#### **BI-WEEKLY**

## **NEWSLETTER**

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Global News, financial analyses, data center related laws & regulations and further latest updates about technologies transforming the data center industry.

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## White House in talks with Oracle and Microsoft over TikTok acquisition

The White House is currently in discussions with Oracle and Microsoft regarding the acquisition of TikTok's global operations. Oracle, which has been TikTok's U.S. cloud provider since 2022, is leading the potential deal, with Microsoft also considering involvement. These talks aim to address ongoing national security concerns related to TikTok's Chinese ownership. Previously, in 2020, Oracle and Walmart were set to acquire a 20% stake in a new entity. 'TikTok Global,' but the deal fell through after the 2020 U.S. presidential election. The current negotiations involve Oracle taking a minority stake, supported by other investors, while ByteDance, TikTok's China-based owner, would retain a minority interest. The outcome of these discussions remains uncertain, as they are part of broader efforts to ensure the app's compliance with U.S. regulations and security standards.

Source: <u>Datacenterdynamics</u>, January 26th, 2025

### How Data Centres Drive Surge in Global Energy Demand

Blackstone's \$1 billion acquisition of the Potomac Energy Center, a 774-megawatt natural gas power plant in Loudoun County, Virginia, highlights the rising demand for reliable energy to support data centers. Loudoun County, known as "Data Center Alley," houses about 25% of U.S. data centers, making it a strategic location for energy investments. The rapid growth of Al and cloud computing is driving up power consumption, with data centers expected to account for an even larger share of global electricity use by 2030. Blackstone's move reflects a broader industry trend of integrating energy infrastructure digital expansion to ensure uninterrupted power supply. The Potomac Energy Center, built in 2017, is efficient and capable of adopting hydrogen fuel blends, supporting sustainability efforts. As Northern Virginia remains a key hub for internet traffic, stable and scalable energy solutions are becoming essential. This deal underscores the critical role of energy security in the future of the digital economy.

Source: <u>Datacentremagazine</u>, January 2nd, 2025

# ByteDance could spend \$7bn to access Nvidia Blackwell chips outside China – report

ByteDance, the parent company of TikTok, plans to invest approximately \$7 billion in 2025 to access Nvidia's advanced Blackwell chips outside of China. This strategy aims enhance ByteDance's intelligence (AI) capabilities, particularly for applications like its chatbot, Doubao. Due to U.S. export restrictions advanced AI chips to China, ByteDance is focusing its investments overseas to circumvent these limitations. The company has been in discussions with data center operators in regions such as Southeast Asia to secure the necessary infrastructure for these chips. This move would position ByteDance as one of Nvidia's largest global

customers. In addition to the \$7 billion allocated for international AI infrastructure, ByteDance plans to spend over \$5.5 billion on Al chips within China. approximately 60% from suppliers like Huawei and Cambricon, and the remainder from Nvidia's less advanced chips that comply with U.S. regulations. ByteDance's Overall, total expenditure for 2025 is projected to exceed \$20 billion, with a significant focus on bolstering its Al infrastructure domestically and internationally.

Source: <u>Datacenterdynamics</u>, January 02nd, 2025

### How IBM is Advancing Data Centre Sustainability with AI

IBM's VP of ESG Strategy, Jonah Smith, discusses the company's sustainability efforts. IBM has exceeded its greenhouse gas reduction goals and now sources 70% of its from renewables. The energy Sustainability Accelerator helps non-profits and governments tackle environmental challenges using AI and cloud technologies. Each organization in the program receives two years of collaboration with IBM experts. The next initiative focuses on resilient cities, using Al to improve urban climate adaptation. Smith highlights Al's role in visualizing climate impacts and enhancing planning for extreme weather. IBM's goal is drive sustainable innovation while reducing environmental risks.

Source: Datacentremagazine, December 15th, 2024

### Zuckerberg Looks to Double Meta's GPU Stock to 1.3 Million for AI Training

Meta Platforms, under CEO Mark Zuckerberg, plans to significantly increase its investment in artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure, with capital expenditures projected between \$60 billion and \$65 billion for 2025. This marks a substantial rise from the anticipated \$38 billion to \$40 billion for 2024. A significant portion of this budget is expected to be allocated to acquiring graphics processing units (GPUs), with estimates suggesting up to \$33 billion dedicated to this purpose. Meta aims to have over 1.3 million GPUs operational by the end of the year, supporting initiatives like Meta AI, which is designed to serve more than a billion users. The company is also constructing a massive data center to bolster its AI capabilities. These strategic moves underscore Meta's commitment to establishing a leading position in the Al sector.

02/05

Source: Pcmag, January 24th, 2025

# How Fast Can a Liquid-Cooled GeForce RTX 5090 Card Run? We Tested to Find Out

The GeForce RTX 5090, equipped with 32GB of GDDR7 memory and 21,760 CUDA cores clocked at 2.01GHz (boosting to 2.41GHz), represents a significant leap in GPU performance. In tests with Cyberpunk 2077, a graphically demanding game, the RTX 5090 maintained frame rates exceeding 60fps at 4K resolution, a first for any graphics card. The integration of DLSS 4 technology further enhances performance and visual quality, showcasing the card's advanced capabilities. The RTX 5090's substantial power requirements and heat generation make it a prime candidate for liquid cooling solutions, which can

optimize its performance and maintain system stability. Enthusiasts are already anticipating the RTX 5000 series, with some even camping out to be among the first to acquire these GPUs. The RTX 5090's advancements in core count, memory, and clock speeds position it as a formidable option for high-end gaming and professional applications. Its performance in demanding scenarios underscores its potential to set new standards in the GPU market.

Source: Pcmag, January 27th, 2025

### Microsoft Probing If DeepSeek-Linked Group Improperly Obtained OpenAl Data

Microsoft and OpenAI are investigating allegations that the Chinese AI startup DeepSeek improperly accessed OpenAI's data. In late 2024, Microsoft's security researchers detected significant data exfiltration through OpenAI's developer accounts, which were believed to be linked to DeepSeek. OpenAI suspects that DeepSeek employed a technique called "distillation," where smaller models are trained using data from larger models, potentially violating OpenAI's terms of service. David Sacks, the White House's Al and crypto czar, acknowledged the likelihood of intellectual property theft, noting that such incidents are common. OpenAI emphasized the need for countermeasures and collaboration with the U.S. government to protect American technology from adversaries. DeepSeek has not yet responded to these allegations.

Source: Bloomberg, January 29th, 2025

### Huawei's Google-Free Phones Are Making Real Progress

Huawei has officially launched HarmonyOS NEXT, marking its complete departure from Android. Unlike previous versions. HarmonyOS NEXT is built entirely on Huawei's proprietary microkernel and does not support Android applications. The company has collaborated with major Chinese developers, including Meituan, Douyin, Taobao, Xiaohongshu, Alipay, and JD.com, to create native apps for the new system. At launch, over 15,000 native HarmonyOS apps and meta-services are available, though this is significantly fewer than the millions offered in Google's Play Store and Apple's App Store. Huawei claims that HarmonyOS NEXT enhances device performance by 30%, extends battery life by 56 minutes, and optimizes memory usage, leaving an average of 1.5 GB free for other tasks. The company is currently rolling out a public beta of the operating system for select smartphones and tablets equipped with its Kirin and Kunpeng chips.

Source: <u>Bloomberg</u>, January 29th, 2025



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