



NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

India's digital drive inspires me, says Dell

ETMONEY ties up with RBL Bank to offer personal loans

Schneider buys L&T's electric & automation unit for Rs 14,000 cr

Twitter inks over 30 deals with Walt Disney, NBC Universal and Viacom

Today's View

Warehouse Robotics

With a surge in millennial e-commerce shoppers, the consumer interest in the same day is already high and quickly rising. More than 100 million consumers for Amazon Prime is a clear indicator of this trend.

In a recent report on same day delivery, **BI Intelligence** researchers found that "Four in 10 US shoppers said they would use same-day delivery if they didn't have time to go to the store, and one in four shoppers said they would consider abandoning an online shopping cart if same day delivery was not an option."

This shift in buyer behaviour is unlikely to inverse the existing trend. As the traditional supply chain, logistics and delivery industries evolve to meet these demands, the changing landscape presents new, unique challenges. Getting same-day delivery done means, having goods out of the warehouses as fast as possible but warehouse labour challenges can delay the movement of goods.

Some companies try to find a solution with installing fixed-in-place automation but it comes with its own set of problems like lengthy installation processes, high expenditure and risk of installations getting outdated which changing business models.

Akhil Handa
+91 22 6759 2873
akhilhanda@bankofbaroda.com

Aparna Anand
+91 22 6759 2873
Aparna.anand@bankofbaroda.com

UPI transactions rise to 190 million in April

The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is closing in on the 200 million monthly transactions mark, hitting 190 million in April, a nearly 7% jump from the 178-million transactions in March.



Source – The Economic Times

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Date – 2nd May 18

This is where robotic warehouse assistants come into the picture. **Amazon** is known to utilize 80,000+ robots throughout its distribution centres and more and more are getting equipped with Robotic solutions.

Locus Robotics have created autonomous mobile robots, called **LocusBots** that work safely alongside human employees to deliver higher efficiency. LocusBots automatically detect a wide range of worker's languages, changing instantly as they interact with each worker to help speed workflow and minimize errors. The integrated scanner confirms the item and ensures near 100% accurate pick and put operations.

RightHand Robotics, for instance, provides end-to-end solutions designed to reduce the cost of e-commerce order fulfilment of electronics, apparel, grocery, pharmaceuticals, and other industries. The core competency of the **RightPick solution** is picking "pieces" or individual items. Unlike traditional factory robots, RightPick handles thousands of different items using a machine learning backend coupled with a sensorized robot hand that works in concert with all industry-leading robotic arms.

Similarly, **6 River Systems** has recently created a cart-like robot to receive orders sent through the cloud. The solution also helps human employees identify and find products while navigating a quick route through the warehouse, ensuring they can operate quickly without getting lost or forgetting items in their rush. Humans then load the items onto the automated carts, which drive the goods to wherever they're needed.

Robotic automation can extend the capacity, hours of operation, and life of a warehouse. Robots are more affordable than ever making the economics more attractive and justifiable than in the past. We believe that robots would be the new friends of warehouse workers helping them expedite all the key warehouse processes.

Today's News

India's digital drive inspires me, says Dell

Complimenting India on its digital drive, Michael Dell, chairman and CEO of Dell Technologies, said he gets inspired by what the country is doing to transform its society and economy.

Source – *The Times of India*

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ETMONEY ties up with RBL Bank to offer personal loans

ETMONEY, a Times Internet-backed company, announced its entry into the lending business today, with launch of ETMONEY CreditLine, in partnership with RBL Bank.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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This News Letter has been prepared with the assistance of **Vikas Madaan** and **Aparna Anand**

Intel bets on drones to spread reach of its chips, cut reliance on PC market

Intel Corp. drones played starring roles at the 2018 Winter Olympics, the music and arts festival Coachella and danced above the Bellagio Hotel's fountains in Las Vegas.

But while those stunts, involving hundreds of Shooting Star drones that create a light show in a modern twist on fireworks, are great PR, what's going on behind the scenes is much more valuable to Intel.

Source – *Mint*

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Blockchain start-up Zebi Data to hire 900

Blockchain start-up Zebi Data India Private Ltd, which has created a secure land record solution for the greenfield Andhra Pradesh Capital Amaravati, is betting big on the technology's applications for other sectors such as hospitality, education, retail and logistics.

Source – *Business Line*

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Microsoft's codetalk shines the light for the visually impaired

Microsoft has created a tool that lets visually impaired people code faster.

The project dubbed CodeTalk helps such coders navigate faster on screen, offers audio cues for bugs in the program, and helps users locate and skip comments on their document.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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WhatsApp CEO Jan Koum quits Facebook over 'data privacy' concerns

In a jolt to Facebook, WhatsApp co-founder and CEO Jan Koum has decided to move on amid reports that he had a difference of opinion with parent company Facebook over data privacy, encryption and other issues.

Koum announced his exit from WhatsApp immediately after The Washington Post on Monday reported his plans to depart "after clashing with its parent, Facebook, over the popular messaging service's strategy and Facebook's attempts to use its personal data and weaken its encryption".

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Fintech players rely on AI to build credit scores for disbursal of loans

The burgeoning online lending segment in India is also giving rise to a new kind of challenge on sourcing credit score data.

To solve this problem, several fintech companies are using Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) to create alternate lending data score for more than 80 per cent of the Indian population who have no credit scores. From the place where people live to the restaurants they visit to their digital footprints on social media, ML captures it all.

Source – *Business Line*

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Schneider buys L&T's electric & automation unit for Rs 14,000 cr

Infrastructure and engineering major Larsen & Toubro (L&T) said on Tuesday it is divesting its electric and automation (E&A) business to French automation giant Schneider Electric for Rs 14,000 crore. Schneider will acquire it in partnership with Singapore's sovereign fund Temasek.

The deal was in the making for nearly years as part of L&T's decision to exit non-core businesses. A number of suitors including ABB, Honeywell, Siemens and Hitachi had looked at L&T's E&A business.

Source – *Business Line*

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Twitter inks over 30 deals with Walt Disney, NBC Universal and Viacom

Twitter inked more than 30 deals with publishers including Walt Disney and NBC Universal to beef up its video offerings with more news, entertainment and sports. NBC Universal, part of Comcast, agreed to distribute live video and clips on Twitter through its media properties, including NBC News, MSNBC and E! News. Viacom is creating new show formats including "BET Breaks"

Source – *Business Standard*

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Flipkart to buy back shares to go private

Flipkart has set aside \$400 million to buy back shares from small investors as it seeks to regain its private limited company status in Singapore ahead of an investment from Walmart, according to three people aware of the development.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Foreign airlines will be first to offer in-flight connectivity

Foreign carriers such as Singapore Airlines and Lufthansa are soon likely to offer mobile connectivity on board flights in Indian airspace after the government's go-ahead. But local airlines may go slow on rolling out the service because of the cost involved, said industry executives.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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The tech is ready; geopolitics is hindering a global 5G rollout

Do you want internet speeds multiple times what your 4G data connection presently offers? The answer lies in 5G, but it is unlikely to be available soon in India or anywhere else in the world.

Its rollout is now caught in the geopolitics involving the US and China — two players who have a critical role to play in the technology.

Source – *Business Line*

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