

PRODUCT HUNT

amazon drive

Amazon Drive to shut down in 2023 Amazon shifts to focus on photo and video backup storage to enhance customer experience

DATA PROTECTION

Tiktok on spotlight over target marketing claims by the EU



START UP

KRA to reopen Keroche Breweries

Court orders Kenya Revenue Authority to reopen Keroche Breweries Limited after contempt of court.

LAWYERS HUB
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Newsletter

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START UPS

House of Representatives passes Nigeria Startup Bill

The Nigeria Startup Bill passed the third reading in the House of Representatives on Wednesday, July 27, 2022.

This means the bill is getting closer to becoming law since the Senate approved the Nigeria Startup Bill on July 21, 2022. In May 2021, it was reported that founders, investors, and government representatives were meeting to discuss a Startup Bill for Nigeria.

That move came just a few months after some troubling regulations, including a ban on motorcycle hailing platforms in Lagos and another on cryptocurrency transactions in the country's financial sector, were on the verge of becoming law. With the passage of the bill in the House of Representatives, it has completed its journey through the National Assembly. Currently, the bill is awaiting presidential assent before it can become law.

South African startup, Qwili, raises a \$1.2 million seed round to improve its operations

South African startup, Qwili, has raised \$1.2 million in seed funding to improve its operations. The round was led by E4E Africa, a South African venture capital firm. Other participants include Strat-Tech, Next Chymia, Untapped Global, Codec Ventures, and angels like Ashwin Ravichandran and Kanyi Maqubela.

Qwili was launched by Luyolo Sijake (CEO), Thandwefika Radebe, and Tapfuma Masunzambwa in 2019 and it offers a hybrid sales product to South African micro and small merchants. The startup's hardware is a low-cost Near Field Communication (NFC)-enabled smartphone called the Qwili Pula, which allows merchants to send and receive payments.

Its software is available as an app for any smartphone or as an automatic installation on Qwili phones, which range in price from \$60 to \$70. According to the company, the platform is used by 500 micro and small merchants. It currently processes \$75,000 in monthly Gross Merchandise Volume (GMV) and also claims a 300% increase in turnover from Q1 to Q2 of 2022. After expanding into neighbouring Botswana, it plans to increase those numbers to \$1 million from 3,000 merchants by the end of the year.

Qwili said it would use the investment to develop its app, hire new staff to improve its operations and develop capabilities, and produce its hardware.

DATA PROTECTION TRAINING
Data Protection, Data Security and Compliance
4th & 5th AUGUST 2022
DURATION: 2 Days
EVENT TYPE: In-person // Nairobi, Kenya
Sign up: hello@lawyershub.ke or Call +254784840228
www.lawyershub.org

in-person training is sure to get you compliant with the Data Protection Laws. If you are looking for new areas of practice, this is a great opportunity. The training will be held on 4th and 5th August 2022 at the Lawyers Hub, in Nairobi, Kenya. To sign up email hello@lawyershub.ke or call +254784840228

Flutterwave responds to accusations of operating without a license in Kenya

After reports emerged that Nigerian fintech startup Flutterwave was operating without a license in Kenya, the company has sent out fresh communication on the state of affairs.

In an email to TechTrendsKE, the company said that it applied for a license to operate as a payment service provider in 2019 but it's yet to receive it from the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK).

"Our attention has been drawn to reports with regard to our operating license in Kenya. "the company said, "In 2019, as our operations grew, Flutterwave submitted its application for a Payment Service Provider license. We have been in constant engagement with the Central Bank of Kenya to ensure

that we provide all the requirements and we look forward to receiving our license." The statement further read. The company clarified that it operates in the Kenyan market "through partnerships with banks and mobile network operators licensed by the Central Bank of Kenya."

The statement by the company leaves more questions unanswered, although it says it is awaiting its license from the regulator. It's not clear how the new development will affect the ongoing back and forth between the company and authorities, including pending court cases over claims of fraud and money laundering.



Safaricom hires 400 developers, joining the competition for tech talent with other global firms that have recently established themselves in Kenya.

Safaricom, Kenya's largest telco, began with a focus on connectivity. The company's recent scaling efforts have seen it expand into the fintech space and announce plans to expand its e-commerce platform, Masoko. As a result, Safaricom is now on the lookout for tech talent to meet the demand created by such expansion.

The telco now joins other recently established global firms in Kenya, including Google, Microsoft, and Amazon, in a battle for exceptional tech talent. The new employers offer prospective employees competitive perks that provide an incentive to choose from.

As part of their recruitment strategy, Peter Ndegwa, Safaricom's CEO noted- "We want to develop an ecosystem that allows that developer community to be vibrant.

In fact we will be announcing soon that we are going to be partnering with other tech companies and universities to influence curriculum, certification of developers, and also internships so that we also develop talent for the industry in the same way lawyers and accountants are developed." resources, as well as coordinate consortium activities.

Safaricom Ethiopia Project UPDATE

The Safaricom-led consortium in the Safaricom Ethiopia venture, as previously reported in this newsletter, paid International Finance Corporation ksh 474 million for services rendered that are currently unspecified but are likely advisory services relating to the license acquisition and/or the short-term loans for the project.



Court orders KRA to reopen Keroche Breweries Ltd factory

On the 28th of July, in a mention before Justice Abigail Mahila; An application citing the Commissioner General KRA for contempt of court, the judge stated that the application for contempt of court would be heard by said judge on the 2nd of

August. The judge further set a condition to only hear the authorities counsel if the Keroche factory was reopened immediately, despite the fact that the company's tax disputes were pending.

DATA PROTECTION

European Health Data Space & E-Health: Opportunity for collaboration?



The EU Healthcare system has been evolving steadily with the onset of digitization. This is evidenced by the successful digital covid certificates, the developments brought in by E-Health technologies, and most recently, the launching of the European Health Data Space in May.

The EHDS promises to facilitate secure secondary data processing to promote research and innovation. EHDS aims to promote data interoperability across borders, between existing healthcare systems and E-Health technologies.

Most importantly, the EHDS aims to address the challenge of fragmentation to the European healthcare system caused by the few databases available for research, innovation and decision making that leads countries to develop alternative national laws by unifying standards.

Fragmentation presented itself as the main challenge reducing the positive impact of the E-Health ecosystem. Will enforcement of the proposed health data framework remedy this? We'll follow more on the story in upcoming newsletters.

EU regulator puts Tiktok on the spot over targeted advertising concerns

After Tiktok announced to its users plans to incorporate targeted advertising to their application from July 13th, Italian data protection quickly picked up on this as a data concern and forwarded the potential threat to Ireland Data Protection Commission.

The Irish body is the lead regulator for tiktok. After the said intervention, Tiktok agreed to put the process on hold for the Irish body to carry out an assessment whether their plans breach EU data laws.

A public statement by Tiktok shared different sentiments "We believe that personalised advertising provides the best in-app experience for our community and brings us in line with industry practices, and we look forward to engaging with stakeholders and addressing their concerns."

LEGAL TECH

Exterro Secures New Financing in 'Pre-IPO Round' Valued 'Over a Billion Dollars'

■ Exterro, a US-based e-discovery and information governance software provider, announced Tuesday it has completed a recapitalization and secured additional equity capital in a financing round led by Leeds Capital. Exterro did not disclose the exact amount of the round, but the company's CEO and president Bobby Balachandran told Legaltech News it is valued at "over a billion dollars," which

included both the equity financing and recapitalization. In addition to Leeds Capital, who first invested in Exterro in 2018, other participants in the round include Collier Capital and Glendower Capital. Balachandran noted the new financing will be leveraged by Exterro to double down on its strategy of helping clients holistically deal with their data-related governance, risk and compliance (GRC) needs.

BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL CURRENCIES

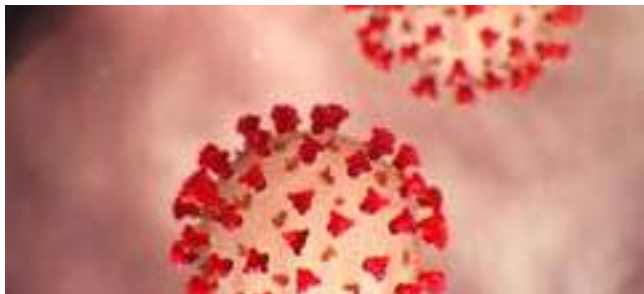
The Indonesian Central Bank will soon issue digital Rupiah. Valued 'Over a Billion Dollars'

■ The Indonesian digital Rupiah is the proposed Central Bank Digital Currency for use in wholesale digital transactions. Once the project is completed, the digital Rupiah will be distributed in a chain from large banks to smaller commercial banks. In order to stay ahead of global cryptocurrency adoption, the regulator intends to make digital Rupias the sole legal currency for digital currency in Indonesia.

Call for Creation of Common African Digital Currency, Kenyan Activists Turn to Crypto Funding, Ghana on the Brink

■ The head of the Bank of Central African States (BCAS), Herve Ndoba, has told the regional central bank's board that it must create a common digital currency which will be used by six countries belonging to the Central African Monetary Union (CAMU). Ndoba reportedly wants the BCAS to establish a common legal framework for regulating crypto as well..

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

As COVID Patent War Rages On,
Pharma Group Seeks Fairer Future
Access

■ An alliance of companies has pledged to ensure equitable access to vaccines and treatments for pandemics, as the friction around intellectual property rights for COVID-19 interventions between the pharmaceutical industry and developing nations endures. At the heart of the plan is a commitment to set aside part of the production of vaccines and treatments upfront for vulnerable populations in low-income countries when the next pandemic arises, given how fragmented access to COVID tools has left many populations unprotected.

WTO Considers Extending IP Waivers to
Covid-19 therapeutics and diagnostics

■ The World Trade Organization recently agreed to suspend patent protections for Covid-19 vaccines. The trade body is now considering going one step further: extending the intellectual property waiver to Covid-19 therapeutics and diagnostics. That misguided idea would have disastrous consequences: further eroding intellectual property protections will discourage research and development and make it even harder to fight deadly diseases and future pandemics.

South Africa and India first proposed an intellectual property waiver nearly two years ago. However, now, at a time

when the global vaccine market is glutted and drug companies have formed countless voluntary partnerships with manufacturers in developing countries, the original logic behind the waiver has proven patently false. The WTO has pledged to consider expanding the waiver to Covid-19 therapeutics within six months — despite the fact that the manufacturers of those therapeutics, like vaccine manufacturers, have already made voluntary agreements to help get the medications to those who need them across the globe.

POLICY UPDATE



Huduma Bill tabled

■ On July 12th, The speaker JB Muturi announced that the special sitting scheduled for July 13th was cancelled. The reason he offered was that the government printer declined to gazette the sittings. A third reading for the Huduma Bill was to be held in the special sitting. This cancellation now leaves the bill alongside other bills tabled as the members of parliament failed to approve the bills before the closing of the 12th parliament on 8th of August 2022.

This time, KRA will not
publicly disclose the data
of taxpayers who filed
returns as of July 30, 2022.

■ Following a series of aggressive compliance campaigns by the tax master, the current fiscal year recorded the highest ever recorded growth margin by KRA. "Kindly note that KRA will not release this information (on the number of taxpayers who filed their 2021 tax returns as at 30th June deadline)," noted Hannah Gakuo, KRA assistant manager media relations, to business daily

38 Bills left tabled

■ The 12th Parliament will adjourn on August 8th. Unfortunately, 38 Bills have been left pending because Parliamentarians failed to pass them on time.

Some of the bills are as follows: Petroleum Products (Taxes and Levies) (Amendment) Bill, 2021, the Public Debt Management (Authority) Bill, 2020 and the National Rating Bill, 2022.

Huduma Namba, the Investment Promotion (Amendment) Bill, the Startup Bill, the Coffee Bill, the Mung Beans Bill, Public Debt Management Authority Bill and the Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill.

DIGITAL IDENTITY



Greece launches mobile phone digital ID and driving license

■ The roll-out of a new app that allows citizens to store a digital version of their identity card and driving license on their mobile phones has started in Greece. Citizens whose tax number ends in 1 are the first who can use the new Gov. gr Wallet, which can be downloaded from the App Store and Google Play.

The digital ID and driving license stored in the wallet are fully equivalent to paper versions and can be used for all legal purposes in Greece. They can be validated by scanning a QR code. When another party scans the QR code of the digital identity card or driving license, the holder of the document will receive a six-digit code on their mobile device which they must enter to complete the validation process.

The digital documents have no validity overseas and cannot be used as travel documents..

Indian Children without Aadhaar Digital ID Shut out of School

■ Tens of millions of poor children in India have been denied admission at a local school because they do not have Aadhaar, the biometric identity card issued by the Indian government. They are among those who risk exclusion from school or benefits programmes because they do not have the digital ID card. India introduced Aadhaar in 2009 to streamline welfare payments and reduce wastage in public spending.

Since then, it has become mandatory for everything from accessing welfare benefits to filing taxes. The cards have a unique identification number, and also include a photo and fingerprint and iris scans. More than 1.2 billion Aadhaar IDs have been issued, according to government data. Yet millions of Indians do not have Aadhaar including large numbers of homeless, transgender and indigenous Adivasi people who may not have a permanent address, or other documents needed for registration.

Pakistan's digital ID card keeps millions locked out

■ From migrants to trans people, many adults still don't have the NADRA agency's Computerised National Identity Card (CNIC), excluding them from jobs and vital public services. The card is vital to vote, access government benefits including public schools and healthcare, open a bank account or apply for jobs.

The agency in charge of the CNIC, the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), has said it is striving to reach people who have so far been excluded. Established in 2000, NADRA maintains the nation's biometric database, and says it has issued some 120 million CNICs to 96 per cent of adults in the nation of about 212 million people.

Each card comprises a 13-digit unique ID, a photograph of the person, their signature, and a microchip that contains their iris scans and fingerprints. Yet millions of people in Pakistan, including women, transgender people, migrant workers and nomadic communities are still without a CNIC.

PRODUCT HUNT

Amazon Drive is shutting down at the end of 2023



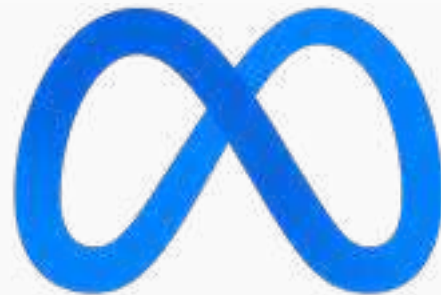
Bad news for the (presumably few) people out there who have relied on Amazon Drive for storing their important files in the cloud: Amazon is shutting down the service. On the plus side, you've got well over a year to figure out an alternative and get everything moved over.

The company says Amazon Drive will no longer be supported as of December 31st, 2023. That's when access will be completely cut off. Uploads are going away earlier and won't be accepted as of January 31st. The Amazon Drive apps for Android and iOS will be taken down on October 31st, 2022. "We will continue to provide customers the ability to safely back up, share, and organize photos and videos with Amazon Photos," Amazon said in an email to customers. But for all files that aren't images or videos, you'll have to download them.

As for why Amazon is making the decision to sunset Drive after 11 years, the company says,

"We are taking the opportunity to more fully focus our efforts on Amazon Photos to provide customers a dedicated solution for photos and video storage." Perhaps that means Amazon has big ideas in mind for taking on Google Photos and Apple's iCloud Photo Library. But the Drive news will definitely be a disappointment to those who grew accustomed to housing their files on Amazon's dependable servers.

Facebook and Instagram are going to show even more posts from accounts you don't follow



If you already have strong feelings about your Instagram feed increasingly showing Reels from accounts you don't follow, just wait until next year.

Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg said the company will more than double the amount of content from recommended accounts people see while using Instagram and Facebook by the end of 2023.

He said that such recommendations currently account for roughly 15 percent of the content on Facebook, and that the percentage is already higher on Instagram. The push, which Zuckerberg calls building the "Discovery Engine," is a radical departure from Facebook and Instagram's historical focus on showing posts from a user's social graph, or list of friends.

The shift is intended to compete with TikTok's heavy use of AI to serve up videos regardless of where they come from. That approach has quickly made TikTok one of the most used apps in the world and spawned a whole new creator economy. During Meta's second quarter earnings call on Wednesday, Zuckerberg explained that as "AI finds additional content that people find interesting, that increases engagement and the quality of our feeds."

He said Meta will use AI to recommend all the content people publicly share on its service, such as links or photos.

EVENTS

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
ABOUT YOUR DIGITAL TRAIL:
PRIVACY IN THE ERA OF
DATAFICATION.**

5TH AUGUST 2022

Strathmore University, Unwanted Witness and Privacy International have put together this Webinar scheduled for **5th August at 2pm.**

The panelists will lead a discussion centered on how data exploitation tactics such as micro advertising negatively impacts democratic processes such as the upcoming Kenyan elections. [Register here.](#)

GDPR ONLINE MASTERCLASS CLASSROOM CERTIFICATION TRAINING

This is a two day training with an online certification by EU GDPR institute scheduled on 23rd -25th of August 9:00 - 14:30 CEST covering Data Privacy, Data Protection and GDPR. [click to register.](#)

**6TH ANNUAL CYBER CRIME
CONFERENCE**

The conference discussions will center around the convergence of cyber security data protection issues such as data storage and data collection.

When: September 14th - September 15th 2022, 8am-9pm EAT
Where: Online and Physically- Travel Lodge-Gaborone

[Register here.](#)

**DATA PRIVACY WITH GENERAL DATA
PROTECTION MASTERCLASS.**

5TH AUG 2022

The Masterclass is a one day intensive online workshop on Data Privacy which will take place on 5th August. The Masterclass is tailored to give participants an overview of how emerging Data Protection Laws impact business models intended to widen attendee's understanding and capacity to problem solve when faced with data protection issues. [register here.](#)

