

News Digest

MONDAY . OCTOBER 26, 2026

The Brief Today's Headlines

01 AI developer Anthropic filed for a highly anticipated IPO valued at over \$2 trillion after disclosing substantial revenue growth and a profitable business model.

02 A federal judge ruled that the Trump administration illegally fired former FBI Director James Comey's daughter due to her father's past criticism of the President.

03 Romanian intelligence identified a Russian-coordinated sabotage network responsible for provoking a recent fire at a strategic armament factory in Braşov.

04 Harry Kane ended a 25-year wait for English footballers by becoming the first player from his nation to win the Ballon d'Or since Michael Owen.

05 Foreign demand for US two-year Treasury notes cratered to its lowest level since 2021 ahead of the Federal Reserve's upcoming decision.

General 5 dispatches . 5 in brief

No 10 appears to backtrack on PM's freedom of movement referendum suggestion

Downing Street has appeared to backtrack on the idea of the Prime Minister potentially calling another referendum on EU membership. This shift specifically concerns the issue of freedom of movement within the region. Sources have revealed that no decision has been made on the matter at this stage. Additionally, the government is not going to get ahead of how to consult the public on this sensitive topic. Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham has ruled out major changes to the UK's relationship with the EU before the next general election. However, he wants to start a conversation about potential options for the future. Burnham has committed to Labour's 2024 election manifesto regarding these constraints.

That manifesto excludes free movement, single market membership, and a customs union. The Prime Minister's remarks on freedom of movement were later clarified by Number 10. They stated that no return to freedom of movement or options are being considered currently. The Prime Minister is critical of the Brexit deal and believes the process will follow a public conversation. The issue of freedom of movement is a key concern in the UK's relationship with the EU. This is particularly true after the contentious 2016 Brexit campaign. Political analysts are watching closely to see if this stance softens over time. The backtracking suggests internal disagreement within the leadership team. Public consultation remains a key tool for the government to gauge sentiment. Any future changes would require significant legislative effort. The opposition parties are likely to seize on this confusion for political gain. Clarity on the government's position is expected to be released soon. For now, the status quo regarding EU relations appears to remain intact.

Sources BBC News

Trump administration illegally fired James Comey's daughter, judge rules

A federal judge has ruled that the US Justice Department illegally fired Maurene Comey. She is the daughter of former FBI Director James Comey. Judge Jesse Furman presided over the case in New York. The firing was due to her father's past criticism of US President Donald Trump. It was also due to her perceived political affiliations within the department. Maurene Comey was a federal prosecutor in New York who was fired in July 2025. She had worked on high-profile cases despite the political tension. These cases included those against Jeffrey Epstein and Sean Diddy Combs. Judge Furman's ruling requires the Justice Department to reinstate Comey immediately. They must also pay her back pay from July to December 2025. The case matters because it highlights the importance of protecting federal employees from political interference. It ensures they receive a fair process during employment disputes. Maurene Comey's case is also closely tied to her father's past controversies. This includes his own firing by the Trump administration in previous years. The ruling comes after a lawsuit filed by Comey's lawyers in September 2025. They alleged she was fired for her perceived political leanings specifically. The Justice Department has disagreed with the decision officially. They plan to appeal the ruling in a higher court. However, the ruling sets a significant precedent for protecting federal employees rights. This is a rare example of a judge holding the executive branch accountable for violating the Constitution.

Sources BBC News

Oscar-winning producer says BBC gave her £400,000 payout after she raised antisemitism concerns

An Oscar-winning executive producer has received a substantial payout from the BBC. Lucie Kon received £400,000 after alleging she faced antisemitic remarks from colleagues. Kon worked as a commissioning editor at the broadcaster. She was working at the BBC when the 7 October attacks occurred. She claims this event led to her colleagues making antisemitic comments towards her. The BBC accepted that there were shortcomings in how it treated Kon internally. They did not specify exactly what those shortcomings were in their statement. Kon had previously raised concerns with the then-director general Tim Davie. She complained specifically about her treatment during that volatile period. Kon claims she was told that if she supported Israel she had to support Hamas. She also stated that her colleagues referred to her as evil during discussions. The payout was for redundancy back pay and settlement for personal injury caused by the process. Kon says she was a valued member of staff with many years of dedicated service. The BBC has stated that it is not institutionally antisemitic as an organization. However, they acknowledge that Kon's treatment was a personal impact

on her. This case matters as it highlights the issue of antisemitism in the media industry. There is a growing need for greater awareness and action to prevent such incidents. Staff members are looking for reassurance regarding workplace culture safety. Management promises to review internal protocols following this settlement. The outcome may influence how other broadcasters handle similar complaints in the future.

Sources BBC News

Kane ends England's 25-year Ballon d'Or wait - how he bucked the trend

Harry Kane has become the first English player to win the Ballon d'Or since Michael Owen. Owen won the prestigious award back in 2001. Kane took home the award at a ceremony held in London. Kane is 33 years old at the time of this victory. He is the fifth Englishman to win the award in its history. Bayern Munich is his second club during his professional career. The ceremony came after Kane's impressive season with the German club. He scored 61 goals in 51 club matches during that period. He also scored 73 goals in 65 matches for his national team. Kane's win is unusual given that he has not won either of football's biggest prizes. He lacks a World Cup trophy and a Champions League title. Despite this his manager Thomas Tuchel hailed his success as a huge honour. Prince William also praised his leadership and skill during the event. Kane's win is also notable as he is the first Bayern player to win the award since Karl-Heinz Rummenigge. Rummenigge won the award in 1981 historically. Kane's humility and dedication to hard work have been key to his success. The forward credited his self-belief and determination for achieving the award. The win has been celebrated in London with significant public displays. The Wembley arches were lit up in gold in Kane's honor. This victory marks a significant milestone for English football and cements Kane's status.

Sources BBC News

[Related](#) London City's Putellas wins record-equalling third Ballon d'Or

London City's Putellas wins record-equalling third Ballon d'Or

Alexia Putellas is a renowned Spanish footballer who has left Barcelona. She joined the club at the age of 15 originally. She won numerous titles with them after a 14-year career. Key people involved include Putellas herself and the Spanish national team. US billionaire Michelle Kang has signed Putellas to her London City Lionesses club. Putellas has spoken about her desire for a fresh challenge recently. She wants to always be moving as a player and person. She won the Ballon d'Or in 2021 previously. She has since overcome injuries and personal setbacks to remain a key player. Her departure from Barcelona has been met with disappointment from fans. Fans have offered her several offers from other clubs before she left. Putellas joined London City Lionesses in July this year. She has already made a successful start with her new team. She has expressed her excitement for the new challenge ahead. Her desire is to continue growing as a player in this environment. The move marks a significant shift for Putellas professionally. She has been a cornerstone of Barcelona's success for over a decade. This award win equals the record for the most Ballon d'Or titles. Her transition to English football is being watched closely by analysts. The combination of club move and award win defines her current career phase.

[Related](#) Kane ends England's 25-year Ballon d'Or wait - how he bucked the trend

Also in General

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Finance 5 dispatches . 7 in brief

Anthropic IPO Filing Reveals Profitable AI Business Model

The artificial intelligence company Anthropic has provided a significant demonstration of how the AI industry can generate substantial revenue and profit. In its IPO filing, Anthropic revealed that it generated \$11.6 billion in revenue in the second quarter of 2026. This figure represents a staggering 1,368% increase from the previous year. The company's operating profit margin reached 8%, with an adjusted margin of 19%. Its cash cushion is estimated to be over \$130 billion. This suggests that Anthropic has built an efficient business model that can turn a profit at scale. Key people involved include Mark Mahaney, a top tech analyst at Evercore ISI. Mahaney notes that frontier-lab unit economics can turn positive at scale. The company's business is notable for not relying on a handful of large customers. Over 11,900 customers generate at least \$100,000 in annual revenue. However, there are caveats to the company's success. Much of its revenue comes from customers paying for what they use. Some of its computing agreements require minimum payments. Despite these caveats, Anthropic's IPO filing suggests that selling AI can become a genuinely profitable business. The company's ability to generate significant revenue and profit is significant. It will likely be closely watched by investors and the wider industry. This development answers one of the biggest questions about the AI boom. Can AI labs

actually make money at this scale. The market response will indicate investor confidence in AI profitability.

Sources Business Insider

Foreign Demand Craters For Ugly, Tailing 2Y Treasury Auction Ahead Of Fed Decision

The US Treasury's 2-year paper auction saw a record-low foreign demand recently. Indirect buyers took down just 45.7% of the sold amount. This is down significantly from 57.8% in September. This was the lowest foreign demand since November 2021. In contrast, direct demand surged during the auction. Direct participation increased from 29.0% to 41.3%. This represents the highest direct demand on record. Dealers took up the remaining 13.0% of the auction. This dealer uptake is roughly in line with recent activity. The auction saw a bid-to-cover ratio of 2.589. This ratio is down from 2.627 last month. It marks the lowest ratio since March 2023. The poor auction performance is attributed to the impending Federal Open Market Committee decision. This upcoming decision may have led to investor caution in the market. The result is a surprise given the dramatic collapse in foreign demand. The auction is the second-lowest of 2026. The poor performance may signal concerns about the US economy. The FOMC decision is scheduled for later in the week. This decision may further impact market sentiment going forward. Investors are closely watching for signs of economic stress.

Sources ZeroHedge

Indonesia's Rupiah Defense Seen Needing a Rate-Hike Turbocharge

Bank Indonesia may need to take more aggressive measures to stabilize the rupiah. The currency has fallen to near-record lows against the dollar. Analysts believe that further rate hikes may be necessary to achieve sustainable stability. BI's Governor has pledged to make necessary adjustments to its policy tools. The central bank's key rate currently remains at 5.75%. The current situation is driven by elevated global yields in major economies. Rising oil prices are also contributing to the pressure on the currency. There is a risk of losing its emerging-market status under the MSCI Inc. index. This risk is prompting foreign outflows from the country. These factors are spurring BI to reconsider its monetary policy approach. Indonesia's economy is heavily reliant on foreign investment for growth. This makes the stability of the rupiah crucial to its economic health. By taking bold action, BI aims to prevent a significant devaluation of the rupiah. The bank also wants to mitigate the impact on the broader economy. Sustainable stability is the primary goal for the central bank leaders. Investors are watching closely for any signs of a rate-hike turbocharge. The defense of the currency is seen as needing urgent attention. Global market conditions remain challenging for emerging markets like Indonesia. The central bank must balance growth with currency stabilization efforts. Policy adjustments are expected imminently.

Sources Bloomberg Markets

Tech Giants Microsoft and Skydance Offer Buyouts Amid Return-to-Office Push

Skydance and Microsoft have both made buyout offers to employees recently. Skydance is the parent company of Paramount and Warner Bros. Discovery. It has made a buyout offer to eligible employees who don't want to return to an office five days a week. The offer includes a standard two weeks of severance for every year of service. Employees who accept must make a decision by November 8, 2026. Microsoft is offering buyout packages to approximately 60,000 employees. Their offers are largely consistent with the company's standard severance packages. Microsoft is offering one week to six months of base pay per six months of service to lower levels. Higher levels receive two weeks to 12 months of base pay. The buyout offers also include continued regular stock vesting and health insurance. The offer period at Microsoft is set to close in early December. This move comes after Google recently offered similar buyouts to its staff. The move highlights the tension between corporate interests and employee well-being. Human resources professionals have warned that making these offers available could soften job cuts. However, it also risks losing talented employees from the organizations. The decision to offer buyouts may be an attempt to mitigate the impact of potential layoffs. Skydance's program is a one-time offer with no additional plans currently. These moves affect the lives of thousands of employees in the tech and media sectors. The exact motivations for Microsoft remain unclear to outside observers. Both companies are navigating the modern workplace return-to-office policies.

Sources Business Insider Business Insider

Oil Prices Decline on Diplomatic Efforts to Avert US-Iran Escalation

Oil prices have declined for a second day in recent trading sessions. They are pulling back from a six-month high reached earlier in the week. Oil prices dropped due to strengthened diplomatic efforts between nations. These efforts may avert a broader escalation in the US-Iran war. Senior officials from Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and Turkey traveled to Tehran for discussions. The participants agreed to hold more talks regarding the situation. This development suggests a decrease in tensions between the US and Iran. The decline in oil prices is attributed to this reduced risk of conflict. Brent crude dropped below \$115 a barrel during the session. West Texas Intermediate fell to near \$101 per barrel. The location of the discussions was Tehran, Iran. Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and Turkey are key players in this diplomatic effort. The decline in oil prices is significant because it affects global economies. Energy markets are sensitive to geopolitical stability in the Middle East. The aversion of a broader escalation matters for international relations. A wider war could have far-reaching consequences for global stability. Investors are relieved by the news of ongoing diplomatic talks. Market analysts are monitoring the situation for further developments. The price drop provides some relief to consumers facing high energy costs. Future price movements will depend on the success of these diplomatic engagements.

Sources Bloomberg Markets

Also in Finance

Instacart calls it quits on technology it hailed as 'the future of grocery shopping'

<https://www.businessinsider.com/instacart-to-end-caper-smart-cart-project-by-2027-2026-10>

Satya Nadella says he changed his mind about whether making AI more powerful would also make it safer

<https://www.businessinsider.com/satya-nadella-ai-alignment-changed-mind-different-problem-scal...>

Former DOGE Staffers Hacked Into Anthropic's Internal Systems In 12 Hours - And What They Found Is Alarming

<https://www.zerohedge.com/political/former-doge-staffers-hacked-anthropics-internal-systems-12...>

'Prison For Reich': Musk Slams Former Labor Secretary Over Commie Fever Dream To Nationalize SpaceX

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Trump Fires Another Salvo Into Israeli Politics As Netanyahu Neck-and-Neck With Gadi Eisenkot

[https://www.zerohedge.com/political/trump-fires-another-salvo-israeli-politics-netanyahu-neck...](https://www.zerohedge.com/political/trump-fires-another-salvo-israeli-politics-netanyahu-neck-...)

Senators Say Trump Admin Is Illegally Sitting On Secret Court Ruling About Warrantless Spying

<https://www.zerohedge.com/political/senators-say-trump-administration-illegally-sitting-secret...>

Rubio Urges Cubans To Partner With CIA To Bring Change To Communist Country

<https://www.zerohedge.com/geopolitical/rubio-urges-cubans-partner-cia-bring-change-communist-country>

Romania 5 dispatches . 10 in brief

Romanian Intelligence Identifies Russian-Coordinated Sabotage Network Behind Braşov Fire

Romania's Strategic Intelligence Service (SRI) has officially identified a sabotage network coordinated from Russia behind the recent fire at the Carfil armament factory in Braşov. The investigation, conducted jointly with DIICOT, revealed that three individuals were directly involved in provoking the incident on September 14. Suspects include two Belarusian citizens and one Ukrainian citizen, forming a cell that operated under Russian direction. Two of the suspects have already been arrested in Germany on preventive measures, while the third is currently being sought in Poland. Authorities state that the coordinators within the Russian Federation assigned the network an extended series of targets across the region. These targets included both state and private armament production facilities as well as other military and industrial objectives. The investigation uncovered that the network utilized social media platforms to recruit members for these covert operations. Recruits were initially paid small sums for minor tasks before being entrusted with more serious criminal activities. This case highlights a significant threat of sabotage against industrial and infrastructure targets within Romania and broader Europe. SRI has issued a warning regarding the persistent danger and called for enhanced international cooperation to counter such threats. The Romanian government is actively taking measures to prevent future attacks through cooperation with European and transatlantic partners. Carfil Braşov recently signed a cooperation agreement with a Greek company to develop autonomous systems, adding strategic weight to the target. DIICOT has issued arrest warrants for the three main suspects identified in the sabotage operation. The incident has raised serious concerns about the security of critical industrial sites in the country. Intelligence services are working to identify other potential threats linked to this broader Russian campaign.

Sources Biziday Antena 3

Development Ministry Uncovers €2.3 Billion in Unpaid Debts While Ruling Out 2027 Tax Hikes

The Romanian Ministry of Development has uncovered outstanding debts totaling €2.3 billion under the national investment program. Minister Alexandru Stolica announced that the ministry also holds unclaimed debts of €2.5 billion that were not yet loaded onto the platform. The platform intended to handle transfer requests has been suspended since September 11 due to a lack of funding. Stolica claims the ministry is exploring legal ways to revive the platform despite the budgetary constraints. There are over 2,400 unpaid invoices stored in the ministry's budget totaling €1.1 billion. The continuity of the program depends heavily on securing the necessary budgetary resources from the state. Stolica plans to discuss the issue with the Minister of Finance to find a viable solution soon. These outstanding debts are part of the broader National Recovery and Resilience Plan known as PNRR. Despite these financial pressures, the Minister stated the government will not increase taxes in 2027. Stolica emphasized that Romanians have reached the limit of tax □□ ability regarding local imposts. This stance contradicts some earlier signals from the Finance Ministry regarding potential property tax adjustments. The government aims to maintain a credible budget especially considering the upcoming evaluation by Fitch. The decision on taxes will significantly affect the population particularly those vulnerable to economic changes. Infrastructure projects including roads and gas lines face delays due to these funding interruptions. The Anghel Saligny program was expected to finance crucial local infrastructure investments across counties. Local authorities are waiting for clarity on how these unpaid invoices will be settled. The situation has been ongoing since the beginning of September causing uncertainty in the construction sector.

Sources Antena 3 Antena 3

Romania Records Highest Electricity Prices in EU Amidst Gas Surge

The cost of electricity in Europe has skyrocketed recently with prices increasing dramatically in several member states. In Romania the increase is 17 percent making it the most expensive electricity in the European Union currently. Analyst Adrian Măniuțiu attributes the surge to the significant rise in natural gas prices across the region. Natural gas prices have reached a four-year high of 97 euros per megawatt hour recently. The situation is complicated by the fact that many energy production facilities rely heavily on gas inputs. Romania is struggling to cope with the crisis as reactor closures exacerbate the supply issues. Reduced solar energy production has also contributed to the tightening of the energy market. The analyst cautions that liberalization of the energy market is not the sole solution to this problem. The Ministry of Energy is preparing a plan to prolong the energy crisis state to manage the situation. This plan would allow for measures such as limiting energy exports to domestic consumers. Industrial consumers might face restrictions to prioritize household supply during the winter months. Măniuțiu predicts a difficult winter with prices putting severe pressure on Romanian household budgets. The situation is worsened by the ongoing conflict in the Black Sea region threatening energy transportation. Energy producers are facing higher operational costs which are being passed down to end users. Government intervention is expected to continue as prices remain volatile through the heating season. Consumers are advised to prepare for higher utility bills in the coming months. The paradox of high prices in a producing country highlights structural issues in the market.

Sources Antena 3

Related Massive Submarine Energy Cable Project to Link Romania with Azerbaijan

Justice Minister Signs Project to Unblock Landmark Femicide Law

Romanian Minister of Justice Radu Marinescu has signed a project of law to unblock the Femicides Law. This law aims to punish severe forms of violence against women with life imprisonment sentences. The legislation was passed by the Romanian Parliament earlier in 2026 after extensive debate. It defines femicide as the intentional killing of a woman or death caused by intentional acts of violence. President Nicușor Dan promulgated the law in April 2026 signaling executive support. Minister Marinescu stated it is very important for the law to be applied as intended now. The law establishes a mechanism to investigate and prosecute femicide cases more effectively. It ensures that victims rights are respected throughout the legal process. This matter is important because femicide remains a serious issue reported frequently in Romania. The legislation ensures that victims receive adequate protection and support services. By signing the project the Minister ensures that the law will be implemented without further delay. This provides a measure of justice for victims and their grieving families. The law also aims to prevent femicide by providing resources for those at risk. Support systems will be strengthened to identify potential cases before they turn fatal. Overall the passage of the law marks an important step towards addressing this critical social issue. Law enforcement agencies will receive specific training to handle these sensitive cases. Prosecutors will have clearer guidelines on how to charge suspects under the new definitions.

Sources Antena 3

Massive Submarine Energy Cable Project to Link Romania with Azerbaijan

The Green Energy Corridor Power Company is investing 22.1 billion euros to build three submarine energy cables. These cables will cross the Black Sea linking Azerbaidjan Georgia Romania and Hungary. The project dubbed Coridorul Verde aims to create a 3.9 GW capacity by the year 2040. Three separate lines will transport 1.3 GW each significantly reducing carbon emissions in the region. GEEO is a joint venture of Azerenerji Georgian State Electrosystem Transelectrica and MVM. Each partner holds a 25 percent stake in the ambitious infrastructure project. The project's economic impact is estimated to be significant with annual revenues reaching billions. Revenues are projected to reach 1.8 billion euros by 2036 and 3 billion euros by 2040. The project is expected to increase energy exports from the region to the European Union. Carbon emissions will be reduced by 1.7 million tons per year once fully operational. The first line is set to be completed in 2032 with subsequent lines planned for later dates. The project's financing model combines public and private capital to ensure feasibility. It has the potential to generate 1.7 billion euros in benefits by the end of the decade. The Black Sea cable will have a maximum depth of 2,200 meters presenting engineering challenges. The total length of the cable system is approximately 1,120 kilometers across the sea floor. The project's feasibility study was approved by the governments involved in July 2026. This infrastructure will enhance energy security for Romania and its partners.

Sources Antena 3

Related Romania Records Highest Electricity Prices in EU Amidst Gas Surge

Also in Romania

Programul "Noua Casă": Românii sub 35 de ani ar putea plăti un avans de 5% pentru locuințe de până la 140.000 euro

<https://www.antena3.ro/actualitate/social/programul-noua-casa-romanii-sub-35-de-ani-ar-putea-p...>

ZF Agrobusiness & Food Summit 2026. România are nevoie de mari campioni în agricultură, dar și de o bază solidă de ferme mici și mijlocii. Asocierea fermierilor, investițiile în procesare și integrarea lanțului alimentar pot face din agricultură un motor de creștere a economiei

<https://www.zf.ro/companii/retail-agrobusiness/zf-agrobusiness-food-summit-2026-romania-nevoie...>

Cum oferă alte țări servicii medicale de bază în farmacii: în Franța, 95% dintre farmacii administrează vaccinuri, în România sub 5%

<https://www.zf.ro/companii/cum-ofera-alte-tari-servicii-medicale-de-baza-in-farmacii-in-franta...>

Un ucrainean a intrat ilegal în Republica Moldova zburând din Cernăuți cu o parapantă motorizată. El a cerut azil politic

<https://www.antena3.ro/externe/un-ucrainean-a-intrat-ilegal-in-republica-moldova-zburand-din-c...>

Vortexul polar s-ar putea „rupe” la început de noiembrie. Noua prognoză indică o slăbire record a vânturilor: Cum ar schimba iarna

<https://www.antena3.ro/meteo/vortexul-polar-s-ar-putea-rupe-la-inceput-de-noiembrie-noua-progn...>

Sondaj. Aproape un sfert dintre piloții companiilor aeriene europene spun că pilotează aeronave deși sunt prea obosiți pentru a lucra. Trei din patru au avut episoade de microsomnia (perioade de câteva secunde de ațipire sau de pierdere a atenției) în cabină.

https://www.biziday.ro/373662-2/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=373662-2

Trump a cumpărat 15% dintr-un producător de pământuri rare. Acum și Uniunea Europeană vrea să facă la fel

<https://www.antena3.ro/externe/trump-a-cumparat-15-dintr-un-producator-de-pamanturi-rare-acum-...>

Tensiuni la ONU din cauza acordului maritim Turcia-Libia. O alianță condusă de UE a respins înțelegerea

<https://www.antena3.ro/externe/tensiuni-la-onu-din-cauza-acordului-maritim-turcia-libia-o-alia...>

PARASPORT FORUM, inițiativa națională susținută de Betano pentru dezvoltarea bazei de antrenori din sportul paralimpic

<https://www.antena3.ro/continut-platii/parasport-forum-initiativa-nationala-sustinuta-de-betan...>

Emmanuel Macron avertizează că rețelele sociale „distrug democrația” și creează o „fascinație pentru violență”

<https://www.antena3.ro/externe/emmanuel-macron-avertizeaza-ca-retelele-sociale-distrug-democra...>

Apple unveils new iPad mini with OLED display and faster A20 Pro chip

Apple has officially unveiled its latest iPad mini, marking a significant upgrade for the compact tablet line. The device features a larger 8.5-inch OLED display that offers improved visual fidelity. It boasts a thinner and lighter design compared to previous generations. Powering the new hardware is the faster A20 Pro chip. The device starts at \$699 for the Wi-Fi model. The Wi-Fi and cellular model is priced at \$849. The new iPad mini features improved display technology, including peak brightness of 1,200 nits. It also offers a 2 million:1 contrast ratio. A new nano-texture display option is available to reduce glare. The device includes a 12-megapixel front camera for better video calls. Faster wireless and cellular connectivity are standard. Fast-charge support has been added for convenience. The iPad mini is ideal for dim-light environments. It is expected to appeal to consumers looking for a portable and powerful tablet. Apple's "Pro and Tell" event revealed the new iPad mini on Wednesday. The device is powered by a 7-core GPU with Neural Accelerators. This delivers up to 4.5 times faster AI performance than the previous generation. The A20 Pro chip also features a 6-core CPU delivering up to 60% faster multithreaded performance. The iPad mini is set to be preordered on October 28 and available starting November 6.

Sources TechCrunch Ars Technica

Anthropic Files For IPO

Anthropic, the developer behind Claude, has filed to go public on the Nasdaq. The company will trade under the ticker ANT. The potential IPO is valued at over \$2 trillion. The company's AI expansion has led to significant revenue growth. However, this growth comes with high capital expenses. Anthropic plans to spend over \$110 billion with Amazon. They also plan to spend \$120 billion with SpaceX. Billions more are allocated for Google and Microsoft partnerships. These expenditures cite the need for computing infrastructure. The company reported a net loss of \$80.7 billion for the first six months of 2026. They also reported a \$42 billion loss for the entirety of 2025. Despite this, Anthropic expects its current cash and sales to be sufficient for the next 12 months. However, the company warns that future revenue growth is uncertain. Additional financing may be required in the future. The IPO filing marks a significant milestone for the company. Investors are eagerly awaiting details on the valuation and share price. Key individuals involved include Anthropic's leadership and investors. Partnerships with major tech firms are central to their strategy. The IPO matters as it could set a record for the largest-ever IPO. It will provide a glimpse into the future of AI development.

Sources Slashdot

[Related](#) SpaceX locks in \$40B GPU financing deal with Apollo

SpaceX locks in \$40B GPU financing deal with Apollo

SpaceX has secured a \$40 billion financing deal for AI chips and data center equipment. This marks the largest committed GPU financing to date. The deal is managed by Apollo Global Management. The equipment will be leased to SpaceX for about five to five-and-a-quarter years. The financing will help fund SpaceX's rapidly expanding AI ambitions. It will also diversify the company's funding sources. The deal comes as SpaceX's AI segment has outperformed investor expectations. The segment brought in \$7.6 billion in revenue in the third quarter. The company expects to spend \$35 billion to \$40 billion in the fourth quarter alone. This massive lease comes as investors grow cautious over runaway capital expenditures. Limited profits in the AI infrastructure space are a concern for many. SpaceX's CEO, Elon Musk, has taken a victory lap over pure-play AI compute rivals. He argues that debt markets have largely closed the door on companies without major revenue streams. This is outside of AI data centers. The deal is seen as a significant blow to the over 200 neocloud companies. These companies were built solely to rent out GPUs for AI workloads. Musk predicts significant consolidation in the sector. He also predicts "guppy-level death" for smaller competitors. This move solidifies SpaceX's position in the AI infrastructure market.

Sources TechCrunch

[Related](#) Anthropic Files For IPO

Watch out, YouTube — Instagram goes from short-form to 90-minute videos

Instagram is launching a new feature called "Features" that allows creators to upload longer videos. These videos can be up to 90 minutes long. This is a notable shift in strategy for the platform. Instagram has previously focused on short-form, vertical video content. The new feature is testing in Brazil and will soon expand to the US. Instagram's head Adam Mosseri believes that this change could allow the platform to compete with YouTube. YouTube has a more straightforward payment model currently. Instagram's current payment model is mostly reliant on brand partnerships. There are limited performance-based incentives at present. The new feature is also part of a broader effort to improve discovery. It aims to improve monetization opportunities for creators. Mosseri is excited about the potential for long-form content. He believes it can be symbiotic with short-form content. He is committed to making it a core part of Instagram's platform. The platform is also working on improved discovery features for Live video. A hub on a creator's profile for episodic Reels is in development. This update matters because it could potentially upend YouTube's position. YouTube is currently the most lucrative platform for creators. This gives Instagram a new way to monetize its content. The move suggests Instagram is looking to evolve and adapt to changing user habits.

Sources TechCrunch.Slashdot

ICE plan to buy robot dogs spurs protest from hundreds of Boston Dynamics employees

Boston Dynamics has been contracted to supply robots to Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The company is behind the Spot robot used in various industries. This contract exists despite the company's own stance on not using its products as a weapon. The company has a policy prohibiting the intentional use of the Product to harm. They also prohibit intimidation of any person or animal. They have previously signed an open letter opposing the weaponization of

advanced-mobility robots. Boston Dynamics has worked with the Department of Homeland Security before. They have also worked with the Homeland Security Investigations unit. The company's employees are concerned that this contract will negatively impact hiring. It may also affect retention of current staff. The company is developing a new advanced robotics and AI facility in Waltham, Massachusetts. This facility will create 1,250 new jobs by 2033. The employees who signed a petition expressed concerns about the company's association with ICE. They fear it will lead to a loss of team members. It may make it harder for the company to build a diverse team. The petition highlights the tension between the company's values and the contract. This may affect its ability to recruit and retain top talent. The contract with ICE has sparked a debate about the ethics of using robots. Boston Dynamics has stated that it will take action if a customer misuses its products. This includes voiding warranties and terminating licenses.

Sources Ars Technica

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Anthropic Files for IPO Amidst Financial Growth and AI Risk Warnings

Anthropic has filed key paperwork ahead of its highly anticipated initial public offering. The company plans to go public on Nasdaq under the ticker symbol ANT. It is expected to raise more than \$100 billion with a valuation around \$2 trillion. Anthropic's revenue grew to over \$16 billion in the first half of 2026. Over 11,900 customers spent at least \$100,000 with the company during this period. Despite this growth, the company has yet to turn a profit. The prospectus highlights significant risks associated with investing in the stock. These risks include the potential for catastrophic or existential risks to humanity posed by advanced AI systems. Anthropic's CEO encouraged investors to view their purchase as part of something greater than a purely transactional investment. The filing cites concerns about recursive self-improvement as the main threat. This scenario involves AI systems developing faster than humans can evaluate and safeguard new models. Such development could lead to AI models that develop beyond human control. The company warns this could potentially result in harmful actions taken independently by the AI. The filing also notes the company's experience with government scrutiny. Overall, the IPO matters because it provides a glimpse into the financials and risks of a leading AI company.

Sources [Wired AI](#) [Wired AI](#)