

Daily News Briefing: 2026-06-22

Executive Summary

- **Former Fed Chair Alan Greenspan Passes Away:** The Federal Reserve mourns the loss of Alan Greenspan, who led the institution from 1987 to 2006 and shaped modern monetary policy.
- **Lucid Motors Slashes Workforce by 18%:** The electric vehicle manufacturer is cutting 1,500 jobs and eliminating the COO role to simplify operations amidst market challenges.
- **Valve Unveils Steam Machine Reservation System:** Gamers can now enter a randomized lottery to purchase the new Steam Machine, while SteamOS gains desktop compatibility.
- **US-China Tech Tensions Escalate:** China has imposed sanctions on ten American technology and defense companies in retaliation for Pentagon listings.
- **Romanian Government Formation Stalls:** Coalition negotiations continue involving PSD and AUR, with key leaders exchanging sharp political rhetoric.

Technology

Valve's Steam Machine Ships June 29 with Randomized Reservation System Valve has announced a randomized reservation system to prevent bots from monopolizing the upcoming Steam Machine, with sign-ups closing on June 25. Eligible users with valid Steam accounts can enter a lottery for the chance to purchase the \$1,049 device, which begins shipping on June 29. Source: [Ars Technica](#), [The Verge](#)

Valve Will Finally Let You Build Your Own Steam Machine With SteamOS For Desktop In a separate development, Valve announced that users can now create their own Steam Machine setups using PC parts via the latest SteamOS 3.8.10 release. This update improves compatibility for Intel and AMD platforms, offering gamers more flexibility to build console-like PC setups. Source: [Slashdot](#)

Tata Electronics Confirms Data Breach Affecting Apple and Tesla Supply Chains Tata Electronics, a key supplier for Apple and Tesla, confirmed a data breach after files appeared on a hacker forum claiming over 630GB of stolen data. The incident raises cybersecurity concerns for the tech industry as Indian supply chains play an increasingly critical role in global manufacturing. Source: [TechCrunch](#)

Following User Outcry, AMD Reinstates Memory Encryption in Consumer CPUs AMD announced it will reinstate the Memory Guard BIOS option in an upcoming firmware update after removing it sparked community backlash. Critics accused the company of steering customers toward expensive CPUs, though AMD cited potential support difficulties with changing chip designs. Source: [Ars Technica](#)

Lucid Motors' New CEO Cuts 18% of Staff to 'Simplify the Company' Lucid Motors is laying off approximately 1,500 employees, representing an 18% reduction in its workforce, as part of a restructuring effort led by new CEO Silvio Napoli. The move includes eliminating the Chief Operating Officer role and is expected to generate \$158 million in annualized savings. Source: [TechCrunch](#), [Business Insider](#)

Shareholders Sue Uber's Board Over Sexual Assaults and Safety Incidents A Detroit pension fund has filed a lawsuit against Uber's board and CEO Dara Khosrowshahi, alleging the company prioritized profits over safety and compliance. The plaintiffs seek compensation for victims of sexual assault by drivers and demand stronger oversight measures. Source: [TechCrunch](#)

AI & Security

AI is Cursing Renters with the Promise of Impossible Homes Real estate agents in New York City are increasingly using generative AI to create misleading apartment listings by photoshopping furniture and altering dimensions. While virtual staging tools are useful, this practice risks deceiving renters and has prompted some states to consider disclosure regulations. Source: [The Verge](#)

Several US States Bet That AI Can Solve Their Prison Recidivism Crisis Nineteen state prison systems are partnering with nonprofit Recidiviz to use AI and digital tools to consolidate disparate prisoner data into a single dashboard. The initiative has already contributed to a 16% reduction in recidivism rates among the tracked population by improving reentry strategies. Source: [Slashdot](#)

World Cup Scams Are Getting Harder to Spot Thanks to AI Cybercriminals are leveraging AI-generated websites and deepfake videos to scam fans ahead of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, with over 13,000 suspicious domains registered recently. Experts warn that while AI makes scams more efficient, collaboration between platforms and law enforcement is critical to combat the threat. Source: [Wired AI](#)

Finance & Economy

Federal Reserve Notes with Deep Sadness the Passing of Alan Greenspan The Federal Reserve announced the death of Alan Greenspan, who served as Chairman from 1987 to 2006 and was a key figure in shaping modern monetary policy. His legacy includes establishing price stability and bringing analytical discipline to policymaking during periods of economic expansion and stress. Source: [Federal Reserve](#)

China Imposes Sanctions on Ten US Tech and Defense Companies China has announced sanctions against ten US companies in the technology and defense sectors, prohibiting the export of dual-use products in retaliation for Pentagon listings. The move restricts government agencies from buying products from firms including divisions of Lockheed Martin and Raytheon. Source: [Biziday](#)

Romania

PNL Deputy Bode Open to AUR Officials in Government Roles Deputy Lucian Bode has hinted at the possibility of accepting AUR officials as secretaries of state in exchange for votes, sparking controversy over potential compromises. This development raises questions about the influence of external forces on the legitimacy of the incoming Veștea government. Source: [Antena 3](#)

UDMR Leader Hunor Iron Congratulates Simion on Government Vote UDMR party leader Kelemen Hunor ironically congratulated George Simion following negotiations for the new government, stating "Talent must be recognized, you gave checkmate." The comment highlights the fragility of current coalition negotiations and the potential for manipulation in governance. Source: [Antena 3](#)

World & Environment

Canadian City Officially Recognizes Trees as Living Beings with Rights The city of Terrasse-Vaudreuil in Quebec has officially recognized trees as living beings with their own rights to improve environmental protection and combat climate change. Mayor Michel Bourdeau led the unanimous council decision, making it the first city in Canada to adopt such a measure. Source: [Antena 3](#)