

# IP R&D SPARK NEWSLETTER

We can't wait to spark your imagination and fuel your journey as an IP expert!



# WELCOME TO THE DECEMBER EDITION OF IPR&D SPARK!

IPR&D Spark Newsletter aims to spark your creativity, ignite your curiosity, and keep you informed on industry trends, legal updates, and insightful analyses. Dive in and explore the fascinating world of IP and R&D with us! This newsletter isn't just about staying informed; it's about fostering a community of passionate minds.

Share your ideas at: [lprdsparknewsletter@evaluateserve.com](mailto:lprdsparknewsletter@evaluateserve.com) and let's navigate the ever-evolving landscape of IP and R&D together.



# CONTENTS

# 03

## Legal Watch

- New USPTO AI Guidelines Reshape Patent Strategy for Innovators
- November 2025 PTAB and USPTO Developments Signal Major Structural Shifts
- California Jury Hits Apple with \$634 Million Patent Infringement Verdict vs Masimo
- Texas Jury Awards \$191.4 Million Against Samsung in Display Patent Infringement

## Industry News

- USPTO Extends Comment Period for “One Challenge” PTAB Rulemaking
- WIPO Introduces “Mediation Pledge” for SEP Holders to Support IoT SMEs
- EPO Updates Rules on Public File Inspection via the European Patent Register (Effective Jan 1, 2026)
- JPO Highlights TM5 & IP5 Progress on Trademark Cooperation, PPH, and AI Tools

## Techno Spotlight

### Chemicals & Material

- Scientists create 7 remarkable new high-entropy oxide ceramic materials
- Scientists Uncover Cancer-Causing Chemicals in Common Foods
- An Artificial “Leaf” That Turns CO<sub>2</sub> Into Useful Products
- Chemists Discover Unexpected New Way to Use DNA
- Key M&A/Strategic Alliances

### Life Sciences

- Injectable Brain Implants for Noninvasive Neuromodulation
- DentoSMART-LDM: Next-Gen AI for Dental Imaging and Diagnosis
- CellXpress.AI: UCLA’s Leap Toward Autonomous Biomedical Research
- AI-Driven Neurorehabilitation: Closing the Loop in Brain-Computer Interfaces

### Hi-Tech

- MediaTek and NVIDIA Collaborate on GB10 Grace Blackwell Superchip for DGX Spark AI Supercomputer
- Breakthrough Quantum Algorithm Sheds Light on the Existence of Matter
- World Record Achieved: 50-Qubit Quantum Computer Simulated by Jülich Supercomputing Centre
- IBM and Cisco Collaborate to Build Quantum Internet with Linked Quantum Machines

### Consumer Goods

- Kimberly-Clark to Acquire Kenvue, Creating a \$32 Billion Global Health and Wellness Leader
- PepsiCo, Griffith Foods, and Milhão Launch Direct Farmer Incentive Pilot Program in Brazil to Advance Regenerative Agriculture
- Probi Launches New Probiotic Lines for Sports and Pet Care
- Melts Files Patent for Breakthrough Oral Strip Technology

### Chemical Safety & Regulatory Affairs

- Uranium in Breast Milk? Study Sparks Debate in India
- BASF Joins Global Shift Away from ‘Forever Chemicals’ – Plans Complete Phase Out by 2028
- FDA Approves Marketing of Reformulated Ranitidine, With Tighter Nitrosamine Controls
- US FDA Clears First SC Therapy for High-Risk Smoldering Myeloma
- A New Edition of ISO 10993-1:2025 Standard Tightens Biocompatibility–Risk Management Link
- ECHA Delays Ethanol Disinfectant Decision to 2026
- AICIS Signals 2026 Shake-Up to High-Hazard Chemical Rules
- ECHA Proposes Four SVHCs for Addition to REACH Authorisation List

### Automobile, e-mobility, and Mechanical

- Audi Claims Its New V-6 Diesel Engine Has Zero Turbo Lag
- ‘We’re Changing the Structure:’ GM’s Software Boss Steps Down Amid Major Overhaul
- For the First Time Ever, Plug-In Hybrids Are Outselling Diesel Cars in Europe
- Nissan and Mercedes Will Close Their Joint Factory

### Standard Essential Patents

- Ericsson Initiates Global SEP Lawsuit Against Transsion
- China Signals 6G Era: First Phase of Nationwide 6G Trials Completed
- HP Inc. Joins Sisvel Wi-Fi 6 Patent Pool – Ending Disputes with Wilus Institute of Standards and Technology, Huawei Technologies and Philips
- SoftBank’s 7 GHz Trial Signals a Strong Candidate Band for 6G



# LEGAL WATCH

## New USPTO AI Guidelines Reshape Patent Strategy for Innovators

**Contributor: Subin Khullar**

Nov' 25: This Federal Register notice updates the USPTO's examination guidance on how inventorship should be evaluated when artificial intelligence contributes to an invention. The guidance replaces the 2024 framework and aims to align office practice with recent case law and policy debates over the role of non-human actors in inventive activity. It reaffirms that only natural persons can be named inventors under U.S. law, but it clarifies how examiners should handle applications where AI tools materially assisted in conception or reduction to practice.

The notice provides factors examiners may consider in determining whether a human's contribution rises to the level of inventorship when AI systems generated intermediate results, designs, or solutions. It also addresses disclosure expectations, encouraging applicants to describe AI involvement sufficiently to support enablement and written description without treating the AI system itself as an inventor. Practitioners are given examples of compliant and non-compliant approaches to listing inventors in AI-heavy R&D workflows. The guidance is expected to influence drafting strategies, internal R&D documentation, and dispute risk over inventorship in AI-intensive industries ([Source](#)).



## November 2025 PTAB and USPTO Developments Signal Major Structural Shifts

**Contributor: Subin Khullar**

Nov' 25: There are significant late-2025 developments affecting U.S. patent adjudication and USPTO practice, with a focus on the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) and related legislative proposals. A central development is a memorandum stating that, effective October 20, 2025, the USPTO Director will personally assume responsibility for decisions on whether to institute inter partes review (IPR) proceedings, replacing prior delegation structures.

There is a new notice of proposed rulemaking that would tighten the IPR process, including requiring petitioners to stipulate against pursuing overlapping invalidity challenges elsewhere and clarifying when the USPTO may proceed despite parallel litigation outcomes. It also discusses a sweeping legislative proposal, the "Restoring America's Leadership in Innovation Act of 2025," which would roll back key aspects of the America Invents Act by abolishing the PTAB, reinstating the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, restoring first-to-invent, and strengthening presumptions of patent validity and injunctive relief. ([Source](#)).

## California Jury Hits Apple with \$634 Million Patent Infringement Verdict vs Masimo

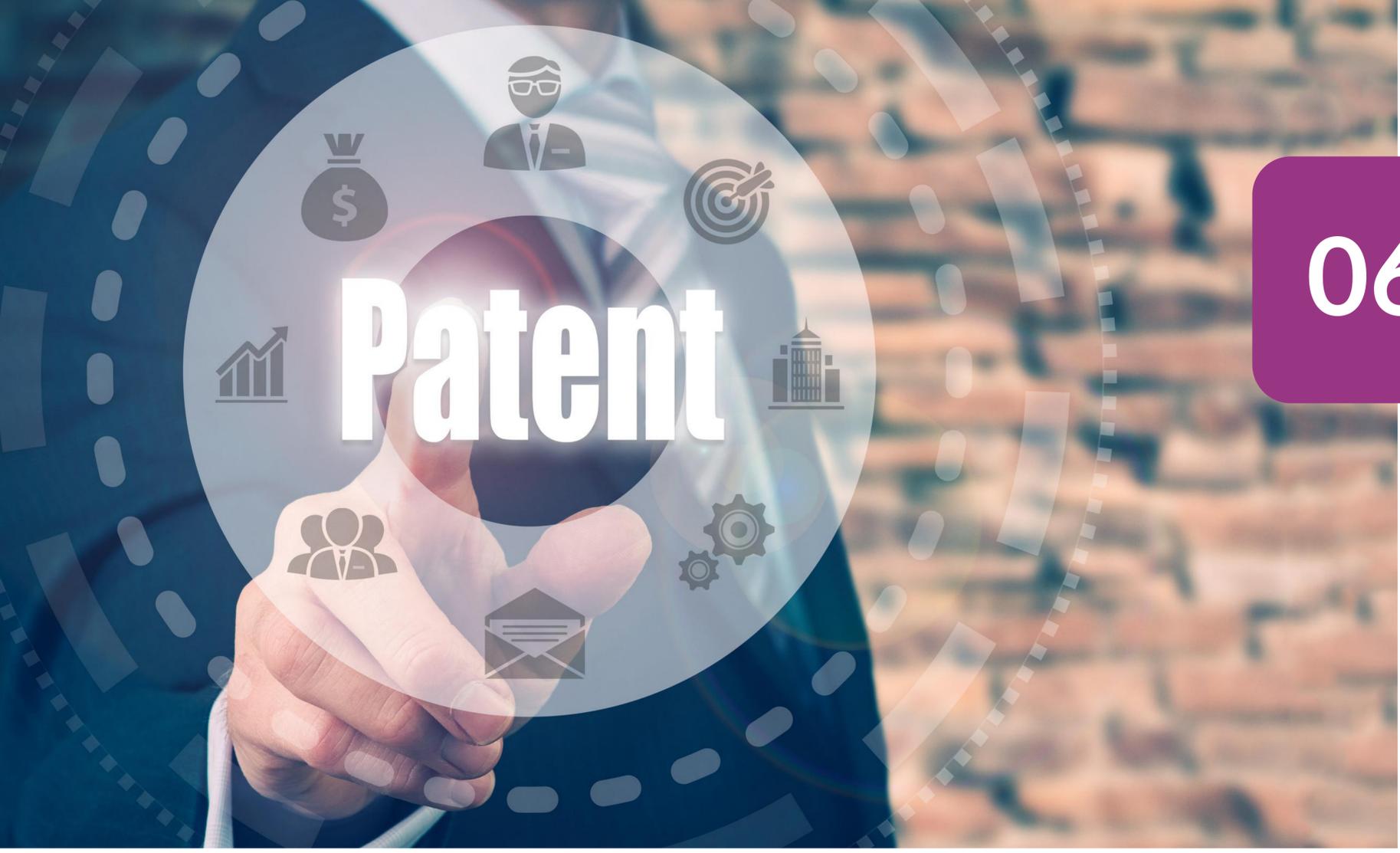
**Contributor: Subin Khullar**

Nov' 25: Masimo announced that a California federal jury has found Apple liable for infringing patents related to pulse oximetry and health-monitoring technologies used in consumer wearables. The jury awarded approximately \$634 million in damages, reflecting both the scale of Apple's alleged use and the commercial significance of the protected technology. Masimo asserts that Apple integrated patented features into certain Apple Watch models without authorization, leveraging its innovations to enhance health-tracking capabilities. The verdict is positioned as a validation of Masimo's long-term R&D investments and a clear signal that major technology companies must respect smaller innovators' IPRs. Masimo indicated plans to seek post-trial relief and continue enforcing its IP globally. ([Source](#)).

## Texas Jury Awards \$191.4 Million Against Samsung in Display Patent Infringement

**Contributor: Christy Titus George**

Nov' 25: A jury in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas returned a 191.4 million-dollar verdict in favor of Pictiva in a patent infringement suit against Samsung. The trial focused on patents related to display or visual technologies used in Samsung products. After a five-day trial, the jury found that Samsung infringed Pictiva's asserted patents and awarded substantial damages reflecting past unauthorized use. The plaintiff's trial strategy underscored the technical distinctiveness of Pictiva's inventions and highlighted evidence that Samsung incorporated the patented features into high-volume devices. The announcement notes that Pictiva is "very pleased" with the verdict and portrays the outcome as a reinforcement of strong patent rights for specialized technology developers. Post-trial motions and potential appeals are anticipated, particularly given the size of the award and the frequent scrutiny of large verdicts from the Eastern District of Texas. The case adds to the body of high-stakes display and electronics litigation and may influence Samsung's future licensing and product-design strategies. ([Source](#)).

A hand holding a magnifying glass over a central graphic that says 'Patent'. The graphic is surrounded by various business and legal icons: a money bag with a dollar sign, a person in a suit, a target, a bar chart, a building, a group of people, gears, and an envelope. The background is a blurred image of a person in a suit.

# Patent

## INDUSTRY NEWS

### USPTO Extends Comment Period for “One Challenge” PTAB Rulemaking

**Contributor: Christy Titus George**

Nov' 25: On November 6, 2025, the USPTO extended the public comment period for its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) titled “Revision to Rules of Practice before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board”, commonly referred to as the “One Challenge” proposal. First published in the Federal Register on October 17, 2025, the NPRM’s deadline for stakeholder feedback is now December 2, 2025, reflecting a 15-day extension granted after multiple requests. The USPTO also indicated that no further extensions are expected, emphasizing that PTAB discretionary denial practices have been debated extensively over the past several years and that the agency intends to move toward finalizing the rule. In practical terms, “One Challenge” seeks to curb serial or overlapping PTAB challenges—encouraging parties to bring a single, consolidated petition rather than multiple attempts against the same patent ([Source](#)).

## **WIPO Introduces “Mediation Pledge” for SEP Holders to Support IoT SMEs**

**Contributor: Dinesh Sharma**

Nov' 25: On November 20, 2025, the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center published the “WIPO Mediation Pledge by SEP holders to IoT SMEs”, a targeted ADR initiative designed to reduce escalation in standard-essential patent (SEP)/FRAND licensing disputes involving SMEs manufacturing or selling IoT devices. Under the pledge, participating SEP owners commit to offer WIPO Mediation before initiating litigation (or equivalent actions) over SEPs that are the subject of the prospective license, unless parties agree otherwise. The framework sets practical guardrails: the SME typically has 30 days to accept the mediation offer, the SEP holder may seek completion within six months, and the process runs under the WIPO Mediation Rules. The pledge aims to create a more predictable, lower-cost path to resolve negotiation impasses and keep commercial relationships moving, particularly for resource-constrained SMEs navigating multi-jurisdiction SEP exposure ([Source](#)).

## **EPO Updates Rules on Public File Inspection via the European Patent Register (Effective Jan 1, 2026)**

**Contributor: Sukriti Mittal**

Nov' 25: On November 28, 2025, the European Patent Office (EPO) published OJ EPO 2025, A65, a Decision of the EPO President dated November 13, 2025 that updates and consolidates the rules on inspection of files for European and PCT proceedings. Effective January 1, 2026, the decision confirms that files for European patent applications and granted patents (including Unitary Patents), as well as specified PCT files handled by the EPO (as Receiving Office/ISA/SISA and as designated/elected Office), will be available for free online inspection via the European Patent Register, including the Unitary Patent Register. It also addresses practical gaps by allowing documents that cannot be displayed online (e.g., non-scannable items) to be provided upon request. The decision further clarifies what is excluded from inspection—such as medical certificates, ID documents, and PACE acceleration requests—and sets out a mechanism for parties to request exclusions to protect legitimate personal or economic interests. Importantly, it supersedes earlier file-inspection decisions (2007 and 2019), providing a single updated framework ([Source](#)).

## **JPO Highlights TM5 & IP5 Progress on Trademark Cooperation, PPH, and AI Tools**

**Contributor: Vineet Sharma**

Nov' 25: On November 18, 2025, the Japan Patent Office (JPO) shared updates on two global cooperation forums. At the TM5 Annual Meeting (Oct 27–29, 2025, Alexandria, Virginia), offices reviewed 11 projects, adopted a new CNIPA-led project on a TM5 trademark application information user guide, and aligned on upcoming initiatives— including a TM5/INTA workshop on composite marks and likelihood of confusion, a bad-faith trademark workshop for Thai IP Office staff, and an expert meeting on IT tools, including AI, for examination. Separately, JPO hosted the IP5 WG3 meeting (Nov 12, Tokyo, hybrid) focused on PPH initiatives, followed by discussions on emerging tech and AI cooperation ([Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)).



**R&D and Innovation**

**08**

# **TECHNO-SPOTLIGHT**

## Scientists create 7 remarkable new high-entropy oxide ceramic materials

**Contributor: Rachna Gupta**

Nov' 25: Penn State scientists discovered seven new ceramics by simply removing oxygen—opening a path to materials once beyond reach. Sometimes, less truly is more. By removing oxygen during the synthesis process, a team of materials scientists at Penn State successfully created seven new high-entropy oxides (HEOs)—a class of ceramics made from five or more metals that show promise for use in energy storage, electronics, and protective coatings.

During their experiments, the researchers also established a framework for designing future materials based on thermodynamic principles. ([Source](#)).

## Chemists Discover Unexpected New Way to Use DNA

**Contributor: Rachna Gupta**

Nov' 25: Ionic interactions involving DNA phosphates are ubiquitous and essential across all kingdoms of life. For the first time, their catalytic potential has been demonstrated in a variety of asymmetric transformations through ion-pairing interactions in water. Chemists have discovered an unexpected way to use deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). Beyond its role as the carrier of genetic information, DNA can also serve as a powerful tool to make the production of medicinal compounds more efficient. The team found that specific parts of DNA, known as phosphates, can act like tiny “hands” that help guide chemical reactions, ensuring that the process produces the desired mirror-image form of a molecule. ([Source](#)).

## Scientists Uncover Cancer-Causing Chemicals in Common Foods

**Contributor: Rachna Gupta**

Nov' 25: A new study highlights how an emerging extraction technique could transform the way harmful contaminants are monitored in everyday foods.. The study uses an advanced QuEChERS–GC–MS detection method to uncover hidden carcinogens in cooking oils and meats. This method not only simplifies the analytical process but also demonstrates high efficiency in detection compared to conventional methods. It can be applied to a wide range of food matrices. In the industrial sector, this method could be used for inspecting food products for safety management. Furthermore, it is expected to lead to cost reduction and improved safety for workers. ([Source](#)).

## An Artificial “Leaf” That Turns CO<sub>2</sub> Into Useful Products

**Contributor: Rachna Gupta**

Nov 25: Researchers at Cambridge have developed a solar-powered device that imitates photosynthesis to turn CO<sub>2</sub>, sunlight, and water into valuable chemical fuels.. Their non-toxic “semi-artificial leaf” can run continuously and efficiently, producing pharmaceutical compounds with high purity. The discovery could help replace fossil fuels in chemical manufacturing and spark a new era of green chemistry. ([Source](#)).

## Key M&A/Strategic Alliances

**Contributor: Rachna Gupta**

Nov' 25:

- Holcim to acquire Xella. ([Source](#)).
- Holcim makes three acquisitions to accelerate circular construction in the UK, Germany and France ([Source](#)).
- BASF and ExxonMobil Join Forces to Advance Low - Emission Hydrogen Through Methane Pyrolysis Technology ([Source](#)).



## Injectable Brain Implants for Noninvasive Neuromodulation

**Contributor: Aparajita Basu**

Nov' 25: MIT researchers have pioneered circulatronics—microscopic, wireless bioelectronic implants that can be injected into the bloodstream and autonomously self-implant in targeted brain regions. These cell-electronics hybrids cross the blood-brain barrier without surgery, enabling precise neuromodulation for diseases like Alzheimer's, brain cancer, and chronic pain. Powered wirelessly via near-infrared light, they deliver localized stimulation safely without harming neurons. This breakthrough could replace costly, risky brain surgeries and transform neurological care. Clinical trials are planned within three years through Cahira Technologies ([Source](#)).

## CellXpress.AI: UCLA's Leap Toward Autonomous Biomedical Research

**Contributor: Aparajita Basu**

Nov' 25: UCLA has introduced CellXpress.AI, a fully automated AI-driven robotic system for cell and tissue research, funded by a \$1.9M NIH grant. Located at the California NanoSystems Institute, it handles liquid transfers, incubation, imaging, and data analysis autonomously. The system accelerates organoid development—critical for drug discovery and disease modeling—while reducing manual labor and variability. Researchers can now design, test, and analyze experiments simultaneously, improving reproducibility and scalability. This innovation marks a major step toward remote, autonomous labs, transforming biomedical research efficiency and accessibility ([Source](#)).

## DentoSMART-LDM: Next-Gen AI for Dental Imaging and Diagnosis

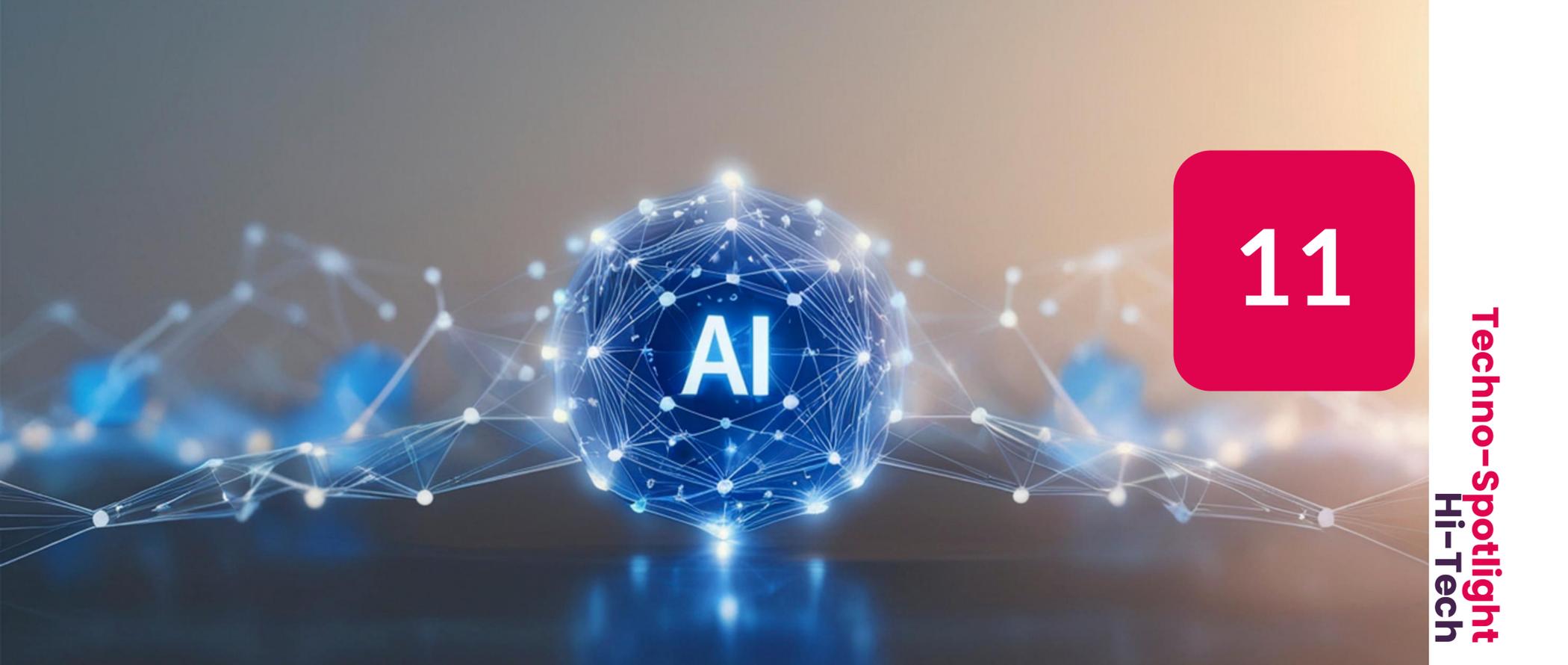
**Contributor: Deepak Kumar**

Nov' 25: DentoSMART-LDM is the first dental AI framework combining DSMART, a dynamic multi-objective metaheuristic algorithm for radiographic enhancement, with DentoLDM, a pathology-aware latent diffusion model. This dual approach tackles image degradation and data scarcity, preserving diagnostic accuracy while generating high-quality synthetic data. Evaluated on over 100,000 radiographs, it achieved SSIM 0.941, PSNR 34.82 dB, and 97.3% diagnostic accuracy, with expert confidence up by 23%. It also enables few-shot learning for rare oral pathologies, marking a paradigm shift in dental AI ([Source](#)).

## AI-Driven Neurorehabilitation: Closing the Loop in Brain-Computer Interfaces

**Contributor: Ashmita Bera**

Nov' 25: Brain-computer interface (BCI) closed-loop systems are emerging as powerful tools for neurorehabilitation and cognitive monitoring, especially for Alzheimer's and related dementias. A systematic review of 18 studies highlights how AI and machine learning—using techniques like CNNs, SVMs, and transfer learning—boost signal classification, feature extraction, and real-time adaptability. These advances enable accurate cognitive state monitoring and potential caregiver alert systems. However, challenges remain, including calibration time, computational costs, data security, and signal variability. Future research aims to refine AI models, improve sensor technology, and enhance scalability, paving the way for personalized, continuous neurological health care ([Source](#)).



## MediaTek and NVIDIA Collaborate on GB10 Grace Blackwell Superchip for DGX Spark AI Supercomputer

**Contributor: Christy Titus George**

Nov' 25: MediaTek has partnered with NVIDIA to design the GB10 Grace Blackwell Superchip, featured in the NVIDIA DGX Spark, a personal AI supercomputer. Available from October 15, DGX Spark enables developers to prototype, fine-tune, and infer large AI models on a desktop. The GB10 Superchip combines MediaTek's expertise in power-efficient, high-performance CPU design with NVIDIA's latest Blackwell GPU and 128GB unified memory, delivering up to 1 PFLOP of AI performance. This setup supports AI models up to 200 billion parameters and can connect two DGX Spark systems for models up to 405 billion parameters. The compact and power-efficient design aims to advance AI development across industries, making high-performance technology more accessible. ([Source](#))

## Breakthrough Quantum Algorithm Sheds Light on the Existence of Matter

**Contributor: Atul Kumar Pal**

Nov' 25: Researchers have developed scalable quantum circuits using IBM's quantum computers to simulate matter under extreme conditions, offering new insights into fundamental forces and the origins of the universe. These circuits can generate the initial state of particle collisions, focusing on strong interactions within the Standard Model. Initially tested on small-scale systems, the circuits were extended to larger systems, successfully modeling nuclear physics on over 100 qubits. This advancement promises to solve complex physics problems, potentially outperforming classical computing. ([Source](#))

## World Record Achieved: 50-Qubit Quantum Computer Simulated by Jülich Supercomputing Centre

**Contributor: Atul Kumar Pal**

Nov' 25: The Jülich Supercomputing Centre team, in collaboration with NVIDIA specialists, has successfully simulated a universal quantum computer with 50 qubits using JUPITER, Europe's first exascale supercomputer. This achievement surpasses the previous record of 48 qubits set in 2019. The simulation showcases JUPITER's exceptional capabilities and serves as a testbed for exploring and validating quantum algorithms. Simulating quantum computers is crucial for advancing quantum technologies, enabling verification of experimental results and testing new algorithms before hardware execution. Applications include molecular analysis and optimization in logistics, finance, and AI. ([Source](#))

## IBM and Cisco Collaborate to Build Quantum Internet with Linked Quantum Machines

**Contributor: Mukesh Kumar**

Nov' 25: IBM and Cisco Systems have announced plans to connect quantum computers over long distances, aiming to demonstrate the feasibility of such networks by the end of the decade. This project could lead to the creation of a quantum internet, revolutionizing global connectivity. Quantum computers can solve complex problems but are currently error-prone and challenging to build reliably. IBM hopes to have an operational quantum machine by 2029. The project will require new technologies, including a microwave-optical transducer to transform microwave qubits into optical signals, supported by groups like the Superconducting Quantum Materials and Systems Center. Cisco and IBM also plan to publish open-source software to integrate all components into one system. ([Source](#))

HEALTH  
AND  
WELLNESS

## Kimberly-Clark to Acquire Kenvue, Creating a \$32 Billion Global Health and Wellness Leader

**Contributor: Simmi Kapoor**

Nov' 25: Kimberly-Clark agreed to acquire Kenvue in a cash-and-stock deal worth about \$48.7 bn, creating a \$32-bn global health & wellness leader with a powerful, complementary portfolio spanning personal care and consumer health.

By bringing together iconic brands, deep scientific expertise, expanded global reach, and a strong commercial & digital engine, the merger aims to accelerate innovation, enhance consumer relevance across life stages, and drive sustained value creation for customers, consumers, and shareholders ([Source](#)).

## PepsiCo, Griffith Foods, and Milhão Launch Direct Farmer Incentive Pilot Program in Brazil to Advance Regenerative Agriculture

**Contributor: Simmi Kapoor**

Nov'25: PepsiCo, in collaboration with Griffith Foods and Milhão, launched a direct farmer incentive pilot program to advance regenerative agriculture, in Brazil's Cerrado region, one of the world's most biodiverse savannas and a vital agricultural frontier.

This pilot program introduces a hybrid Payment for Practice and Payment for Outcomes model, directly compensating farmers for adopting regenerative agriculture practices such as composting, biological inputs, and reducing chemical fertilizer use. Farmers receive upfront payments to offset the cost of sustainable inputs, and then also receive performance-based bonuses for reducing agrochemical applications throughout the season ([Source](#)).

## Probi Launches New Probiotic Lines for Sports and Pet Care

**Contributor: Akshyansh Kumar**

Nov' 25: Probi has expanded its portfolio with two new categories: Sports & Active Nutrition by Probi and Pets by Probi. This marks the company's entry into the pet supplement market with scientifically backed probiotic solutions for dogs and cats, targeting digestive and oral health.

The Sports & Active Nutrition range features the Lactiplantibacillus plantarum 299V (LP299V) strain, which research suggests supports physical performance, endurance, circulatory health, and digestive comfort during exercise. These innovations strengthen Probi's position in delivering tailored probiotic solutions for both human and pet wellness ([Source](#)).

## Melts Files Patent for Breakthrough Oral Strip Technology

**Contributor: Akshyansh Kumar**

Nov' 25: Melts has filed a patent for an innovative biofilm disruption technology designed to enhance nutrient absorption from its dissolvable oral supplement strips. The oral biofilm, a natural barrier inside the mouth, often limits nutrient uptake—even in dissolvable formats.

This new system gently opens the barrier, allowing amino acids, vitamins, and other nutrients to enter the bloodstream faster for improved effectiveness. Featured in Melts' fast-dissolving strips, the technology aims to overcome absorption challenges seen in current products, ensuring better delivery and performance ([Source](#)).



## Uranium in Breast Milk? Study Sparks Debate in India

**Contributor: Kirti Adhikari**

Nov' 25: A recent study detected uranium traces in 40 breast milk samples from Bihar, raising public concern. Experts emphasise that the levels are negligible and no health effects have been observed. Authorities caution against panic that could discourage breastfeeding, vital for infant nutrition. Critics question the study's methodology and its narrow focus on breast milk, urging balanced interpretation ([Source](#)).

## BASF Joins Global Shift Away from 'Forever Chemicals' - Plans Complete Phase Out by 2028

**Contributor: Megha Walia**

Nov' 25: BASF, the world's largest chemicals group, will phase out polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS or Forever Chemicals) by 2028, joining a third of major manufacturers moving away from "forever chemicals", according to ChemScore. The decision responds to investor pressure over toxicity, water contamination, environmental damage, cleanup costs, and long-term legal liability. It is welcomed as a key step to protect ecosystems, public health, boost ESG performance and drive safer chemistry innovation, while signaling both transition costs and new green-tech opportunities ([Source1](#); [Source2](#)).

## FDA Approves Marketing of Reformulated Ranitidine, With Tighter Nitrosamine Controls

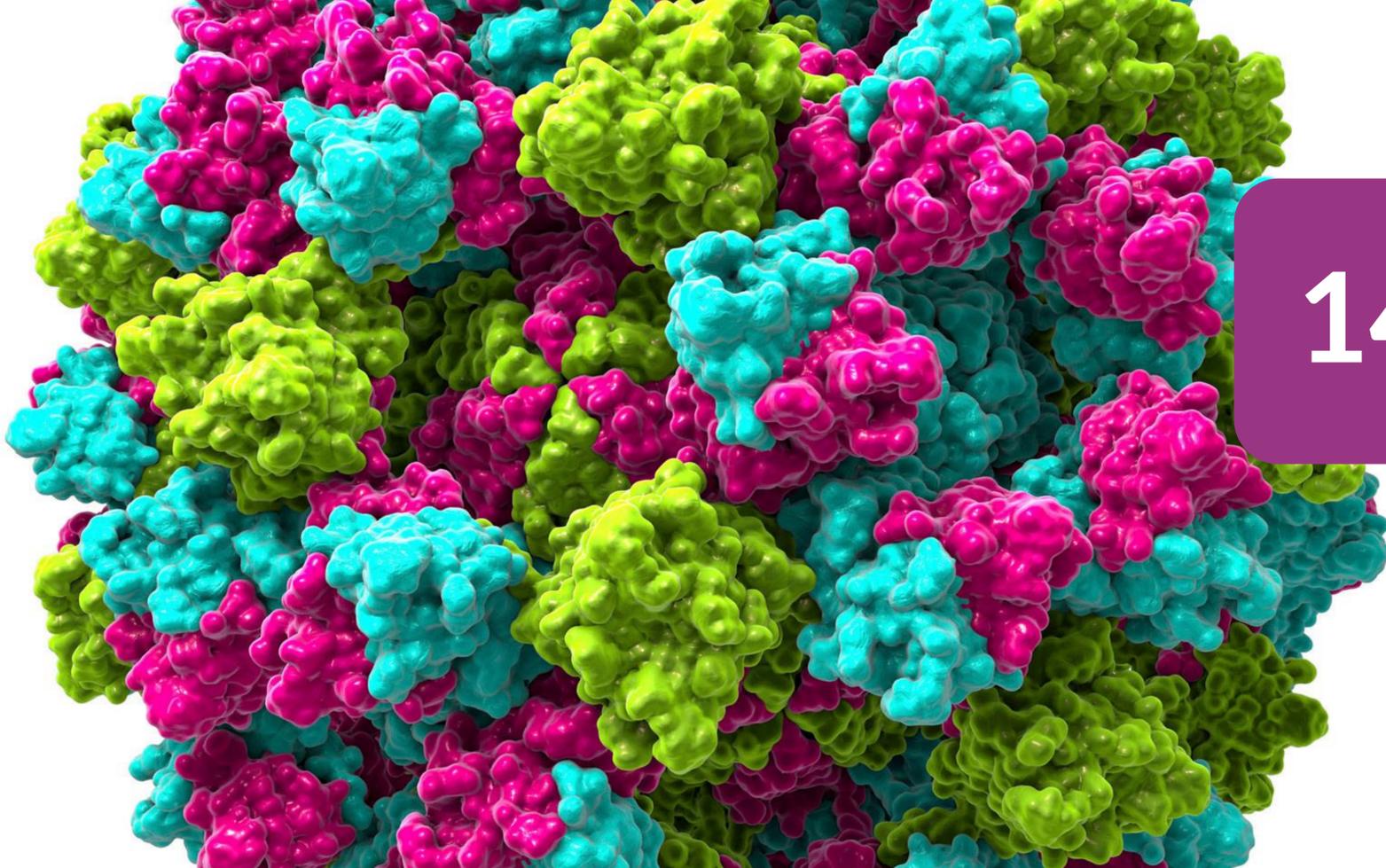
**Contributor: Basharat Ahmad Sofi**

Nov' 25: The US FDA has cleared a reformulated version of ranitidine (Zantac) more than five years after it was withdrawn over NDMA-linked cancer risk. Extensive testing shows that manufacturing upgrades, along with tighter storage and handling instructions, curb nitrosamine formation while preserving efficacy and safety in gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), ulcers and other acid-related disorders. Patients are urged to discard opened bottles after three months and follow new label guidance as the FDA broadens nitrosamine oversight and research ([Source](#)).

## US FDA Clears First SC Therapy for High-Risk Smoldering Myeloma

**Contributor: Jiju Narayanan**

Nov' 25: The FDA has approved subcutaneous (SC) Daratumumab and hyaluronidase-fihj for adults with high-risk smoldering multiple myeloma, making this CD38-directed antibody the first therapy approved for this early disease stage. The fixed-dose combination (1,800 mg daratumumab plus 30,000 units of hyaluronidase) is administered subcutaneously over approximately 3–5 minutes, offering a rapid outpatient option that may delay progression to active multiple myeloma and expand evidence-based early intervention choices for high-risk patients ([Source](#)).



14

## A New Edition of ISO 10993-1:2025 Standard Tightens Biocompatibility-Risk Management Link

**Contributor: Ganesh B and Pooja Meher**

Nov' 25: The International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) has released the sixth edition of ISO 10993-1:2025 standard on biological evaluation of medical devices, fully re-organised to align with ISO 14971:2019. The update strengthens the integration of biocompatibility into device risk management, with clearer terminology, expanded guidance on exposure duration, material characterisation and hazard identification, as well as new annexes explaining the rationale for these changes ([Source1](#); [Source2](#)).

## ECHA Delays Ethanol Disinfectant Decision to 2026

**Contributor: Mayank Kakkar**

Nov' 25: The European Chemicals Agency's (ECHA) Biocidal Products Committee has postponed its decision on approving ethanol as an active substance for hand and surface disinfectants. The committee failed to reach a consensus, so no opinion was adopted. Deliberations will resume in February 2026, with a final opinion expected after May 2026, before the European Commission makes its ruling ([Source](#)).

## AICIS Signals 2026 Shake-Up to High-Hazard Chemical Rules

**Contributor: Basharat Ahmad Sofi**

Nov' 25: AICIS has opened consultation on Sep 2026 updates to the Industrial Chemicals Categorisation Guidelines. Proposals include expanding the high-hazard list (294 additions, 121 updates, 2 removals and a CAS correction), a single definition of "chemical identity holder", and adding five benzotriazole derivatives as high-hazard salts/esters, which may move some introductions into higher regulatory categories under Steps 4 and 5. Businesses should review inventories, R&D, procurement, assess salt/ester formation, check CAS details, and provide feedback by 28 Jan 2026, including on any other candidates for Part 6, to help ensure oversight keeps pace with emerging hazard data ([Source](#)).

## ECHA Proposes Four SVHCs for Addition to REACH Authorisation List

**Contributor: Mayank Kakkar**

Nov' 25: ECHA has recommended that four substances of very high concern (SVHC) such as – barium diboron tetraoxide; a phosphorodithioate flame retardant; diphenyl(2,4,6-trimethylbenzoyl)phosphine oxide; and melamine) be added to the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) Authorisation List. If listed, companies will need time-limited authorisation to continue using or placing them on the EEA market. The move aims to drive substitution with safer alternatives and ensure strict control of risks to human health and the environment, while final decisions will be taken by the European Commission and EU Member States ([Source](#)).

## Audi Claims Its New V-6 Diesel Engine Has Zero Turbo Lag

**Contributor: Nitesh Kumar**

Nov' 25: Audi's new 3.0-liter V6 TDI engine, debuting in the A6 and Q5, pairs a mild-hybrid system with an electrically powered compressor for improved torque and reduced turbo lag. It can run on hydrotreated vegetable oil, cutting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by up to 95%. Despite diesel's declining market share, Audi continues to innovate ([Source](#)).

## For the First Time Ever, Plug-In Hybrids Are Outselling Diesel Cars in Europe

**Contributor: Sachin Patel**

Nov' 25: Diesel engines are declining in Europe, with plug-in hybrids surpassing them in popularity. Diesel's market share dropped to 8% in 2025, while stringent emissions regulations and incentives for electrified vehicles have driven the shift towards hybrids and EVs. Gasoline engines' improved efficiency also contributed to diesel's downfall ([Source](#)).

## 'We're Changing the Structure:' GM's Software Boss Steps Down Amid Major Overhaul

**Contributor: Nitesh Kumar**

Nov' 25: Sterling Anderson, GM's chief product officer, will oversee the automaker's software services following Dave Richardson's departure. GM is restructuring its Software and Services Engineering team to enhance technology development. By 2028, GM plans to launch a centralized computer system to improve software features, connectivity, and autonomy, while phasing out Apple CarPlay and Android Auto ([Source](#)).

## Nissan and Mercedes Will Close Their Joint Factory

**Contributor: Sachin Patel**

Nov' 25: Nissan and Daimler's COMPAS factory in Mexico, built in 2015, will shut down by mid-2026 as part of Nissan's cost-cutting restructuring. The factory produced Infiniti and Mercedes models, which are being phased out. Nissan plans to close seven factories, reduce workforce by 20,000, and simplify design to cut costs ([Source](#)).



## Ericsson Initiates Global SEP Lawsuit Against Transsion

**Contributor: Jitendra Shreemukh**

Nov' 25: Ericsson has launched coordinated legal action against Transsion — covering Brazil, India, Nigeria, and before the Unified Patent Court (UPC). After nearly a decade of unsuccessful negotiations, Ericsson says Transsion rejected its FRAND-based offers and failed to sign a global license for 4G/5G standard-essential patents (SEPs). Describing Transsion's approach as "perpetual delay tactics," Ericsson argues this has distorted competition and hindered innovation, particularly disadvantaging rivals who duly license its >60,000-patent portfolio. The move marks a major escalation in SEP enforcement against one of the few unlicensed top-ten smartphone manufacturers globally ([Source](#)).

## HP Inc. Joins Sisvel Wi-Fi 6 Patent Pool — Ending Disputes with Wilus Institute of Standards and Technology, Huawei Technologies and Philips

**Contributor: Jitendra Shreemukh**

Nov' 25: HP Inc. and Sisvel have reached a mediated agreement for HP to become a licensee of the Sisvel Wi-Fi 6 patent pool, thereby resolving pending infringement litigation initiated by Wilus against HP, and simultaneously ending actions from other pool licensors Huawei and Philips. Under the deal, HP will obtain one-stop access to roughly 2,000 patents (about 245 patent families) declared essential to the IEEE 802.11ax (Wi-Fi 6) standard ([Source](#)).

## China Signals 6G Era: First Phase of Nationwide 6G Trials Completed

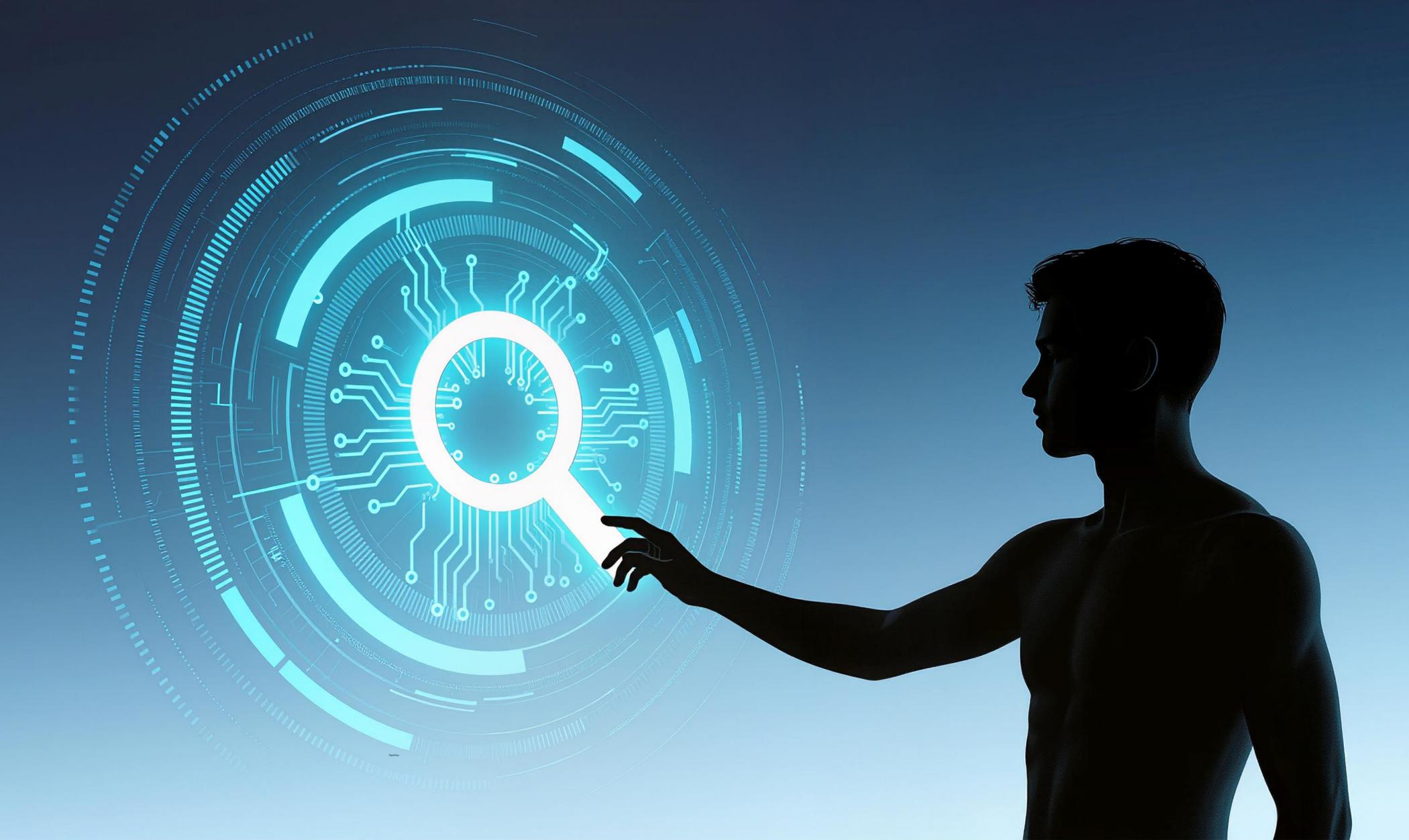
**Contributor: Jitendra Shreemukh**

Nov' 25: China has successfully completed the first phase of its 6G technology trials — a four-year program — delivering more than 300 breakthroughs in core technologies. The initial phase defines the main technical directions for 6G, with future phases planned to develop prototypes and eventually pre-commercial equipment for full system networking. Officials highlight that 6G will integrate communications, sensing, computing and intelligence, expanding connectivity from humans and devices to intelligent agents — aiming for space-air-ground coverage and "digital twin"-enabled ubiquitous interconnection ([Source](#)).

## SoftBank's 7 GHz Trial Signals a Strong Candidate Band for 6G

**Contributor: Jitendra Shreemukh**

Nov' 25: SoftBank announced that its outdoor trial in Tokyo — conducted since June 2025 with Nokia — successfully demonstrated that the 7 GHz band (7,125–8,400 MHz) can deliver wide-area coverage and stable high-quality communication even in dense urban environments. SoftBank says these results validate 7 GHz as a promising spectrum for future 6G networks, offering a potential balance between high capacity and broad coverage — a crucial factor as data demand surges due to AI-driven services ([Source](#)).



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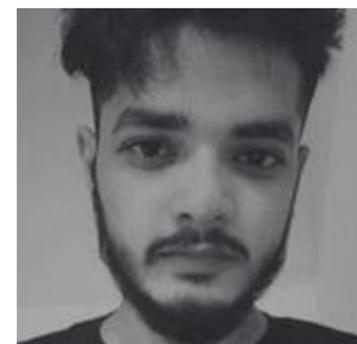
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