning. For White, AI’s greatest value lies in augmenting human capability rather than replacing it. While AI can accelerate research, brainstorming and content development, she believes creativity remains a uniquely human strength. “AI isn’t very good at beautiful

storytelling that really connects with the human experience,” she said. “It’s a wonderful thought partner—but it’s not a tastemaker.”

This philosophy has shaped how AWS approaches marketing. Instead of asking AI to create campaigns independently, marketing teams use tools such as Amazon Q to generate ideas, explore alternative messaging and refine narratives before human marketers apply strategic judgement and emotional insight. According to White, one recent AI-assisted brand narrative resonated so strongly internally that it moved colleagues to tears—demonstrating that the most compelling stories still depend on human creativity.

White also believes AI is unlocking a long-standing ambition for marketers: personalization at scale. “I’ve always dreamed of how I can have a truly personalized experience for every single customer. This was not practical before, but now it’s suddenly practical,” she said, highlighting how AI is making one-to-one customer engagement increasingly achievable for global enterprises. Her advice to marketing leaders is straightforward: experience AI firsthand rather than observing from the sidelines. “If you just read about it or hear about it but you don’t actually use it, you’re going to miss it. And if you don’t, you’re going to not be leading your teams well,” White said.

For CMOs and enterprise marketing leaders across Australia and the Asia-Pacific region, White’s perspective offers an important reminder. The competitive advantage in the AI era will not come from adopting the latest tools alone, but from fostering a culture where teams are encouraged to experiment, learn quickly from setbacks and combine AI-powered efficiency with distinctly human creativity. As AI becomes embedded across every stage of the marketing lifecycle, organizations that embrace continuous learning may be best positioned to deliver more personalized customer experiences while preserving the authentic storytelling that defines strong brands.



JULIA WHITE, Chief Marketing Officer and Vice President of Worldwide Marketing at Amazon Web Services (AWS)

D-Link Fast Ethernet (FE) Series Switches



In today's fast-evolving retail landscape, ensuring seamless surveillance is no longer optional—it is critical for operational efficiency, asset protection, and customer safety. Addressing this growing need, D-Link India Ltd. through its surveillance networking portfolio offers Fast Ethernet (FE) Series Switches—a reliable and cost-effective backbone for modern surveillance networks.

Designed to support the increasing adoption of IP-based surveillance, the D-Link FE Series delivers stable connectivity, simplified installation, and dependable performance across small and medium businesses, retail outlets, educational institutions, and branch offices. The portfolio includes models such as DES-F1006P-FE, DES-F1010P-FE, and DES-F1018P-FE, catering to varying deployment sizes and

requirements.

At the core of the FE Series is its ability to provide consistent 10/100 Mbps connectivity, ensuring uninterrupted data transmission for IP cameras and other connected devices. Select models are equipped with Power over Ethernet (PoE/PoE+) support, enabling both power and data transmission through a single cable. This significantly reduces installation complexity and cost, making it an ideal solution for surveillance deployments.

One of the standout features of the FE Series is its Extend Mode, which supports transmission distances of up to 250 meters. This makes it particularly effective for large retail spaces, warehouses, and campus environments where long-distance connectivity is essential for camera deployment.

Ease of use remains a key highlight, with plug-and-play functionality eliminating the need for complex configurations. The switches also feature a compact, fanless design for silent operation and improved energy efficiency—making them suitable for a wide range of indoor environments.

To ensure long-term reliability, the FE Series is built with enhanced protection features, including 6kV surge protection and overload protection, safeguarding the network against electrical fluctuations and ensuring consistent performance even in challenging conditions.

Further strengthening its value proposition, D-Link backs the FE Series with a 3-Year Replacement Warranty, offering businesses peace of mind and minimizing downtime. The

products are also supported by Proven Quality Assurance standards, reflected in their minimal service return rates and consistent performance across deployments.

The D-Link FE Series is ideally suited for retail stores and commercial spaces requiring continuous surveillance, educational institutions seeking campus-wide monitoring, and office environments aiming to enhance workplace security with reliable networking infrastructure.

As surveillance systems continue to evolve, the importance of a strong and dependable network backbone cannot be overstated. With its combination of reliability, simplicity, and long-term assurance, the D-Link FE Series positions itself as a trusted solution for building secure and scalable surveillance networks.

Built for the Way India Works: Why Businesses Across India Are Choosing AONMeetings



Indian businesses are scaling faster than ever before. Startups are serving customers across continents from day one, healthcare providers are expanding virtual consultations beyond city boundaries, and enterprises are managing distributed teams spread across multiple locations. Yet many organizations continue to rely on collaboration platforms that were designed around assumptions that do not always reflect the realities of how businesses operate in India today.

From bandwidth variability and device diversity to growing compliance expectations and cost pressures, Indian organizations require solutions that are flexible, secure, and easy to adopt. When we launched AONMeetings in India

through india.aonmeetings.com, our objective was not simply to introduce another video conferencing platform. We wanted to address some of the most common challenges organizations face when trying to connect employees, customers, partners, and stakeholders across an increasingly digital environment.

Here are some of the reasons businesses across India are evaluating AONMeetings as part of their collaboration strategy.

Why Browser-Based Collaboration Matters

The first experience a participant has with any meeting platform often determines how productive that interaction will be. Whether it is a customer meeting, healthcare consultation,

sales presentation, partner discussion, or internal review, valuable time is frequently lost when participants are required to download applications, install updates, configure settings, or seek administrative permissions before joining a meeting.

In India, where users may join from a wide range of devices, operating systems, and network environments, these challenges can become even more pronounced. AONMeetings was built as a browser-native platform. Participants can join directly through a web browser without requiring software downloads or installations. This approach simplifies access across laptops, desktops, tablets, Chromebooks, and mobile devices while reducing the complexity often associated with application management.

For IT teams, this can also reduce administrative overhead related to software deployment, patch management, and application maintenance. Rather than viewing browser access as an additional feature, we see it as a foundational design principle that helps make collaboration more accessible across diverse user environments.

Simplifying Collaboration Costs

Organizations today are under constant pressure to improve productivity while maintaining financial discipline. Many collaboration platforms have evolved into complex licensing models involving separate charges for meetings, webinars, events, premium features, storage, security capabilities, and user tiers. As organizations scale, these costs can become difficult to predict and manage.

AONMeetings was designed with a different philosophy.

Meetings are not restricted by arbitrary time limits, and webinar functionality is included as part of the platform rather than treated as a separate product category. This allows organizations to manage one-to-one meetings, team collaboration, training sessions, and larger virtual events from a unified

environment. For many organizations evaluating collaboration platforms, reducing operational complexity can be just as important as reducing licensing costs.

According to customer feedback and internal analysis, many businesses report significant savings when moving away from legacy licensing structures that rely heavily on feature-based upgrades and add-on purchases.

Meeting Security Expectations in the DPDP Era

Data privacy and security have become strategic priorities across industries.

With India's Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) framework continuing to shape compliance requirements, organizations are placing increased emphasis on how communication platforms manage and protect information. Healthcare providers, financial institutions, educational organizations, and enterprises handling sensitive customer information are increasingly evaluating collaboration platforms through a compliance and governance lens. AONMeetings incorporates end-to-end encryption and security-focused design principles intended to help organizations strengthen the confidentiality of their communications.

The platform has also been engineered around security and privacy practices aligned with globally recognized standards, helping organizations

support their broader governance and compliance objectives. As regulatory expectations evolve, we believe security should not be treated as an optional premium feature but rather as a fundamental component of every business conversation.

Supporting Growth Without Expensive Infrastructure

For many organizations, collaboration extends beyond individual users to conference rooms, training centers, customer briefing spaces, and distributed office locations.

Traditional meeting-room deployments often require specialized hardware, vendor-specific equipment, and ongoing maintenance investments that can increase total cost of ownership over time.

AONMeetings takes a different approach.

Through the AON Room License model, organizations can leverage existing screens, webcams, internet connectivity, and browser-based access to create meeting environments without extensive proprietary infrastructure requirements.

This allows businesses to scale collaboration capabilities across locations while maintaining operational flexibility. For growing organizations, the ability to expand collaboration capabilities without significant hardware investments can contribute to both faster deployment and improved capital efficiency.

The Value of Responsive Customer Support

Technology is only as valuable as the support that stands behind it. Organizations frequently cite responsiveness, accountability, and accessibility as important factors when selecting technology partners. As a founder-led company, AONMeetings maintains a strong focus on customer engagement and support. Our objective is to ensure that customers have access to teams that are invested in helping them succeed rather than navigating layers of bureaucracy.

As we continue expanding our presence in India, we have invested in local partnerships and market engagement to better support the unique requirements of Indian businesses.

Independent Recognition and Customer Feedback

Customer feedback remains one of the most important measures of product performance.

AONMeetings currently maintains a 4.9-star average rating on G2 and has been recognized across multiple categories in G2's Spring 2026 reports. While industry recognition is encouraging, we view customer trust and retention as the strongest indicators of long-term success. Every review represents an organization that evaluated alternatives, adopted the platform, and chose to continue using it as part of their collaboration

strategy.

Looking Ahead

The future of collaboration is not simply about adding more features. It is about reducing friction, improving accessibility, strengthening security, and enabling organizations to communicate effectively regardless of device, location, or network conditions.

As Indian businesses continue to expand their digital footprint, the conversation is increasingly shifting from feature comparisons to broader questions around user experience, compliance, scalability, and total cost of ownership. At AONMeetings, we believe organizations deserve collaboration platforms that are designed around the realities of how they operate today—not how technology vendors assumed they would operate years ago.

Our focus remains on helping businesses simplify communication, improve accessibility, strengthen security, and support growth through a platform designed for modern collaboration.

About the Author

Dwight Reed is the Founder & CEO of AONMeetings, a browser-native video conferencing and webinar platform designed to simplify collaboration through accessibility, security, and ease of use. Through AONMeetings' India initiative, the company is focused on helping organizations modernize collaboration while reducing complexity and total cost of ownership.

Databricks LTAP Opens New Opportunities for Partners in AI-Ready Data Infrastructure



Databricks' introduction of Lake Transactional/Analytical Processing (LTAP) could create new opportunities for channel partners, system integrators, cloud partners, and data solution providers as enterprises look to modernise data infrastructure for AI-led workloads.

The new architecture is designed to unify transactional, analytical, streaming, and operational data on a single governed storage layer. For partners, this signals growing demand for services around data architecture modernisation, lakehouse implementation, governance, migration, disaster recovery, and AI application readiness.

As enterprises accelerate the adoption of AI agents and real-time applications, partners may see increased

demand for solutions that reduce ETL complexity, eliminate fragmented data pipelines, and create a more governed data foundation.

AI Adoption Driving Infrastructure Rethink

The rapid rise of AI-powered applications and autonomous agents is forcing organisations to revisit long-standing data architectures. Traditional environments often separate transactional systems from analytical platforms, requiring complex ETL and Change Data Capture (CDC) pipelines to move data between systems.

While these approaches have supported enterprise workloads for years, they can create challenges around latency, governance, scalability, and operational overhead—particularly as AI applications increasingly require real-time access to

business data.

Databricks believes the industry is entering a new phase where operational and analytical data must coexist on a common foundation without requiring multiple copies of data or complex synchronisation processes.

"For decades, complicated data infrastructure was a tax that teams were forced to pay," said Ali Ghodsi, Co-founder and CEO of Databricks.

"Then agents arrived. In a matter of months, organizations effectively doubled their workforce, just not with humans. Agents write code, make calls, and run loops at a pace human teams never could. The infrastructure that powered the last era of computing is now the bottleneck that no one can afford. LTAP removes it."

What LTAP Means for the Channel

From a channel perspective, LTAP reflects a broader market shift toward simplifying enterprise data architectures while enabling AI at scale.

The approach unifies transactional, analytical, and streaming workloads at the storage layer rather than forcing them into a single processing engine. According to Databricks, this enables organisations to access operational data for analytics immediately, without the need for data replication or ETL pipelines.

For partners, the opportunity extends beyond technology deployment. Enterprises embarking on AI transformation initiatives may require advisory services, architecture assessments, governance frameworks, cloud migration support, database modernisation, and AI readiness consulting.

The announcement is also likely to create demand for managed services around data governance, performance optimisation, resilience, and operational monitoring as organisations seek to operationalise AI applications in production environments.

—New Lakebase Enhancements Target Enterprise Scale

Alongside LTAP, Databricks announced new capabilities for Lakebase, its Postgres-compatible operational database platform.

CloudThat Named Among India's Early OpenAI SMB Channel Partners



The latest enhancements include cross-cloud and cross-region disaster recovery capabilities designed to improve resilience for mission-critical workloads. Additional features such as Git-style branching and snapshots are intended to support safer testing and experimentation against production environments.

The company also introduced autonomous database operations that can assist with monitoring, identifying performance bottlenecks, recommending indexes, and supporting recovery processes.

These additions align with a growing industry trend toward automated infrastructure management and AI-assisted operations, areas that are becoming increasingly relevant for service providers managing complex customer environments.

Open Standards Continue to Gain Momentum

A notable aspect of the announcement is Databricks' continued emphasis on open standards.

The company stated that LTAP is built around open table formats such as Delta and Iceberg, while governance is managed through Unity Catalog. This allows organisations to maintain a single governed view of operational, analytical, and streaming data while supporting interoperability across different tools and environments.

For channel partners, open architectures can help reduce vendor lock-in concerns and provide greater flexibility when designing customer solutions that span multiple cloud and data platforms.

Early Customer Perspective

Early adopters are already evaluating how unified operational and analytical architectures could support AI-driven business processes.

"For the health systems we serve, speed and accuracy in the revenue cycle directly affect their ability to deliver care," said Grant Veazey, CTO, Ensemble.

"Our early investment with Databricks helped us build a governed foundation supporting more than two petabytes of clean, harmonized revenue cycle data. Lakebase and LTAP extend that foundation by unifying operational and analytical workloads on a single layer, giving our RCM-native AI the real-time access it needs to perform in live operations."

Industry Outlook

As enterprises continue investing in AI, industry attention is increasingly shifting from AI models themselves to the underlying data infrastructure required to support them.

CloudThat has entered into a strategic partnership with OpenAI as one of India's early SMB Channel Partners, marking a significant step in the company's AI enablement journey. Through this collaboration, CloudThat will support small and medium businesses in adopting OpenAI-powered solutions for productivity, automation, customer engagement, and enterprise transformation. The partnership is expected to help Indian organisations move beyond experimentation and build practical AI use cases that can be deployed across business functions.

CloudThat will focus on AI consulting, hands-on workshops, generative AI training, bootcamps, certification-led programmes, and sector-specific enablement initiatives. The company is also expected to work closely with educational institutions to strengthen AI learning and practical

exposure among students and professionals. The partnership comes at a time when demand for generative AI tools is rising sharply across India. Businesses are increasingly looking at AI to improve efficiency, reduce manual workloads, enhance decision-making, and create new customer experiences.

CloudThat's leadership said the collaboration will help enterprises, SMBs, professionals, and academic institutions gain deeper access to AI knowledge and real-world implementation support. OpenAI's partner ecosystem is also expected to benefit from CloudThat's experience in cloud, AI training, and enterprise technology adoption. With this development, CloudThat aims to position itself as a key AI transformation and skilling partner in India, helping organisations convert AI interest into measurable business outcomes.

Commvault, Microsoft Deepen Alliance to Bring Native Cyber Resilience to Azure

By Kalpana Singhal



Commvault has announced a new multi-year strategic partnership with Microsoft aimed at strengthening cyber resilience for enterprises by bringing Commvault’s recovery and data protection capabilities natively into the Microsoft Azure ecosystem. The collaboration is designed to help organisations simplify cyber recovery, safeguard AI-driven workloads, and improve operational resilience as cloud adoption continues to accelerate. As part of the partnership, Commvault’s resilience platform will be delivered as a native Independent Software Vendor (ISV) service on Azure. This will allow Azure customers to deploy, manage and operate Commvault’s data protection, cyber recovery

and resilience capabilities directly within their existing Azure environment, providing a more integrated cloud experience. The two companies will also collaborate on joint go-to-market initiatives, including co-selling programmes, solution development and integrated sales engagements. The objective is to help enterprises modernise their cloud environments while strengthening protection against ransomware, cyberattacks and operational disruptions.

Another key benefit for customers is commercial flexibility. Organisations will be able to procure Commvault Cloud through the Microsoft Marketplace, with eligible purchases contributing towards

their Microsoft Azure Consumption Commitment (MACC). This approach is expected to streamline procurement while enabling enterprises to align cyber resilience investments with broader cloud spending strategies. The partnership also places significant emphasis on AI readiness. As enterprises increasingly deploy AI-powered applications and autonomous agents, the two companies aim to provide integrated recovery capabilities that help protect critical data, identities and applications while ensuring rapid recoverability in the event of cyber incidents or outages.

Commvault said its native Azure ISV service is expected to enter public preview later this summer, marking the next phase of a long-standing

relationship between the two technology companies. The announcement reflects the growing demand for tightly integrated cloud-native resilience platforms that combine security, data protection and recovery into a unified operational framework. For channel partners, system integrators and managed service providers, the expanded partnership opens new opportunities to deliver integrated cyber resilience solutions on Azure while simplifying deployment and management for enterprise customers. As organisations continue to invest in cloud transformation and AI initiatives, resilience is rapidly becoming a strategic business requirement rather than a standalone IT function.

IBM, Red Hat and Palo Alto Networks Expand Project Lightwell to Accelerate Enterprise Vulnerability Response



IBM, Red Hat and Palo Alto Networks have announced an expansion of their collaboration on Project Lightwell, introducing an integrated approach designed to help enterprises respond more quickly to software vulnerabilities across open-source software, commercial applications, operational technology (OT) and healthcare environments.

The initiative combines IBM and Red Hat's Project Lightwell with Palo Alto Networks' Virtual Patching capabilities to deliver both immediate network-level protection and software remediation. The objective is to reduce the time between vulnerability discovery and enterprise protection, an increasingly critical requirement as AI accelerates the pace of cyber threats.

The companies said the collaboration addresses a growing challenge for organisations, where vulnerabilities can now be identified and exploited much faster than traditional

patch management processes can respond. By integrating vulnerability intelligence, virtual patching and remediation workflows, the solution aims to help security teams minimise exposure while permanent software fixes are being tested and deployed.

Integrated 'Shield-and-Fix' Approach

The expanded Project Lightwell framework establishes a dual-layer security model. Palo Alto Networks' virtual patching technology provides immediate protection at the network layer by blocking exploitation attempts, while Project Lightwell delivers validated remediation for affected open-source software packages.

According to the announcement, the integrated solution offers:

- Protection across open-source software, commercial applications, OT environments and

connected devices.

- Virtual patching capabilities that can be deployed before official software updates become available.
- Faster deployment of network-level protections following the validation of newly discovered vulnerabilities.
- A coordinated workflow that combines threat intelligence, remediation and network security to reduce enterprise risk.

The companies also plan to establish secure mechanisms for sharing vulnerability intelligence among software vendors, technology providers and security teams. The initiative is expected to support coordinated vulnerability disclosure, accelerate protection development and provide anonymised telemetry on real-world exploitation attempts.

IBM Consulting to

Support Deployment

As part of the collaboration, IBM Security Services will provide advisory and deployment support to help enterprises identify high-risk vulnerabilities, prioritise remediation activities and validate protections across complex hybrid IT environments. These services will complement the virtual patching and remediation capabilities delivered through the joint solution.

Growing Focus on AI-Era Cybersecurity

The announcement reflects a broader industry trend towards integrating software remediation, threat intelligence and network-based protection into unified cybersecurity operations. As artificial intelligence continues to compress the timeline between vulnerability discovery and exploitation, enterprises are increasingly adopting security strategies that provide immediate protection while long-term remediation is implemented.

For the channel ecosystem, the expanded collaboration is expected to provide IBM, Red Hat and Palo Alto Networks partners with an integrated framework for delivering vulnerability management, cyber resilience and managed security services to enterprise customers navigating increasingly complex threat environments.

ASUS Brings 'Beyond Incredible with ASUS' Community Event to Chennai, Showcasing Gaming and Creator Innovation



ASUS, the Taiwanese technology giant, successfully hosted the Chennai edition of its 2026 community event series, Beyond Incredible with ASUS. The event brought together over 73 creators, gamers, tech enthusiasts, students, fans, and regional media for an immersive evening celebrating gaming, creativity, and next-generation computing experiences. Held at The Living Room, Anna Nagar East, the event reinforced ASUS' commitment to fostering meaningful engagement with its growing community while showcasing its latest gaming and creator-focused innovations.

Building on the momentum of the Mumbai edition earlier this year, the Chennai event placed a special spotlight on ASUS'

Gaming and Creator Series portfolio while celebrating 20 years of ROG. Attendees experienced hands-on demonstrations of ASUS' latest innovations across the Zenbook, Vivobook, ProArt, ROG, and TUF Gaming lineups, reflecting the brand's commitment to delivering versatile, high-performance computing solutions tailored for creators, gamers, professionals, and everyday users.

Addressing the event, Mr. Arnold Su, Vice President, Consumer and Gaming PC, ASUS India, said, "Chennai has a vibrant community of gamers, creators, and technology enthusiasts who are constantly pushing the boundaries of creativity and performance. Through Beyond Incredible with ASUS, we aim to create

opportunities for meaningful conversations, hands-on experiences, and direct engagement with the people who use our products every day. Events like these allow us to better understand evolving consumer needs while showcasing how our latest innovations can support a wide range of workflows, from content creation and entertainment to competitive gaming and productivity."

The evening saw engaging activities including live gaming showcases, creator-led sessions, product experience zones, interactive discussions, and community-led conversations. Attendees had the opportunity to experience ASUS' latest innovations firsthand while participating in curated activities and giveaways

designed to further enhance engagement and community interaction.

The event featured interactive product walkthroughs of the ASUS Zenbook S14, ASUS Zenbook S16, ASUS Zenbook Duo, ASUS Vivobook 16, ASUS Vivobook S16, ASUS ProArt PZ14, ROG Zephyrus Duo, ROG Zephyrus G16, ROG Zephyrus G14, and ASUS TUF Gaming A14. Live demonstrations showcased practical gaming and creator workflows, highlighting the blend of performance, portability, design precision, and AI-powered capabilities that define ASUS' latest generation of devices.

Adding to the experience, popular creators and gaming personalities including Geeky Tamizha, Andrew Jebaraj, Tech by Thangam, Sufiyan, and 3 Fault Creations engaged directly with attendees through live sessions, interactive discussions, and product demonstrations.

This community event at Chennai continues the momentum of ASUS' 2026 community engagement initiative. Through Beyond Incredible with ASUS, the company continues to create opportunities for creators, gamers, and technology enthusiasts to engage directly with the brand, experience its latest innovations firsthand, and participate in meaningful conversations around the future of computing.

Meta Signals Possible Entry into Cloud Computing as AI Infrastructure Bet Expands



Meta Platforms may be preparing the ground for a new cloud computing play, as CEO Mark Zuckerberg indicated that the company could monetize excess AI infrastructure capacity by offering cloud services to external businesses. Speaking at Meta’s annual shareholder meeting, Zuckerberg suggested that the Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp parent could enter the cloud computing market if its large-scale investment in AI data centres creates surplus compute capacity. The move would potentially place Meta in competition with cloud giants Amazon Web Services, Microsoft Azure and Google Cloud.

The signal comes as Meta continues to ramp

up its AI infrastructure spending. In its first-quarter 2026 results, the company raised its full-year capital expenditure forecast to \$125 billion–\$145 billion, up from the earlier range of \$115 billion–\$135 billion, citing higher component pricing and additional data centre costs to support future capacity.

For Meta, cloud computing could become a way to convert its AI infrastructure spending into a new revenue stream. The company is already building massive compute capacity to train and run AI models across its social platforms, advertising systems, Meta AI assistant and future AI products. If demand from its internal products does not fully consume that capacity, leasing compute

to enterprises or developers could help improve return on investment.

The development also reflects a broader shift in the cloud market, where AI workloads are becoming a key growth driver. Enterprises are increasingly looking for high-performance compute, GPU access, storage, networking and AI deployment infrastructure to build generative AI and agentic AI applications. This demand has already strengthened the position of established cloud providers, while also creating room for specialized AI infrastructure providers.

However, Meta’s potential cloud foray would not be straightforward. AWS, Microsoft and Google have spent years building enterprise cloud ecosystems,

including compliance frameworks, developer tools, partner networks, security layers and global customer support. Meta would need to prove that it can offer not only raw compute capacity, but also enterprise-grade reliability, trust, governance and platform services.

Still, the move could be strategically significant. Meta has historically been a consumer internet and advertising company, but its AI infrastructure scale now gives it the option to participate more directly in enterprise technology. If executed well, a Meta cloud offering could position the company as a new AI infrastructure player rather than just an AI application company.

For CIOs and technology leaders, Meta’s signal is worth watching closely. More competition in AI cloud infrastructure could improve pricing, availability and innovation in compute-heavy workloads. But enterprise adoption would depend on Meta’s ability to address data privacy, security, service-level assurance and integration with existing cloud environments.

In essence, Meta’s cloud computing ambition is still conditional, not confirmed as a full commercial launch. But Zuckerberg’s comments show that the company is already thinking beyond internal AI infrastructure and exploring how its massive compute investments could open a new business frontier.

Qlik Names Saugata Saha New Chief Executive Officer

Enterprise data and AI leader to drive next phase of growth for Qlik's global platform

Qlik Technologies, a global leader in data integration, data quality, analytics, and artificial intelligence (AI), today announced the appointment of Saugata Saha as President and Chief Executive Officer, effective July 31, 2026, based in New York City. Saha joins from S&P Global, where he most recently served as President of S&P Global Market Intelligence and Chief Enterprise Data Officer. He succeeds Mike Capone, who stepped down from his role after a successful eight-year tenure.

Saha brings significant experience building, scaling, and commercializing large enterprise data and intelligence platforms. At S&P Global, he led two data

businesses — the Energy division and the Market Intelligence division — each through a period of significant transformation, accelerated revenue growth, and margin expansion. He also served as the company's first Chief Enterprise Data Officer where he was responsible for accelerating AI adoption, driving productivity, and enhancing interoperability and distribution of the company's data.

As Qlik continues to help enterprises turn trusted data into business action, Saha will lead the next phase of product innovation and commercial growth. His appointment builds on Qlik's strong foundation: the company serves over

30,000 global customers, including more than 75% of the Fortune 500. Qlik is a recognized Gartner® Magic Quadrant™ Leader across data integration, augmented data quality, and analytics and business intelligence — the only vendor to hold that distinction across all three categories.

"Qlik has built something rare: the ability to turn fragmented data into real outcomes at scale in the AI era," said Saugata Saha, incoming President and Chief Executive Officer of Qlik. "The defining challenge in Enterprise AI is making data trusted, connected, and adaptable enough to work across any environment. That is where Qlik is uniquely positioned to enable

customers to move from pilots to real business impact. I look forward to partnering with this talented team and our customers to achieve our mission of making data work for AI and making AI work for business."

"We are delighted to welcome a leader of Saugata's caliber to Qlik," said Mike Lipps, Chairman of Qlik's Board of Directors and an Operating Partner at Thoma Bravo. "He brings exactly the depth of enterprise data and platform experience that Qlik needs to accelerate its next phase of growth. We are confident he will build on the strong foundation that the company's excellent team has established. We are also deeply grateful to Mike Capone for his outstanding contributions to Qlik over the past eight years."

"Saugata has extensive experience in building AI-driven data and intelligence products and platforms that organizations depend on at scale," said Seth Boro, a Managing Partner at Thoma Bravo. "He understands what it takes to innovate at scale, while supporting enterprise product adoption, which is precisely what Qlik's next chapter of growth requires. Qlik sits at the heart of how enterprises manage and act on their data, and that role will only grow more consequential as agentic AI reshapes how businesses operate."



SAUGATA SAHA, President and Chief Executive Officer, Qlik

Singapore Emerges as Global AI Leader, But Strategy Gap Threatens Long-Term Advantage

Singapore has cemented its position as one of the world's leading AI-powered economies, ranking second globally in AI workforce adoption. However, a new Microsoft 2026 Work Trend Index reveals a growing disconnect between employee enthusiasm for AI and organisational readiness to fully harness its potential.

According to the report, Singapore's workforce is among the most active users of artificial intelligence worldwide, with employees increasingly leveraging AI to enhance productivity, decision-making, and creativity. Nearly 66% of AI users in Singapore say they are producing work today that would not have been possible a year ago, significantly above the global average. Among advanced AI users, that figure rises even further. Despite the strong adoption rates, the study highlights a critical leadership challenge. While 78% of Singaporean AI users recognise the urgency of adapting quickly to AI-driven change, only 24% believe their leadership teams have a clear and aligned AI strategy. This suggests that employees are moving faster than the organisations they work for.

The findings point to what Microsoft describes as a "transformation paradox"—a situation where AI adoption is accelerating at the workforce level, but organisational structures, incentives, and operating models are struggling to keep pace. Experts warn that without stronger leadership alignment, businesses risk missing out on the full value of their AI investments. The report also underscores that AI adoption in Singapore remains largely human-led. Most employees continue to view AI as a tool that augments human judgment rather than replaces it, reinforcing the growing importance of critical thinking, governance, and responsible AI practices in the workplace.

Why This Matters for CXOs

For CEOs, CIOs, CHROs, and business transformation leaders, the message is clear: AI adoption alone is no longer a competitive differentiator. Sustainable advantage will come from redesigning workflows, decision-making frameworks, talent strategies, and organisational culture around AI-enabled work.

Singapore's AI success story demonstrates that workforce readiness is not the biggest barrier to transformation—leadership readiness is. As AI moves from experimentation to enterprise-wide deployment, organisations that align strategy, culture, and execution will be best positioned to unlock the next wave of productivity and innovation.

Capco recognized by OpenAI for innovation and responsible AI leadership



Receives AI Governance & Risk Excellence Award at OpenAI Partner Summit

Capco's UK AI Lab wins OpenAI Codex Hackathon
Global management and technology consultancy Capco, a Wipro company, has been recognized by OpenAI for both AI innovation and responsible AI leadership.

Capco received the AI Governance & Risk Excellence Award at the recent OpenAI Partner Summit 2026 in San Francisco, highlighting Capco's ability to deliver enterprise-grade AI outcomes in highly regulated environments. The award recognizes Capco's expert advantage when helping financial services and energy organizations to scale AI with confidence, balancing innovation with strong governance to reduce risk, strengthen compliance and improve customer outcomes.

This award follows Capco winning the OpenAI Codex Hackathon, where its UK AI Lab competed against more than 30 teams and over 100 participants from across the OpenAI partner ecosystem. Capco's winning entry Sentra – a consulting-led, AI-powered retail banking solution – uses digital twin technology to identify vulnerable customers

and recommend explainable next-best actions for frontline teams.

Srini Pallia, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Wipro Limited, said "Capco is uniquely positioned to help clients unlock the full value of AI through a consulting-led, AI-powered approach built on deep domain expertise, trust and customer focus. OpenAI's recognition is a strong validation of the responsible and scalable AI solutions we are building for clients and our own business. These honours mark another important step in accelerating our AI strategy with Wipro Intelligence™ and reinforce Capco's expert advantage in delivering AI-enabled advisory and scalable solutions that create lasting value."

Capco was an early OpenAI strategic partner, participating in its beta partner programme since 2025 and working closely with OpenAI on emerging enterprise capabilities. Together, these recognitions reinforce Capco's growing position within the OpenAI partner ecosystem. They demonstrate Capco's ability to innovate at the frontier of AI technology, while having the requisite expertise to deploy AI responsibly in complex regulatory environments.

Channel Point



Agentic AI: The Next Frontier of Enterprise Transformation

Agentic AI is emerging as a major shift in enterprise technology, moving beyond traditional automation and generative AI to systems that can act autonomously, make decisions, and execute tasks.

Unlike earlier AI models that rely on prompts, agentic AI systems can plan, adapt, and collaborate across workflows, enabling enterprises to automate complex, multi-step processes.

This evolution is driving enterprises from experimentation toward real business impact. Organizations are increasingly deploying AI agents in areas like customer service, operations, and IT workflows to improve efficiency and outcomes.

However, adoption is not just about implementing tools. Enterprises must redesign workflows, strengthen data foundations, and ensure governance to fully realize value. Without this, many initiatives risk remaining stuck at the pilot stage.

The rise of agentic AI also signals a broader transformation—AI is becoming an operational layer embedded into core systems, rather than a standalone assistant.

As organizations scale these systems, success will depend on aligning technology with business strategy, ensuring security and compliance, and building infrastructure that supports autonomous decision-making at scale

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