

RCHC TECH BUZZ



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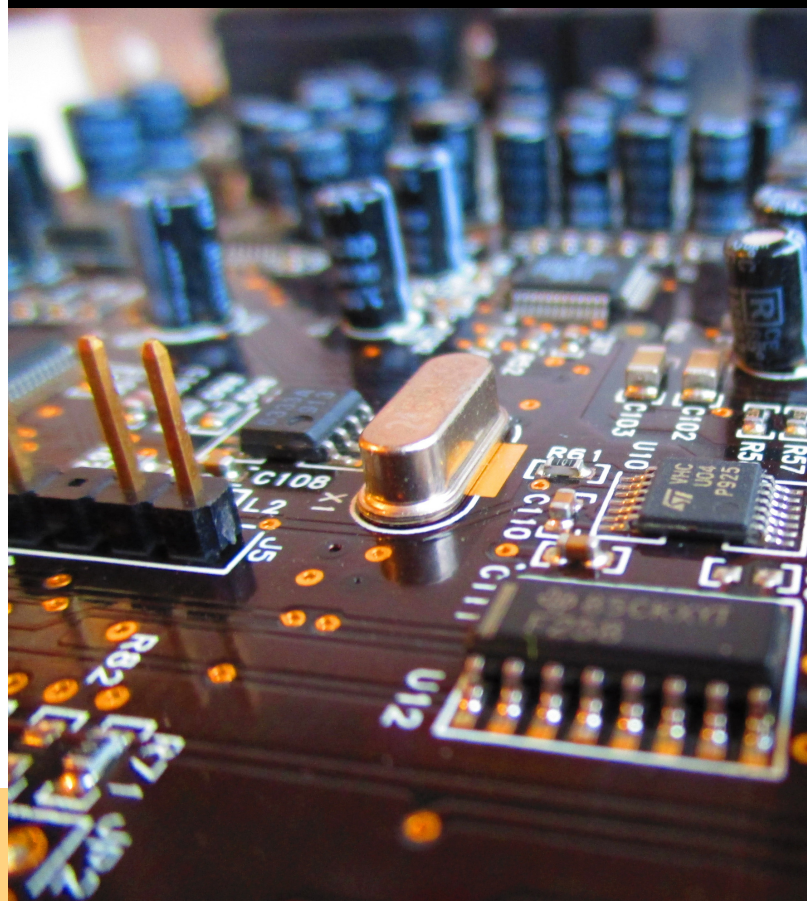
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**A NEWSLETTER TO WRAP SOME
OF THE MOST TALKED STORIES IN
THE WORLD OF TECHNOLOGY.**





NEW VIDEO GAME COMPANY AIMS TO CREATE GAMES TO TREAT MENTAL ILLNESS

Devolver Digital, an indie video game company based in Texas, is launching a new company to make games that can help with conditions like depression. According to the founders, this development will be done in partnership with Ryan Douglas, a medical device expert.

DeepWell Digital Therapeutics is based on previous studies suggesting the effectiveness of games in treating mental illness. The company intends to not only develop new games (with FDA approval as a medical device) but to help review and identify helpful games by other developers.

QUICK - BITS

Maserati unveils all-electric plan, starting with a new 1,200-horsepower GranTurismo

Luxury auto brand Maserati plans to offer electric versions of its entire lineup by 2025, starting next year with a new GranTurismo EV featuring more than 1,200 horsepower, the company said Thursday.

The GranTurismo "Folgore" will be the first all-electric vehicle for the famed Italian brand, which is owned by Stellantis, formerly Fiat Chrysler. It's expected to have a top speed of nearly 190 mph and achieve 0-62 mph in under three seconds, the company said.



MICROSOFT IS TESTING ADS IN THE WINDOWS 11 FILE EXPLORER

Microsoft has begun testing promotions for some of its other products in the File Explorer app on devices running its latest Windows 11 Insider build.

The new Windows 11 "feature" was discovered by a Windows user and Insider MVP who shared a screenshot of an advertisement notification displayed above the listing of folders and files to the File Explorer, the Windows default file manager.

As shown in the screenshot, Microsoft will use such ads to promote other Microsoft products, for instance, about how to "write with confidence across documents, email, and the web with advanced writing suggestions from Microsoft Editor.

As you can imagine, the reaction to this was adverse, to say the least, with some saying that File Explorer is "one of the worst places to show ads," while others added that this is the way to go if Microsoft wants "people ditching Explorer for something else."

QUICK - BITS

Elon Musk celebrates opening of Tesla gigafactory at 'Cyber Rodeo' in Texas

"Welcome back. It is Masters Day and opening day in Major League Baseball, but there are no games in the Lone Star State, so the eyes of Texas are all on Austin. It's time for the Cyber Rodeo. That's what they're calling the opening of Tesla's Austin, Texas assembly plant. Festivities start in under an hour. Elon Musk expected to speak around 9:00 tonight. So get out your dancing cowboy boots, I assume. There will be music. There will be fireworks. Eventually, yeah, hopefully he dances just like that."

-8th April, 2022



FORTNITE DEVELOPER EPIC GAMES AND LEGO PARTNER TO BUILD A METAVERSE AIMED AT KIDS

Fortnite developer Epic Games announced that it's partnering with Lego to build a metaverse aimed at kids. The companies say they are going to shape the future of the metaverse to make it safe and fun for children while building an immersive digital experience for kids to play in.

While the companies didn't go into detail about their plans for this virtual world, they outlined three principles that they say will ensure the digital spaces they develop are safe. The two will work together to make children's safety and well-being a priority, to safeguard children's privacy, and to equip children and adults with tools that give them control over their digital experience.

"The LEGO Group has captivated the imagination of children and adults through creative play for nearly a century, and we are excited to come together to build a space in the metaverse that's fun, entertaining, and made for kids and families," Epic CEO and founder Tim Sweeney said in a press release.

QUICK - BITS

'Kid-friendly' project holds \$32 billion valuation

Epic Games has announced that it has raised \$2 billion USD in capital from two of its investors Sony Group Corporation and KIRKBI (holding company of The LEGO Group). The two companies posted \$1 billion each to form a partnership with Epic Games for its upcoming 'metaverse' project.



ELON MUSK WILL NOT JOIN TWITTER'S BOARD ... WHAT?

Tesla CEO Elon Musk, who recently became Twitter's largest individual shareholder, has decided not to join the social media company's board.

Twitter CEO Parag Agrawal tweeted the news Sunday night.

"Elon's appointment to the board was to become officially effective 4/9, but Elon shared that same morning that he will no longer be joining the board," Agrawal said in the tweet. "I believe this is for the best. We have and will always value input from our shareholders whether they are on our Board or not. Elon is our biggest shareholder and we will remain open to his input."

A Twitter spokesperson confirmed Musk decided not to join the Twitter board and referred to Agrawal's statement.

QUICK - BITS

Apple begins manufacturing the iPhone 13 in India

Apple has started manufacturing one of its latest phones in India. Reuters reports the tech firm has begun producing iPhone 13 units in the country. While Apple didn't say which factory was responsible, a Reuters source claimed a Foxconn plant in the Tamil Nadu town of Sriperumbudur would assemble devices. This is the fourth iPhone Apple has built in India. The company started domestic production in 2017 with the original iPhone SE.

The decision isn't surprising. The Indian government has used multiple tools to pressure companies into manufacturing locally, including investment rules that require local sourcing for 30 percent of parts. Rising import duties have also played a role. If Apple didn't make the iPhone 13 locally, the device might be prohibitively expensive compared to rival equivalents made within India's borders.



GOOGLE PIXEL WATCH

It feels like we've been waiting an eternity for any sort of official Pixel Watch confirmation or news, but now finally we have it, as during Google IO 2022, the company revealed the wearable.

Technically this is more of a tease than a full announcement - that will be coming later this year, but Google was generous with its revelations, showing off the design and talking about what the wearable is capable of - as well as confirming that Fitbit tech will be included.

Cut to the chase

- **What is it?** The first flagship watch designed by Google
- **What will it cost?** Probably a high-end cost, but no specifics yet
- **When is it out?** Later this year - probably October

QUICK - BITS

Apple to discontinue the iPod after 21 years

Apple has announced it is discontinuing its music player, the iPod Touch, bringing to an end a device widely praised for revolutionising how people listen to music.

When the first iPod was launched in 2001, it could store 1,000 tracks. Today there are more than 90 million songs on Apple's streaming service.

The iPod Touch was designed by the same team that later invented the iPhone, which quickly overshadowed the iPod.



APPLE TESTING IPHONES THAT DITCH LIGHTNING PORTS IN FAVOR OF USB-C

Apple Inc. is testing future iPhone models that replace the current Lightning charging port with the more prevalent USB-C connector, according to people with knowledge of the situation, a move that could help the company conform with looming European regulations. In addition to testing models with a USB-C port in recent months, Apple is working on an adapter that would let future iPhones work with accessories designed for the current Lightning connector, said the people, who asked not to be identified because the matter is private. If the company proceeds with the change, it wouldn't occur until 2023 at the earliest. Apple is planning to retain the Lightning connector for this year's new models.

By moving to USB-C, Apple would streamline the collection of chargers used by its various devices. Most of the company's iPads and Macs already rely on USB-C rather than Lightning. That means that Apple customers can't use a single charger for their iPhone, iPads and Macs -- an odd setup given Apple's penchant for simplicity. Wireless chargers for both the iPhone and Apple Watch also use a USB-C connector for their power bricks.

QUICK - BITS UBER-TIER PARTY

Uber announced its latest slate of updates on May 16 ahead of what's expected to be a busy travel and events season.

The features, announced during its Go/Get virtual event, include:

- A new option that lets you book a bus or passenger van.
- A trip itinerary feature to help book rides throughout an extended trip, like a vacation, from one place to another.
- Voice ordering
- An electric vehicle hub for drivers.

Uber has been working toward becoming a "super app" as a way to diversify its offerings, which could potentially help drive long-term profitability. For example, the company is adding trains, buses, planes and car rentals to its U.K. app this summer. Here are the key offerings:



RTX 40 SERIES GPUS MAY BE LAUNCHING EARLIER THAN EXPECTED

According to known leaker, kopite7kimi, Nvidia's Ada/Lovelace architecture will debut earlier than expected, pointing to early Q3 as the release period. This means we may see the first RTX 40 series GPUs on the shelves in July or August, a little earlier than the last two generations. With the RTX 20 series, Nvidia launched in August 2018, with availability in September of that year, while the RTX 30 series was announced and launched in September 2020.

Rumours and leaks about the next generation of Nvidia gaming graphics cards have been quite frequent. Fortunately for us, kopite7kimi created a table summarising all the rumoured details about the AD102 GPU. This GPU, which will likely be used on the RTX 4090, will come with a much higher number of FP32+INT32 cores and over twice the L2 cache.

QUICK - BITS

This small metal bracket can drop Core i9-12900K temps by 10 degrees

When Intel introduced Alder Lake last year, some users quickly noticed a fault: the new socket's integrated loading mechanism (ILM) pushes down on the CPU from only two small tabs, causing it to bend in a way that separates the CPU from the cooler and increases its temperature.

However, the frame isn't necessarily the better product. Both Der8auer and Igor's Lab warn that it can apply too much pressure to the CPU in the socket, causing it to make a bad connection to the motherboard that can often result in memory instability. The solution to this is to reseat the memory and dial back the pressure by loosening the screws, but it's tedious.