


PODCAST



The Africa Law Tech Podcast explores the latest in legal technology and innovation in the African Continent. Follow and Listen to the Podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and all other leading podcast platforms.

OPINION

Technology and Criminal Justice

Body cameras have been adopted across the world as a tool to ensure accountability and transparency by police officers.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Mystery of Black Lives Matter Trademarks

New trademark applications covering terms relating to the Black Lives Matter movement filed in the US




Newsletter

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STARTUPS



PHOTO: CELLULANT

Cellulant, Ecobank, and GAINDE 2000 Sign a Partnership with KenTrade to Provide a Payment Gateway to Enhance Service Delivery

KenTrade has entered into a consortium partnership with Cellulant, Ecobank, and GAINDE 2000 to offer efficient and robust services to their customers. Importers and Exporters will now enjoy premium services on the TradeNet system; an online platform serves as a single entry point for parties involved in inter-

national trade and transport logistics. KenTrade has Approximately 130 Partner Government Agencies that will now be able to pay digitally. Through Tingg, Cellulant's Digital Payments Platform, customers will access additional payment options such as mobile money, mobile banking, and merchant cards.

LEGAL TECH

SOUTH AFRICAN

South African startup launches Life.file, the 'Dropbox for death'

■ A female-founded South African startup and legal technology company has launched a new digital service that it describes as "Dropbox for death."

Life.file, lets people create, store and share a file of all the legal information that their loved ones will need one day when they're not around anymore; and it helps users create their own bespoke wills within a few minutes.



Nigerian raid hailing platform, Plentywaka rebrands ahead of Africa expansion

Nigerian ride-hailing platform, Plentywaka has changed its name to Treepz as it looks to expand across Africa. Launched in 2019, Plentywaka is a bus-hailing solution that allows commuters to book and pay for trips in real-time. The rebrand comes weeks after the startup secured \$1.2 million in seed funding as it begins its Pan-African expansion.

Nokia Teams Up With ATU to Speed up Digital transformation in Africa

Nokia has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the African Telecommunications Union (ATU) to drive digital transformation and the knowledge economy for socio-economic development across the continent. The two parties will leverage the power of telecommunications, including 5G networks, to connect the unconnected and identify innovative use cases, as well as business models.

Clio acquires document automated startup Lawyaw

Law practice management software company Clio this week acquired Lawyaw, a legal document automation company that previously participated in Silicon Valley startup incubator Y Combinator. Lawyaw will join Clio to continue their work connecting and streamlining information gathering, automated document generation, and e-signatures for legal professionals.

FUNDING

■ African fintech platform, Finclusion Group secured \$20m in a funding round from debt financing provider, Lendable.

■ Egyptian fintech startup Kashat raised a US\$1.75m bridge funding round led by Launch Africa and Cairo Angels.

■ Nigerian digital commerce startup, OurPass raised a \$1m pre-seed round led by Tektedia Capital and angel investors from top Fortune 500 companies.



BLOCKCHAIN & DIGITAL CURRENCIES



South African startup 6DOT50 enables crypto-holders to pay for goods and services

■ South African startup 6DOT50 is enabling crypto-holders to pay for goods and services at over 40,000 merchants across the country. Merchants include retail shopping outlet, Shoprite. 6DOT50 offers a free transactional account to all users, accepting Bitcoin, Litecoin, Ethereum, Bitcoin Cash, and Dash as payment for its Digital Rands. The Digital Rands can then be used to pay for goods and services at any of the approved stores.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY



China accounts for 40% of 6G patent applications

■ China is aptly honing its technical skills in sixth-generation communication networks, which are expected to be rolled out commercially as soon as 2030. China has maintained its competitiveness even though its 6G development was expected to slow down after sanctions were imposed against Huawei Technologies by the US government under the former President Donald Trump in 2019.

In a survey conducted by Nikkei in collaboration with Tokyo-based research company Cyber Creative Institute, of the 20,000 patent applications for 9 core 6G technologies, China topped the list with 40.3% of 6G patent filing followed by US, Japan, Europe, and S. Korea.

WHO backed-vaccine hub for Africa to copy Moderna COVID-19 shot

■ Efforts to develop an African vaccine production will focus on trying to replicate (MRNA. O) shot, a drive designed to help more developing countries access COVID-19 vaccines. Moderna had issued a statement saying it would not enforce patents related to its shot during the pandemic, a move that allows other companies to copy it and helps boost COVID-19 vaccine production.

The WHO-backed tech transfer hub in South Africa was set up in June to give poorer nations the know-how to produce, COVID-19 vaccines, but it would be hard to replicate a vaccine without the information on how it is made. The talks between WHO and Moderna have not yet yielded any results even as WHO continues to persuade Moderna and Pfizer-Bio NTech to join forces with its African tech transfer hub.

Copyright Act changes in Singapore to give Default Copyright to Wedding Photographers

■ As in many States, Singapore's present Copyright law dictates that newlyweds who engage a photographer to take photos of their wedding day the rights to the photos by default. But a change to the Act will grant the rights to the photographer instead. The couple will then be required to negotiate with the photographer if they want the rights transferred to them. The change is expected to kick in around November after amendments to the Act were passed in Parliament on 13th September. The amendment will put the creator in the same position as originators of commissioned works such as songs and books who have copyright ownership from the get-go.

DATA PROTECTION

UK Children's Digital Privacy Code comes Into Effect

■ The Age Appropriate Design Code - a regulation governing how online services should treat children's data has been welcomed by campaigners as it comes into effect. The Code which was written into law as part of the 2018 Data Protection Act and which also implements GDPR in the UK - mandates websites and apps to take the best interests of their child users into account or face fines of up to 4% of annual global turnover. The Code prohibits the use of 'nudge' techniques aimed at encouraging children to give up more of their privacy than they would otherwise choose to, it calls on companies to minimize the data they collect about children and requires them to offer children privacy options that default to the maximum security.



Irish Data Watchdog launches two inquiries into Tiktok

■ The Irish Data Commissioner has announced two inquiries into the social media platform Tiktok looking at compliance with GDPR relating to the processing of children's personal data and the transfers of data to China. The first inquiry will focus on the processing of personal data in the context of platform settings for users under 18, and age verification measures for Individuals under 13 while the second inquiry will look at transfers by Tiktok of personal data to China and its compliance with the GDPR requirements for transfers of personal data to third countries. The watchdog has however faced criticism from other European regulators at the speed of its inquiries and severeness of its sanctions.

The Middle East & Africa Data Center Market by Investment Expected to Grow at a CAGR of 10.38% During the Period 2021-2026

■ A report titled 'The Middle East & Africa Data Center Market - Industry Outlook & Forecast 2021-2026' released by Reportlinker.com showcasing an in-depth analysis and data-driven Insight on the impact COVID-19 displays Africa as an emerging data center market whose growing Internet penetration, social media usage, and smart initiatives will continue to drive the market over the next few years. Some of the factors singled out as likely to contribute to the growth of Africa's data center market rise during the forecast period include a rise in Datacenter Investment, Increasing in big data, IoTs & cloud, rising adoption of all-flash storage solutions, and smart city initiatives that fuel data center deployments

DIGITAL ID

Centre for Internet and Society partners with Research ICT Africa to launch the Digital Identities Design and Uses project

■ The Centre for Internet and Society partnered with Research ICT Africa to launch the Digital Identities Design and Uses project. Launched on Identity Day, the project will provide an evaluation of digital ID systems being deployed across Africa.



Digital vaccine passport for South Africa delayed

■ South Africa's Minister of Health Dr. Joe Phaahla said that digital vaccine certificates would become available in "just over a week or so" after the National Department of Health announced plans to issue digital vaccination certificates to people who have received COVID-19 jabs. The Minister also reassured citizens that the certificate will not be required to gain access to public or essential services, but may be needed to access some entertainment, sports, and other events. The digital passports are still yet to be issued.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Amazon's AI Cameras Are Punishing Drivers for Mistakes They Didn't Make

■ The Netradyne camera, which requires Amazon drivers to sign consent forms to release their biometric data, has four lenses that record drivers when they detect "events" such as following another vehicle too closely, stop signs, and street light violations, and distracted driving. Each time the camera registers an event, the footage is uploaded into a system, recorded, and affects a score drivers receive at the end of the week for safe driving. For many Amazon drivers, these performance scores determine whether they receive weekly bonuses, prizes, and extra pay.

PRODUCT HUNT



Apple Event wrap-up: Apple unveils new iPhone, iPad, iPad Mini, and Apple Watch

■ Last week, Apple introduced the next version of its popular smartphone, one of several device announcements made during a virtual event at its headquarters in Cupertino, California. Among the other devices unveiled Tuesday: a revamped budget iPad, an updated version of its iPad Mini, and the new Apple Watch Series 7 with a bigger display. iPhone 13 will be powered by the new A15 Bionic, which has a similar design to the iPhone 12 line except for the smaller notch, new camera lenses, Cinematic videography, brighter display, and longer battery life. The iPhone 13 will arrive in four models: a standard version with a 6.1-inch display, a Mini model, plus Pro and Pro Max models with larger screens and better battery life.



iPhone 13 will be powered by the new A15 Bionic, which has a similar design to the iPhone 12 line except for the smaller notch, new camera lenses, Cinematic videography, brighter display, and longer battery life.

Liquid Intelligent Technologies connects the Democratic Republic of Congo and Congo Brazzaville with high-speed connectivity

Liquid Intelligent Technologies is now delivering affordable high-speed connectivity to communities in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) using state-of-the-art Wireless Optical Communication technology. This achievement marks a robust high-capacity communications bridge between Kinshasa and Congo Brazzaville.

Despite being just 4.8 kilometers apart, Internet is more expensive in Kinshasa than in Brazzaville. The reason being, the two cities are separated by the Congo River, the second fastest and deepest river in the world, making it difficult to lay fiber across it. Historically this had resulted in operators directing traffic through their respective cable landing stations over 400 km away to create high-capacity information flow between them. Now, using innovative technology from Project Taara's Wireless Optical Communication

links, Liquid was able to create this connection and accomplish this feat in just a few days. This high-capacity link is expected to bring down the cost of broadband access for millions of people, and a second optical link provides redundancy and resilience to this critical segment of Liquid's network.



Turkana start-up Nawi takes on Bolt, Uber, and Little Cab

A new start-up is working to drive a different narrative with its digital ride-sharing app and in the process take on established giants like Uber and Bolt. Nawi Rides – a locally developed app - is available to get you to work, do errands, and to places for relaxation and fun in Turkana County.

A quick download of the app on Google Play-store and Apple App Store gives you access to affordable and convenient taxis that are clean with friendly drivers. You can choose between basic and normal taxi options each with a slight difference in per kilometer charges. The app calculates the distance to your destination and estimates the final cost.

Besides requesting from the app, the drivers can also do street pick-up. They can manually initiate rides by simply logging your number through the driver's app. For individuals without data, the taxi service can also be accessed via call. As the fleet grows, Nawi Rides promises to offer more services to compete with bigger taxi-hailing apps like Uber.

(Source: Business Daily)

EVENTS



The Africa CEO Forum - Digital Edition (September 28th to 30th)

The Africa CEO Forum is the largest gathering of the African private sector, providing a platform where the continent’s most influential decision-makers can make their voices heard on the new world before us. It’s also a prime opportunity to discuss how African businesses can best adapt to and stay competitive in an ever-evolving environment.

2021 University-Industry Conference
23rd September 2021

This conferences’ theme is: Navigating Covid-19 pandemic through University. It will be taking place in Nairobi at Safari Park hotel from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.



Witness Statement & Evidence Masterclass For Immigration Lawyers
27 September 2021

This webinar is aimed at legal practitioners and those working with them, with assumed basic knowledge of the topic area. Sandra Akinbolu and Raphael Jesurum of The 36 Group will look at how to build the strongest possible foundations for your cases.



3rd Sustainable Innovations Conference
24th to 25th September.

The 2021 Sustainable Innovations Conference will provide a platform to share facts, current studies, and findings and to discuss and address the Emerging and future innovations that focus on the attainment of Sustainable development goals on social-economic development through Innovation, Technology, and Entrepreneurship.



Africa Resilience Forum – Fourth Edition (September 28th to 30th)

This is the African Development Bank’s flagship event bringing together stakeholders to pool resources and discuss these critical issues. The flagship event aims to strengthen partnerships and explore policy ideas for sustainable development, especially in the context of the pandemic.

LAWYERS HUB MEMBERSHIP

Join our membership and be a part of a great community that includes legal and tech professionals, students, startups, organizations and government representatives. Over the past year, members have benefited through Networking Opportunities, Collaboration Opportunities, Invitations to speak at events, Mentorship, Access to the Lawyer’s Hub Innovation Space and to cutting-edge technology tools. This year, we have revamped our offers to make it even better and more accessible to many across Kenya & beyond our borders. These benefits include;

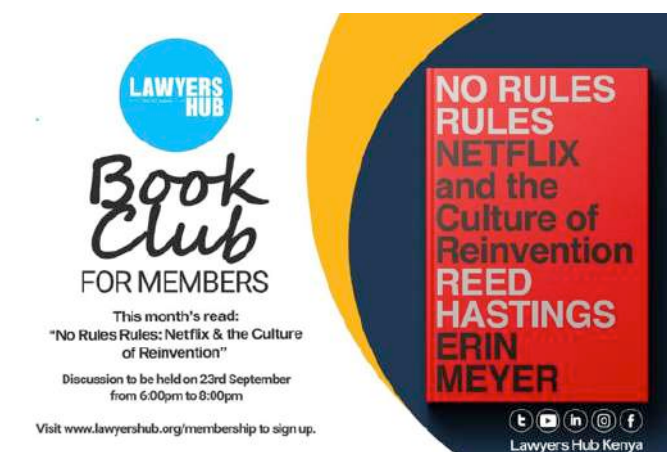
1. CODING FOR LAWYERS

It is important for lawyers to learn the fundamentals of coding as the legal industry becomes more tech and data driven. The Lawyers Hub has taken the initiative to ensure that its members develop these skills by curating a coding course that is set to start on the 1st of October 2021.



2. BOOK CLUB

September read: No Rules Rules; Netflix and the culture of Reinvention by Reed Hasting and Erin Meyer. Applications to join are open. 1st discussion will be held on 23rd September 2021.



3. DANCE CLASS

We care about our members' mental health and fitness as these are crucial to everyone’s wellbeing. The Lawyers Hub hosts two choreographed dance classes every week that will tick all your mental health boxes in Upper Hill at Ack Garden House. You also get to network with working groups.

Your 1st dance class is on the house. Join us!

4. DISCOUNTS ON LAWYERS HUB AMENITIES

Have you been looking for an office to work from? Tired of working from home and need a change in work environment? Having issues with power or the internet? The Lawyers Hub has amazing deals on its amenities for members such as 10% discounts on virtual office, private office, hot desks, meeting and conference rooms, and event space with great features suited to help you take your business to the next level.

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LAWYERS HUB CO-WORKING SPACE

Our serviced office space provides individuals and organizations in the Law & Tech space with everything you need to grow and innovate. Come and work with like-minded professionals in the industry, accelerate your business growth, and unlock your potential in our well-designed work environment. We offer hot desks, private offices and meeting rooms all at flexible rates.



CO-WORKING SPACE

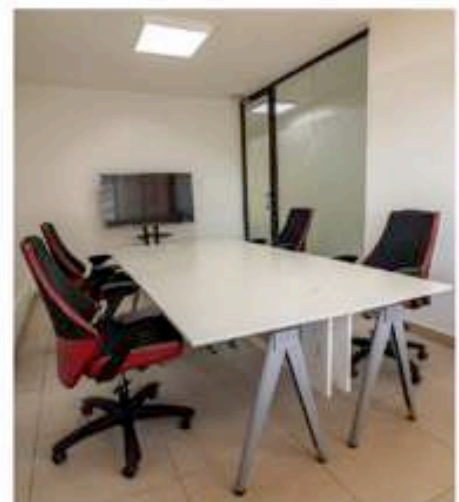
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