



MEDIA MONITORING

Technology

From 29th June to 5th July 2020

29/06/2020

➤ **Insiders remain a key threat to corporate cybersecurity in East Africa**



The number of insider-related cybersecurity incidents in East Africa has increased by 55 percent in the last three months as most companies lacking active monitoring of their IT infrastructure transitioned to remote work occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to Dimension Data, the sudden spike has resulted from attackers taking advantage of

publicly available weak systems and most security controls designed to monitor and capture activities failing to keep up as they are intended for traditional on-premise infrastructure thereby leaving security control gaps as more employees remotely connect to company resources from mobile devices and external networks. The Financial Services Industry (FSI) remains the most targeted sector because of the immediate monetary gain.

Source : techjaja.com ([Link to the article](#))

➤ **Digital identity for all push in Africa now has clarity and political will: ID4Africa Executive Chairman**



Several major developments in the push for universal identification have come out of the global pandemic, raising hopes that biometrics can enable many people currently unable to prove who they are to access services to do so soon. ID4Africa Executive Chairman Dr. Joseph Atick told Biometric Update in an exclusive interview that in terms of political will and government motivation, what kind of identity is most important and the form it should take, the

lens of COVID has brought together a spectrum of issues to provide unprecedented clarity. The Movement for good universal ID across Africa wrapped up a well-attended and highly successful series of three webinars last week. Atick will soon publish a summation blog to the ID4Africa knowledge hub to highlight some key findings. The webinar panels were made up of experts from the identity authorities within African governments, international development partners, and industry representatives.

Source : biometricupdate.com ([Link to the article](#))

30/06/2020

➤ The demand for mobile data in South Africa must be addressed



The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in increased demand for high-quality mobile network services across South Africa.

This has been confirmed by leading South African mobile networks.

A large reason for these unprecedented mobile connectivity demand levels is that more users are working and learning from home.

This has resulted in increases to both work and leisure connectivity demands from users –

including demand for cloud, video conferencing, and content streaming services.

The increased demand for mobile network services has been so significant that it resulted in ICASA making temporary emergency spectrum available to South Africa's mobile network operators across the 700MHz, 800MHz, 2.6GHz, and 3.5GHz bands.

This spectrum was swiftly implemented by network operators and has allowed them to deal with the increased demand for data.

Source : mybroadband.co.za/ [\(Link to the article\)](#)

➤ This is where you can get MTN 5G coverage



Ahead of the launch later on Tuesday by MTN South Africa of its 5G network, the mobile operator has updated its coverage maps, showing

where the superfast technology is available.

According to the maps, MTN has rolled out 5G coverage in parts of Randburg, Bryanston, Fourways and Lonehill in Johannesburg as well as around its head office in Fairland.

In Cape Town, MTN has rolled out 5G in Bloubergstrand only, the maps suggest. There's also coverage around the University of the Free State in Bloemfontein. MTN will take the wraps off its plans for its 5G network in an online event later on Tuesday, becoming the first of the telecommunications group's 22 operations to launch the next-generation broadband technology.

Source : techcentral.co.za/ [\(Link to the article\)](#)

➤ The grand fintech consolidation in MFS Africa's acquisition of Beyonic



In a deal that broadens cross-border financial services within and beyond Africa, MFS Africa, a mobile payments hub connecting

banks, money transfer and telecom network operators, has acquired Beyonic, a Uganda-based digital payments company.

It is a 100% acquisition paid for in cash and shares. The company will be called MFS Africa but Beyonic's core product retains its name.

A network of operators in 34 African countries, MFS Africa is a fintech melting pot enabling users to send and receive money between platforms, without transaction fees associated with crossing platforms.

MTN mobile money, Ecobank, Paga, and Safaricom are among 22 operators integrated on the MFS Africa hub, with an estimated 200 million customers interacting across various digital wallets.

Source : techcabal.com ([Link to the article](#))

➤ Visa, Careem Team To Support Digital Payments Growth In Middle East, N. Africa



Careem, the Dubai-based ride hailing company, has entered into a partnership with Visa to expand digital payments.

The agreement is expected to accelerate cashless payments and digital banking across the Middle East and North Africa, the companies announced.

Under the terms of the deal, Visa is integrated into the Careem Pay Super App which will

provide Careem drivers, known as Careem captains, access to payments and funds. Marcello Baricordi, Visa's general manager for MENA, said "enabling secure, immediate movement of money for gig economy workers, like Careem captains, is especially vital as we support economic recovery efforts."

He said as the pandemic fuels digitization of payments, convenient and secure cashless solutions are key.

Source : pymnts.com ([Link to the article](#))

01/07/2020

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Source : mybroadband.co.za ([Link to the article](#))

➤ Facebook bans network of accounts linked to violent “boogaloo” movement



In recent days, Facebook has come under fire from big brands for its reluctance to speak out regarding violence, resulting in many

pulling digital advertising from the platform over the next 30 days.

While criticism of the social media platform is rightfully justified, it must be said that Facebook has been upping its activity when it comes to banning violence and hate groups.

The latest batch of bans pertains to a network of accounts linked to the “boogaloo” movement in

the United States. This movement is characterised as being pro-gun, anti-government and carrying the threat of inciting violence.

“As part of today’s action, we are designating a violent US-based anti-government network under our Dangerous Individuals and Organizations policy and disrupting it on our services. As a result, this violent network is banned from having a presence on our platform and we will remove content praising, supporting or representing it,” Facebook said in an official statement.

Source : htxt.co.za/ ([Link to the article](#))

➤ **Security lapse at South Africa’s LogBox exposed user accounts and medical data**



LogBox, a South African medical data startup that bills itself as an “absolutely secure” way of replacing paper forms for sharing patient data

with doctors, has exposed user accounts and patient data following a security lapse.

Security researcher Anurag Sen found an exposed database belonging to the company containing account access tokens for thousands of LogBox users, which if used

would grant full access to users’ accounts without requiring their password, Sen said.

Sen reported the exposed database to the company but did not hear back. After TechCrunch reached out, the database was pulled offline.

When reached, LogBox director Neal Goldstein declined to comment by our deadline or answer any of our questions, specifically if LogBox planned to inform users or customers that data was exposed or if the company plans to report the incident to regulators.

Source : techcrunch.com ([Link to the article](#))

➤ **East Africa: Mobile Technology, Partnerships and Innovation Converge to Transform Digital Payment Ecosystem in Tanzania and East Africa**



Today, an interplay of fintechs, mobile network operators and traditional financial institutions are placing customised payment solutions in the hands of everyone through

tools they already own, their mobile devices.

In 2013 there were about 23 million mobile telecom subscribers in Tanzania, according to data from the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA).

Today, the number has almost doubled to 44 million out of a population of 56 million with 83

percent of people accessing the internet doing so through these same devices. It's not just the technology that matters-it's about simplifying the everyday life of consumers and SMEs across different touchpoints.

These innovations are most relevant today as the world prepares for a post Covid-19 era making it imperative to ensure that people and businesses have access to the networks, tools and solutions that can help them reach their potential as we all strive for a world where there is financial security for all.

Source : allafrica.com/ ([Link to the article](#))

➤ **Telcos, UN agency and health ministries in Africa partner on a Covid-19 mobile platform**



Major telcos in Africa jointly with health ministries, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) have

launched a continental public health mobile platform that will provide advice, especially on the Covid-19 pandemic.

The initiative dubbed Africa Communications Information Platform (ACIP) is based on a partnership between ECA, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa

CDC), telcos and ministries of health, finance, economy, planning. Other stakeholders include the African Union, the World Bank and the World Health Organisation.

The ACIP is an information and communication tool between citizens and governments designed to gather user-generated data and statistics to provide national and regional Covid-19 task forces with health and economic insights that will enable authorities to analyse pandemic-related problems and respond appropriately.

Source : theeastafrikan.co.ke ([Link to the article](#))

02/07/2020

➤ **Africa: Technology Is a Powerful Determinant of Change, but Labour Can Shape Its Direction**



Technology is a product of human labour. The working class and society can therefore shape its direction.

According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO), long-term technological change has created more employment than it has destroyed, and has pushed overall living standards to new levels, notwithstanding the disruption that it inevitably brings.

What's more, the ILO concludes in a 2017 report, there's no "clear sense that this will be otherwise in the foreseeable future".

The Southern Centre for Inequality Studies has embarked on a research project comparing countries across the global South to explore, through global production networks, the impact of new technology on the future of work and workers. Global production networks have gained increased importance in global production organisation, co-ordination and associated international trade. Using global production networks to anchor an analytical framework enables a focus on the actors involved in the geographically dispersed, multi-scale, multi-dimensional, globalised structures of production and trade

Source : allafrica.com/ ([Link to the article](#))

➤ **Vodafone invests in 2Africa subsea cable project to connect Africa for improved services**



The Vodafone Group has invested in one of the world's largest subsea cable projects known as 2Africa, as part of an international

consortium.

The transformative subsea cable project is in line with Vodafone's commitment to build a resilient future of connectivity and digitalisation for the African continent.

2Africa is one of the largest subsea projects in the world. The project, when completed, would connect 16 countries in Africa including Ghana with Europe and the Middle East, extending to Asia via the main Europe-to-Asia subsea cables.

The new subsea cable project is expected to deliver more than the total combined capacity of all subsea cables serving Africa today, with a design capacity of up to 180Tbps on key parts of the system.

Source : myjoyonline.com ([Link to the article](#))

03/07/2020

➤ **Facebook's subsea cable promises cheaper, faster internet**



US social media giant Facebook wants to shape the future by supplying internet access to every person

on earth, unleashing huge, untapped markets for its products. Controversies about how the company handles user data, a wholesale ban in China, and occasional temporary blocks in politically sensitive countries have done nothing to dampen the zeal with which the company is driving into far-flung corners of the globe.

Sub-Saharan Africa's rapidly expanding population has led Facebook to lead the

construction of 2Africa – an ambitious 37,000km-long underwater cable around Africa, the Middle East and the Mediterranean – which it hopes will supply faster, cheaper internet to 16 African countries by 2024.

Facebook is partnering with eight established carriers, including MTN, Orange, China Mobile and Vodafone, alongside Nokia-owned cable systems provider Alcatel Submarine Networks, to lay a cable with an African link stretching from Senegal to the Suez Canal via the Cape that it says will provide nearly three times the total network capacity of all the subsea cables serving Africa today.

Source : africanbusinessmagazine.com/ ([Link to the article](#))

➤ **Technology is a powerful determinant of change, but labour can shape its direction**



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Source : downtoearth.org.in/ ([Link to the article](#))



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