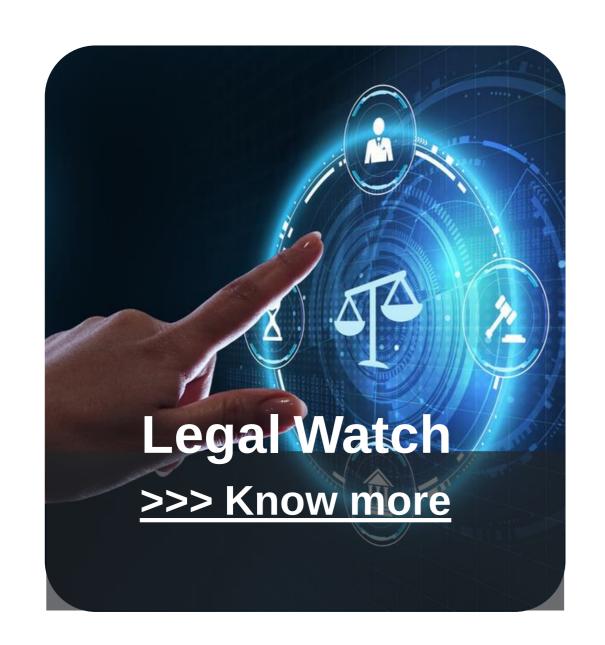




# WELCOME TO THE SEPTEMBER EDITION OF IPR&D SPARK!

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: <u>Iprdsparknewsletter@evalueserve.com</u> and let's navigate the ever-evolving landscape of IP and R&D together.









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### LEGAL WATCH



#### Alpha Modus Sues A2Z Cust2Mate Over Al Retail Patents

**Contributor: Subin Khullar** 

Aug' 25: Alpha Modus, a U.S.-based AI retail technology firm, filed a patent infringement lawsuit against A2Z Cust2Mate Solutions Corp., a subsidiary of A2Z Smart Technologies, in the Eastern District of Texas, a popular venue for patent litigation. The suit centers around five patents held by Alpha Modus, which cover innovations in AI-powered smart shopping carts and intelligent retail systems.

Alpha Modus claims that A2Z's Cust2Mate smart carts unlawfully incorporate its patented technologies, including real-time inventory tracking, dynamic customer engagement interfaces, and predictive analytics for store layout optimization. These systems are designed to enhance the in-store shopping experience by integrating Al with physical retail infrastructure.

The complaint alleges that A2Z has been marketing and deploying these carts in major retail chains across the U.S., infringing Alpha Modus's intellectual property. Alpha Modus is seeking monetary damages, injunctive relief, and a permanent ban on the sale and use of the infringing products.

This case is expected to be closely watched in the retail tech and AI sectors, as it could set important precedents for how emerging technologies are protected and litigated under U.S. patent law. It also reflects the growing tension between innovation and IP enforcement in AI-driven industries (<u>Source</u>).



#### Masimo sues US Customs over approval of Apple Watch imports

#### **Contributor: Subin Khullar**

Aug' 25: In August 2025, Masimo, a medical technology company, sued U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Washington, D.C. federal court over its decision to allow Apple to import smartwatches with blood-oxygen reading features. Masimo argued that Customs reversed a prior ruling without notice, enabling Apple to reintroduce pulse oximetry technology in its watches despite an ongoing patent dispute. The company claimed it only learned of the August 1 decision after Apple publicly announced the feature's return. Masimo has long accused Apple of misappropriating its technology and hiring away key employees, and has filed separate lawsuits for patent infringement and trade secret theft. In 2023, Masimo successfully convinced the U.S. International Trade Commission to block imports of Apple's Series 9 and Ultra 2 watches. Apple responded by selling redesigned models without the disputed feature. Masimo now seeks to halt Customs' latest ruling, arguing it undermines the ITC's exclusion order and violates its rights (Source).

#### EpiPen patent expiry opens new era for innovation

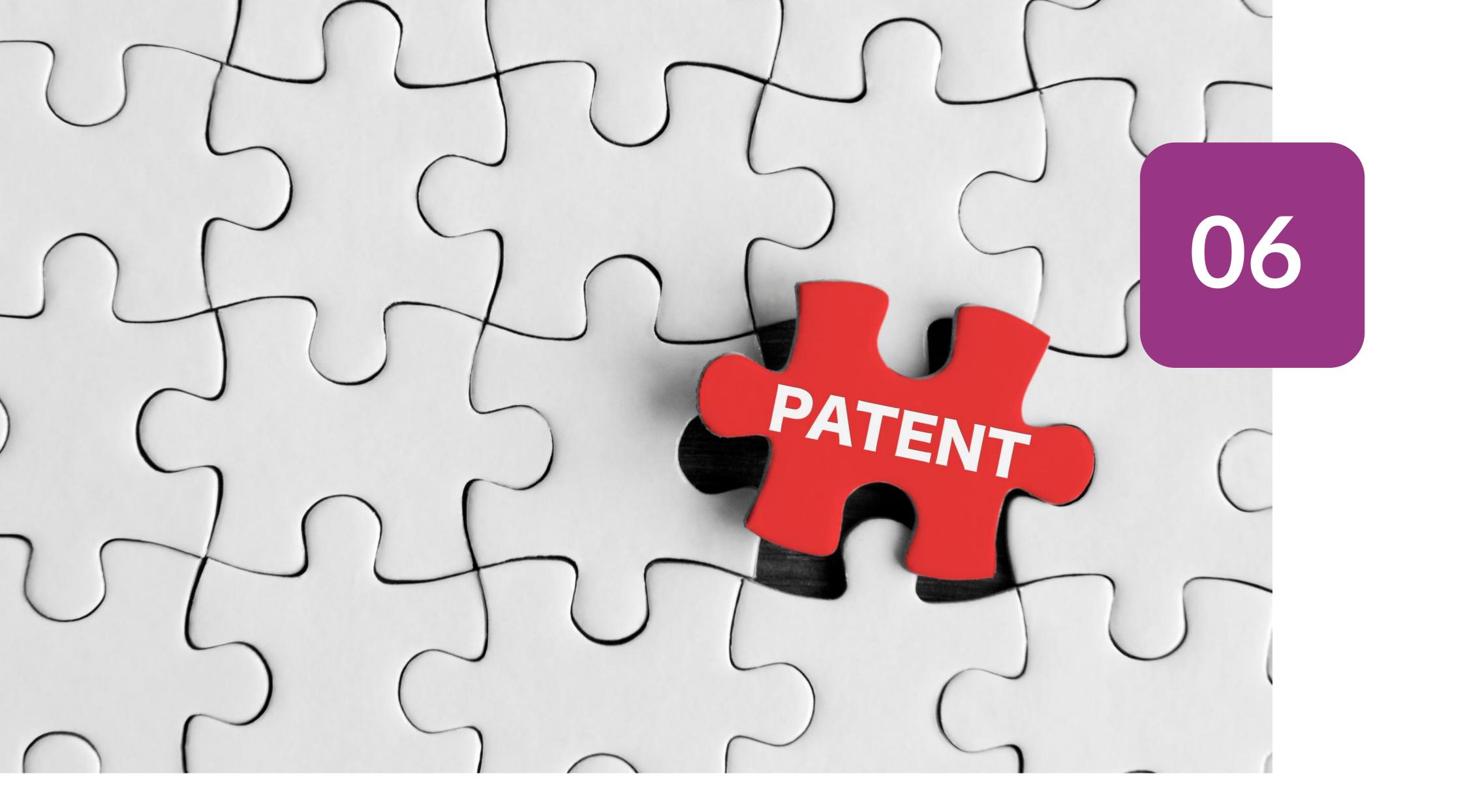
#### **Contributor: Rani Holani**

Aug' 25: The expiration of Viatris's EpiPen patent on September 11, 2025, is expected to reshape the epinephrine autoinjector market by increasing competition and lowering prices. Viatris, formed from the merger of Mylan and Pfizer's Upjohn division, previously faced criticism and legal action for inflating EpiPen prices and allegedly conspiring to delay generic alternatives. A recent \$73.5 million settlement with KPH Healthcare Services highlighted these concerns. With the patent expiring, generic manufacturers can now replicate EpiPen's spring-loaded mechanism, previously protected by patent, and introduce improved designs with features like better ergonomics, child-friendly formats, and digital integrations. According to Dr. Stuart Grant of Archetype MedTech, this shift will enhance affordability and accessibility for consumers. Viatris may respond by reducing prices, offering financial support programs, or pursuing "evergreening" strategies such as secondary patents or next-generation devices. The removal of patent barriers also opens the door for innovation in formulation and delivery methods, potentially accelerating regulatory approval and encouraging new market entrants (Source).

#### U.S. Legislative Update on Patent Law – PREVAIL Act and PERA Act

#### **Contributor: Christy Titus George**

Aug' 25: Two major bills in Congress—the PREVAIL (Promoting and Respecting Economically Vital American Innovation Leadership) Act and the PERA (Patent Eligibility Restoration Act) Act—could significantly reshape U.S. patent law in favor of patent owners. The PREVAIL Act (S.1553; H.R.3160) aims to reform the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) process by requiring petitioners to have legal standing, limiting joinders, applying estoppel at the time of petition filling, and raising the burden of proof to "clear and convincing" evidence. It also harmonizes claim construction standards with district courts and restricts duplicative invalidity arguments across forums. The PERA Act (S.1546; H.R.3152) seeks to restore patent eligibility by eliminating judicial exceptions and clearly defining ineligible subject matter, such as abstract ideas, mental processes, and unmodified natural materials. Both bills were reintroduced in the 119th Congress after failing to advance previously. These developments reflect ongoing efforts to strengthen patent rights and clarify procedural boundaries (Source).



### INDUSTRY NEWS

# USPTO Ends Expedited Design Patent Examination to Address Fraud Surge

**Contributor: Christy Titus George** 

Aug' 25: The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has issued a final rule eliminating expedited examination of design applications, effective August 14, 2025. The decision follows the program's suspension on April 17, 2025, and is intended to reduce examination backlogs while addressing fraudulent practices.

In recent years, requests for expedited design reviews surged by 560%, with much of the increase linked to fraudulent applications and erroneous micro-entity certifications. According to the USPTO, these abuses strained examiners, slowed legitimate processing, and posed risks to the integrity of the intellectual property system.

Although the expedited track has been removed, applicants still have a narrow option to seek faster review. The Accelerated Examination program remains available for design cases where a petition to make special is filed with proper justification and the required fee.

The USPTO stated the change supports its broader efforts to reduce pendency and protect the patent system (<u>Source</u>).



#### Japan and ASEAN Advance IP Cooperation with Fresh Action Plan

#### **Contributor: Dinesh Sharma**

Aug' 25: At the 15th Japan-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting in Ayutthaya, Thailand (Aug 19, 2025), the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and ASEAN member states adopted the 2025–2026 IP Rights Action Plan. Key takeaways included ERIA's research on branding strategies and patent examination practices in pharmaceutical and related technologies—areas critical for innovation-led growth. The JPO also signed a memorandum with Thailand to extend and update the Japan-Thailand PPH pilot program, set to expire this year. In bilateral talks with Laos, the Philippines, and Singapore, leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening cross-border IP cooperation. The meeting underscored Japan's role in fostering regional alignment on IP standards and supporting ASEAN's innovation ecosystem (Source).

#### **USPTO** Reinforces §101 Guidance for AI and Software-Related Claims

#### **Contributor: Anuj Raj**

Aug' 25: The USPTO issued a memorandum to examiners in Technology Centers 2100, 2600, and 3600 reminding them how to apply 35 U.S.C. §101 subject matter eligibility, particularly in software, AI, and machine learning cases. The memo aligns with the MPEP (Rev. 01.2024) and the 2024 AI-SME Update and stresses three key steps:

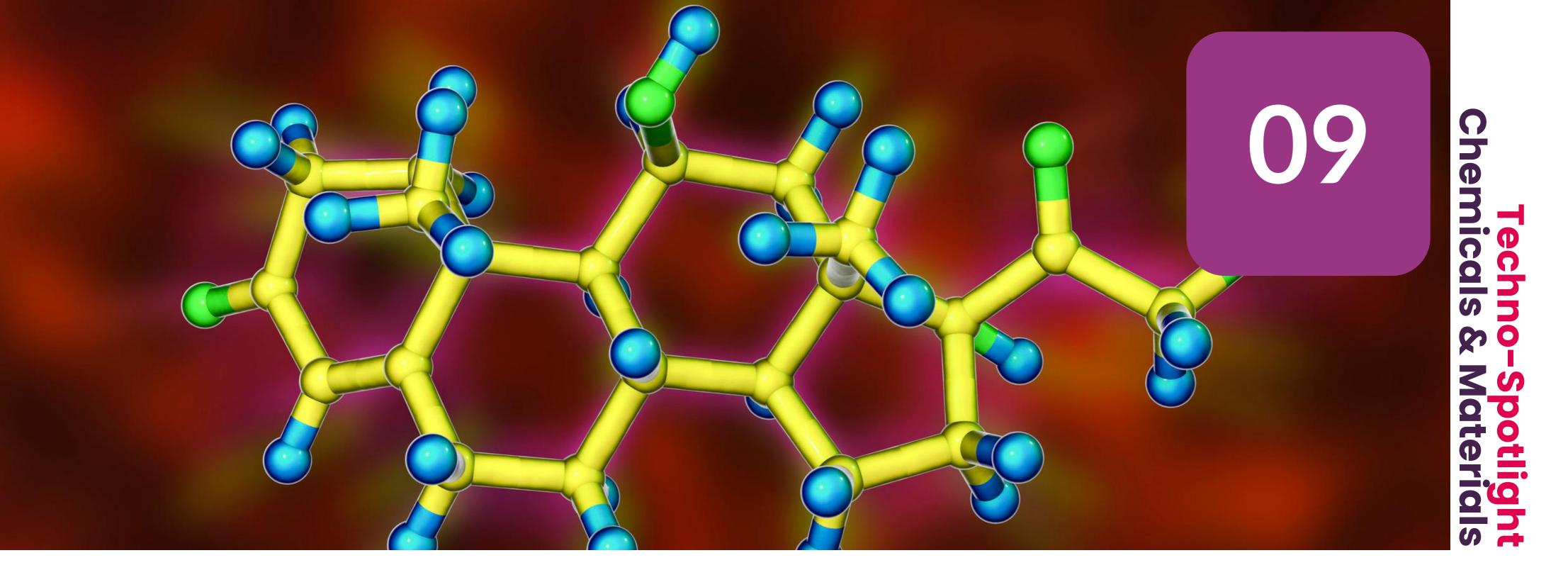
- •Step 2A Prong One determine if a claim recites a judicial exception (abstract ideas, laws of nature, natural phenomena). This includes the mental process grouping—things that could be done by human thought or with pen and paper.
- •Step 2A Prong Two assess if the claim integrates the exception into a practical application, such as a genuine technological improvement.
- •Step 2B evaluate whether additional elements provide an inventive concept beyond the exception. Examiners are cautioned against oversimplifying claims, expanding mental processes too broadly, or making "close-call" rejections without clear evidence. The USPTO reiterated that compact prosecution requires addressing all statutory bases together (Source).

#### **USPTO Tightens Rules for IPR Petitions (Effective Sept. 1, 2025)**

#### **Contributor: Atul Kumar Pal**

Aug' 25: The USPTO announced that starting September 1, 2025, inter partes review (IPR) petitions must clearly identify where each claim element appears in the cited prior art. Although this requirement has existed since 2012, it was rarely enforced. Petitioners will no longer be able to rely on "general knowledge" to fill gaps, though such knowledge can still support motivation to combine references. This change raises the evidentiary bar, likely benefiting patent owners defending their patents while compelling challengers to rely solely on prior art patents or printed publications (Source).





### Bye-Bye Teflon? This Slick New Material Could Change Cookware Forever

#### **Contributor: Rachna Gupta**

Aug 25: Engineers have crafted a new non-stick coating that could finally give Teflon some competition-without the "forever dangerous chemicals" that have raised health alarms. The y developed a safer non-stick surface using a unique "nanoscale fletching" design that repels grease like Teflon, without the toxic baggage This innovation repels both water and grease as effectively as many standard non-stick surfaces but contains much smaller amounts of perand polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). . It is based on a new chemistry technique that the team is calling nanoscale fletching (Source).

### Plant-Inspired Molecule That Could Be the Key to Artificial Photosynthesis

#### **Contributor: Rachna Gupta**

Aug' 25: Swiss researchers have designed a plant-inspired molecule that mimics photosynthesis and can hold four electric charges when exposed to light. As with natural photosynthesis, the new molecule temporarily stores two positive and two negative charges. This ability to store multiple charges could be the key to creating solar fuels such as hydrogen, methanol, or synthetic petrol — fuels that would be carbon-neutral because they release only as much CO2 as was used to produce them (Source)

### Researchers Accidentally Create Unprecedented New Gold Compound

#### **Contributor: Rachna Gupta**

Aug' 25: By chance and for the first time, an international team of researchers led by scientists at the U.S. Department of Energy's SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory succeeded in creating solid binary gold hydride—a compound composed solely of gold and hydrogen atoms. During experiments at the European XFEL (X-ray Free-Electron Laser) in Germany, they placed hydrocarbon samples with a thin layer of gold foil, intended only to absorb X-rays and transfer heat to the relatively weakly absorbing hydrocarbons. Unexpectedly, alongside diamond formation, they observed the creation of gold hydride (Source).

### Concrete Reinvented: Imagine a future where buildings actively fight climate change.

#### **Contributor: Rachna Gupta**

Aug 25: Researchers at USC have developed a powerful AI model, Allegro-FM, capable of simulating over 4 billion atoms at once. This breakthrough enables the design of next-generation concrete that captures carbon dioxide and could last for centuries—possibly even rivaling the durability of ancient Roman structures (Source).

#### **Key M&A/Strategic Alliances**

#### **Contributor: Rachna Gupta**

Aug' 25:

- •Saint-Gobain Acquires Three Construction Chemical Firms (Source)
- Avery Dennison Signs Agreement to Buy Flooring Business of Meridian Adhesives Group (Source)
- •Covestro to Expand Aliphatics Production with Acquisition of Vencorex Sites (Source)
- Siegwerk Acquires Dutch Coating Specialist Allinova. (Source)



### New Pill Cuts Blood Pressure Where Others Fail—Global Trial Delivers Hope

#### **Contributor: Aparajita Basu**

Aug' 25: A new pill, Baxdrostat, has shown promising results in lowering high blood pressure in patients resistant to existing treatments. In a global Phase III trial led by UCL, the drug reduced systolic pressure by nearly 10 mmHg, significantly lowering risks of heart attack, stroke, and kidney disease. Baxdrostat works by blocking aldosterone, a hormone linked to uncontrolled hypertension. Results were presented at the ESC Congress 2025 and published in the New England Journal of Medicine (Source).

#### Breakthrough Portable Test Promises Game-Changing Disease Detection Worldwide

#### **Contributor: Shubham Suresh Gurav**

Aug' 25: Arizona State University researchers have developed NasRED, a portable, low-cost diagnostic device that delivers lab-quality results in just 15 minutes using a single drop of blood. Powered by engineered gold nanoparticles and LED light detection, NasRED can identify diseases like COVID-19, Ebola, AIDS, and Lyme disease with exceptional sensitivity—detecting even a few hundred molecules. Unlike PCR or ELISA tests, NasRED requires no specialized equipment or training, making it ideal for remote or low-resource settings. This innovation could revolutionize early disease detection and global public health response (Source).

### FDA Approves Battery-Free Neurostimulator to Tackle Sleep Apnea

#### **Contributor: Aparajita Basu**

Aug' 25: On August 8, 2025, Nyxoah received FDA approval for its Genio® System, a battery-free, implantable neurostimulator for treating moderate to severe obstructive sleep apnea (OSA). The device stimulates tongue nerves to prevent airway blockage during sleep and is activated nightly via a disposable external patch placed under the chin. This innovative solution offers a minimally invasive alternative for patients with an Apnea-Hypopnea Index (AHI) between 15 and 65, marking a major advancement in sleep apnea therapy (Source).

### CitraBoneQMg: The Future of Fast Bone Healing Is Here

#### **Contributor: Shubham Suresh Gurav**

Aug' 25: Researchers at Penn State have developed CitraBoneQMg, a biodegradable scaffold combining magnesium, glutamine, and citric acid to accelerate bone regeneration. The implant enhances intracellular energy and regulates two key growth pathways—AMPK and mTORC1-simultaneously, boosting stem cell into bone cells. In rat studies, differentiation CitraBoneQMg increased bone growth by 56% compared to citric acid-only scaffolds and 185% over traditional bone implants. The team, collaborating with orthopedic surgeons, published their findings in Science Advances and filed a U.S. patent application, marking a promising advance in regenerative bone therapy (Source).



### **Energy-Efficient Transmitter Architecture Paves Way for Next-Gen Wireless Systems**

#### **Contributor: Mukesh Kumar**

Aug' 25: Researchers at MIT and collaborating institutions have engineered a novel transmitter chip that enhances wireless communication efficiency, addressing the stringent power and performance demands of emerging networks. The chip features a compact, reconfigurable architecture that integrates advanced modulation techniques, enabling signal transmission with approximately 75% less error compared to conventional optimal modulation schemes. This design not only extends device range and battery life but also supports scalable integration into future wireless architecture facilitates platforms. Its dynamic adaptation, making it suitable for both currentgeneration electronics and next-gen systems requiring high spectral and energy efficiency (Source).

### Self-Assembling Electrolyte Material Could Revolutionize EV Battery Recycling

#### **Contributor: Atul Kumar Pal**

Aug' 25: MIT researchers have introduced a novel self-assembling electrolyte material that could dramatically simplify the recycling of electric vehicle batteries. Published in *Nature Chemistry*, their study demonstrates how this solid-state material, made from aramid amphiphiles (AAs) with ion-conducting polyethylene glycol (PEG), can spontaneously form nanoribbons in water and later disassemble into its original molecular components within minutes when exposed to an organic solvent. This reversible behavior allows the battery to break down cleanly, avoiding the complex shredding process typical of current recycling methods. The innovation offers a scalable, sustainable path toward recyclable and high-performance EV batteries (Source).

### Acoustic Signals Open New Horizons for Real-World Quantum Computing

#### **Contributor: Atul Kumar Pal**

Aug' 25: Researchers at Caltech have unveiled a hybrid quantum memory system that leverages acoustic waves to dramatically extend the coherence time of quantum electrical converting states. By signals superconducting qubits into mechanical vibrations, the team achieved quantum state lifetimes up to 30 times longer than conventional methods. These slow-moving sound waves enable compact device architectures and prevent energy leakage, unlike electromagnetic waves. The system's oscillator-based design allows for stable, scalable quantum memory integration on a single chip, offering a promising path toward practical quantum computing with enhanced reliability and reduced interference (Source).

### Al-Driven Imaging Reaches the Edge of Physical Precision Limits

#### **Contributor: Mukesh Kumar**

Aug' 25: A collaborative team from TU Wien, University of Glasgow, and University of Grenoble has developed an Albased imaging technique that approaches the theoretical maximum precision allowed by physics. Using neural networks trained on distorted laser images of reflective objects submerged in turbid liquids, the system accurately predicts object positions despite extreme visual noise. The Al's performance nearly matches the Fisher information limit, which defines the best possible accuracy in optical measurements. This breakthrough could revolutionize fields like medical diagnostics and quantum sensing, enabling ultra-precise imaging even under challenging conditions where traditional optics fail (Source).



# chno-Spotlight

### France's Lactalis strikes \$2.2 billion deal for Fonterra's consumer business

#### Contributor: Simmi Kapoor

Aug' 25: Lactalis, the world's largest dairy company, concluded an agreement to acquire consumer and associated businesses of Fonterra. This purchase is part of the overall effort by Fonterra to sell its global consumer business (excluding Greater China), consumer brands and the integrated businesses in Oceania, Sri Lanka and Middle East representing more than \$NZ 5.6 billion of net sales. The acquisition encompasses well-known brands like Mainland, Anchor, Perfect Italiano, Cheesdale, Fernleaf and more. 16 manufacturing facilities in Australia, New-Zealand, Sri-Lanka, Malaysia, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia will join Lactalis Australia as well as 4,300 employees will strengthen Lactalis Australia workforce (Source).

## Everyday Consumer Goods Face Price Increases as Major Firms Offset Trump-Era Tariff Costs

#### **Contributor: Simmi Kapoor**

Aug' 25: Everyday consumer products – from toilet paper and diapers to razors and candy – are becoming noticeably costlier in the US, with companies shouldering the impact of hefty tariff costs under the Trump administration. P&G is raising prices on about 25% of its US product range to offset a staggering \$1 billion in tariff-related expenses. Hershey is implementing double-digit price hikes due to soaring cocoa prices and \$180 million in added tariff burdens. Kraft Heinz is raising prices even more steeply amid declining sales (Source).

### Unlocking More from Cocoa: Nestlé's Breakthrough in Sustainable Chocolate Making

#### **Contributor: Akshyansh Kumar**

Aug' 25: Nestlé has unveiled a patented technique that uses up to 30% more of the cocoa fruit—beyond just the beans—to produce chocolate without compromising taste. Traditionally discarded parts like the pulp, placenta, and pod husk are now included in a simplified process where the entire pod content is fermented, ground, roasted, and dried into chocolate flakes. This innovation not only reduces waste but also boosts yield and value for cocoa farmers. By making cocoa extraction more efficient, it frees up farmers' time for better agricultural practices, potentially improving overall productivity. Currently in the exploring phase, Nestlé is large-scale pilot implementation (Source).

### Pepsi Reinvents Cola: Introducing Prebiotic Innovation

#### Contributor: Akshyansh Kumar

Aug' 25: PepsiCo has launched Pepsi Prebiotic Cola, calling it the "first significant innovation in the traditional cola category in 20 years." Available in Original Cola and Cherry Vanilla, the new sodas contain 5g of cane sugar, 30 calories, and 3g of prebiotic fiber—without any artificial sweeteners. This launch follows Pepsi's acquisition of Poppi and reflects a growing focus on functional beverages. Prebiotics, known for supporting gut health, digestion, and metabolism, are now being integrated into the iconic cola experience. The drinks will be available online in fall 2025 and in retail stores by early 2026 (Source).



#### Breaking: FDA Goes Live with Adverse Event Reporting

#### **Contributor: Latika Sharma**

Aug' 25: The U.S. FDA, starting from August 22, 2025, has launched daily publication of adverse event data from its Adverse Event Reporting System (FAERS), marking a major step in modernizing safety monitoring. This initiative reflects the agency's commitment to transparency and faster detection of safety signals. The update reduces delays in public access to adverse event reports and supports the FDA's broader data modernization strategy. The latest information is available via the FAERS Public Dashboard, and healthcare professionals and consumers are encouraged to continue reporting through MedWatch (Source).

### FDA Fast-Tracks Zongertinib for HER2-Mutant Lung Cancer

#### **Contributor: Jiju Narayanan**

Aug' 2025: The FDA granted accelerated approval to zongertinib, a kinase inhibitor, for unresectable or metastatic non-squamous non-small cell (NSCLC) patients whose tumours have HER2 (ERBB2) tyrosine kinase domain (TKD) activating mutations, and who have received prior systemic therapy. It also approved the Oncomine Dx Target Test as a companion diagnostic to identify HER2 TKD activating mutations in eligible patients (Source).

### Tailored and Targeted: FDA's Roadmap to Optimized Radiopharmaceutical Doses

#### **Contributor: Basharat Ahmad Sofi**

Aug' 2025: The FDA has released draft guidance aimed at optimizing dosage strategies for radiopharmaceutical therapies (RPT) in cancer treatment. Recognizing key differences between RPT and traditional external beam radiation therapy (EBRT), the guidance encourages tailored dosing approaches rather than relying solely on EBRT data. It highlights the need for careful trial design, long-term safety monitoring for delayed toxicities, and precise dosimetry studies to measure radiation absorption. The FDA also recommends involving patients with limited life expectancy in higher-dose trials and stresses ongoing evaluation to balance treatment efficacy with potential long-term risks. This marks a significant step toward safer, more effective radiopharmaceutical cancer therapies (Source).

### Reversing NAFLD: The Power of a Natural Gut Molecule

#### Contributor: Megha Walia

Aug' 2025: Researchers have discovered that 10-Hydroxystearic acid (10-HSA), a natural molecule produced by *Lactobacillus* bacteria, can reverse liver damage and repair the gut lining after exposure to aflatoxin, a toxic substance found in certain crops. This breakthrough offers a potential non-toxic treatment for non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), which affects over 25% of adults in the U.S. (Source 1; Source 2)



### FDA Rolls out a Powerful New Tool to Tighten Food Chemical Safety Checks

#### **Contributor: Ankit Negi and Kritesh Parihar**

Aug' 2025: The FDA has introduced the Expanded Decision Tree (EDT), a cutting-edge tool designed to improve toxicity screening of chemicals in food. Building on the traditional Cramer Decision Tree, the EDT offers a more refined, structure-based approach to evaluate chemical risks, even when data is limited. This new method enhances both pre-market and post-market safety assessments while aiming to reduce reliance on animal testing. Focused on chronic oral exposure, the comprehensive data for more integrates EDT transparent and accurate evaluations. The FDA plans to refine the tool further with public input, marking a major safeguarding forward food step in chemical safety (Source 1; Source 2).

### Boosting Drug Safety: ICH Unveils Bold New E&L Guideline

#### **Contributor: Basharat Ahmad Sofi**

Aug' 2025: The International Council for Harmonization (ICH) has released the draft Q3E guideline to standardize the assessment and control of extractables and leachables (E&L). Covering all dosage forms and drugdevice combinations, it addresses a critical regulatory gap, causing uncertainty and delays. With detailed appendices, it aims to streamline global regulatory approval and enhance drug safety worldwide (Source).

#### FDA's CDER Unveils Ambitious 2025 Guidance Roadmap to Streamline Drug Development

#### **Contributor: Basharat Ahmad Sofi**

Aug' 2025: The FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) released its 2025 guidance agenda featuring 87 new and updated documents. Key updates include revised biosimilar development guidance, new rules for generic drug submissions, and enhanced pharmaceutical quality and manufacturing standards. Some draft guidances, like the REMS logic model and thyroid product enforcement policy, were removed. CDER may also release additional guidances outside this list, adapting to emerging priorities in drug regulation (Source).

### No More Surgeries, A Hope for RRP Patients: FDA Approves First Immunotherapy

#### **Contributor: Latika Sharma**

Aug' 2025: The FDA has approved Papzimeo, the first immunotherapy for adults with recurrent respiratory papillomatosis (RRP), a rare, HPV-driven disease previously managed only with repeated surgeries. In pivotal trials, over half of patients achieved durable remission, eliminating the need for further surgeries. Approved under Priority Review with Orphan Drug and Breakthrough Therapy designations, Papzimeos offers a transformative new option for patients with this chronic condition. The therapy is developed by Precigen, Inc (Source).



### 3E's FULLEST project delivers advanced digital twin technology for BESS

#### **Contributor: Nitesh Kumar**

Aug' 2025: 3E, in collaboration with academic and industry partners, completed a milestone in the FULLEST project, delivering a digital twin technology for battery energy storage systems (BESS). Integrated into 3E's SynaptiQ platform, this solution enhances asset performance management for utility-scale energy storage. The project addresses critical challenges in Europe's energy storage market, with Belgium emerging as a key player (Source).

# "Tesla Roadster Hit 60 In 0.9 Seconds": Patent Reveals Terrifying Suction Tech That Glues Car To Road For Unstoppable Acceleration

#### **Contributor: Sachin Patel**

Aug' 2025: Elon Musk's promise of the Tesla Roadster accelerating from 0 to 60 mph in under a second challenges physics. A new Tesla patent reveals revolutionary suction technology, enhancing traction by creating a vacuum under the car. This innovation could redefine vehicle performance, offering unprecedented acceleration and handling, potentially transforming the automotive industry (Source).

### New Regulations for Autonomous Vehicle Testing Implemented Across Europe

#### **Contributor: Nitesh Kumar**

Aug 2025: European regulatory bodies have announced stringent new regulations for autonomous vehicle testing to enhance safety, ensure consumer protection, and promote responsible deployment. The framework includes mandatory safety assessments, data sharing protocols, tiered testing approval processes, and dedicated testing zones. This move aims to address public concerns and foster innovation while ensuring safety remains paramount (Source).

#### Toyota Partners with Panasonic for Next-Gen EV Battery Production

#### **Contributor: Sachin Patel**

Aug' 2025: Toyota and Panasonic are expanding their partnership to develop next-generation EV battery technologies, focusing on solid-state batteries to improve safety, energy density, and lifespan. This collaboration aims to enhance production efficiency and scalability, addressing the growing demand for zero-emission vehicles. Significant advancements are expected by 2025, influencing global trends in electric mobility (Source).



### AT&T's \$23B Spectrum Deal with EchoStar Reshapes 5G Landscape

#### **Contributor: Jitendra Shreemukh**

Aug' 25: AT&T is set to supercharge its 5G and fiber reach with a \$23 billion acquisition of low- and mid-band spectrum from EchoStar, covering 400+ U.S. markets. This strategic move strengthens AT&T's leadership in connectivity, enhances customer experience, and accelerates the rollout of services like AT&T Internet Air. EchoStar will continue in the wireless game via a long-term wholesale agreement. AT&T also maintains its 2025 financial outlook, including \$20B in share repurchase capacity. The deal, expected to close mid-2026, positions AT&T for long-term, capital-efficient growth and future-ready networks powering AI, IoT, and next-gen innovations (Source).

### Philips Expands Qi Patent Offensive to Anker at the UPC

#### **Contributor: Jitendra Shreemukh**

Aug' 25: On August 10, 2025, the UPC Munich Local Division updated its case docket as Philips filed a new infringement China-based suit against Anker Innovations, targeting Qi wireless charging technology. Represented by Dr. Tilman Müller of Bardehle Pagenberg, Philips relies on EP2867997—part of its disclosed Qi essential patents. This mirrors its successful UPC case against Belkin in 2023. Philips' wireless power portfolio spans 1,200+ granted rights across 31 countries. Interestingly, prior German litigation against Belkin ended unfavorably for Philips, but UPC rulings have since contradicted those outcomes, intensifying the legal spotlight on Qi patent enforcement (Source).

### HEVC Wars Escalate at the UPC: NEC & ETRI v Hisense

#### **Contributor: Jitendra Shreemukh**

Aug' 25: NEC and ETRI, both licensors in the Access Advance (formerly HEVC Advance) patent pool, filed infringement lawsuits against Hisense at the Unified Patent Court (UPC). These legal actions mark a significant escalation in the ongoing HEVC (H.265) SEP litigation, as the same licensors are also pursuing similar claims against Transsion across the pan-EU UPC. The move underlines the intensifying strategy by HEVC patent-holders to enforce their rights through coordinated litigation in Europe (Source).

#### Alibaba, ZTE & Youku Power Up Access Advance Video Distribution Patent Pool Momentum

#### **Contributor: Jitendra Shreemukh**

Aug' 25: Access Advance announced that Alibaba Group and ZTE have joined its Video Distribution Patent (VDP) Pool as Licensors, while Alibaba's video platform Youku joins as a Licensee. This expands the pool's reach and IP strength, particularly in HEVC/H.265 and VVC/H.266 standards. The move reinforces the VDP Pool's value as a flexible, cost-effective licensing solution for global streaming services. CEO Peter Moller welcomed the additions, highlighting their role in enhancing innovation and licensing simplicity. These new members join leaders like ByteDance and Tencent, supporting a balanced, global ecosystem for video codec deployment (Source).

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Cover Photo: Innovation on the Edge – Preparing IP for the Next Frontier

Evalueserve is a global professional services provider offering research, analytics and consulting services across a wide range of industries and business functions.

We leverage our service design approach to understand your business requirements and to create a customized solution that meets your strategic objectives.

We support our clients in achieving maximum impact by integrating data analytics and research-driven insights into our delivery, innovation and automation solutions.





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### OUR SPARK TEAM











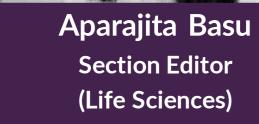












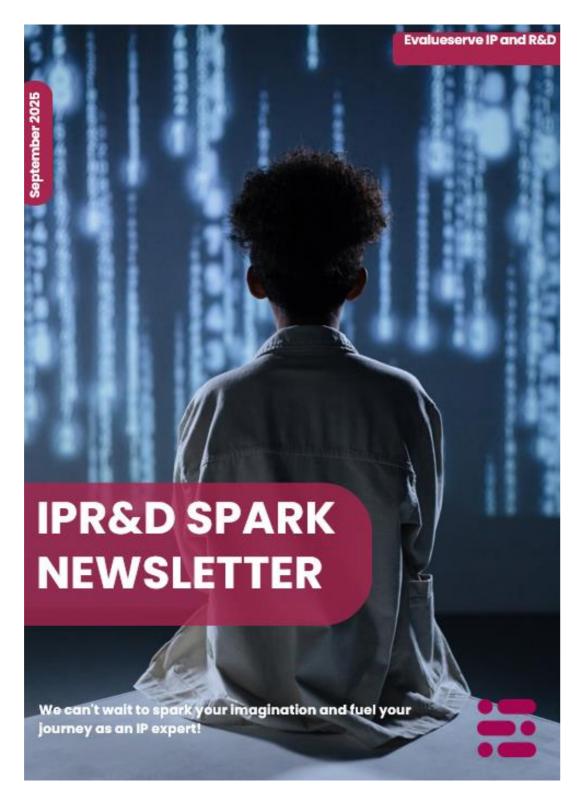








# HAVE YOU CHECKED OUR RECENT EDITIONS?



August' 2025



July' 2025



June' 2025



April' 2025



May' 2025