



BUSINESS ACQUITIES

JULY 2023

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TECHNOLGY AND TRENDS

Blockchain Technology

Blockchain is a digital ledger that enables secure and transparent transactions without the need for a middleman. Blockchain technology will be used in industries like finance, healthcare, and logistics, and will enable companies to create secure and transparent networks. Blockchain technology will also enable companies to create new products and services, such as decentralized finance (DeFi) and non-fungible tokens (NFTs).

Furthermore, blockchain is expected to become more energy-efficient and scalable, enabling more widespread adoption and use in various industries. Interoperability between different blockchain platforms and networks is also expected to improve, allowing for greater collaboration and innovation.

5G Technology

5G Technology is the fifth(5th) generation of wireless technology that will enable faster internet speeds and better connectivity. 5G Technology will be used in industries like healthcare, manufacturing, and logistics, and will enable companies to transmit data in real-time. 5G Technology will also enable companies to create new products and services, such as autonomous vehicles and remote surgeries.

Cloud Computing

Cloud Computing is a technology that enables users to access computing resources, such as servers, storage, and software, over the internet. Cloud Computing will be used in industries like healthcare, finance, and logistics, and will enable companies to reduce costs, increase scalability, and improve efficiency. Cloud Computing will also enable companies to create new products and services, such as cloud-based software and platform-as-a-service (PaaS) offerings.

Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity is a technology trend that will continue to be important in 2023. Cybersecurity will be used in industries like finance, healthcare, and logistics, and

will enable companies to protect their networks, systems, and data from cyber attacks. Cybersecurity will also enable companies to comply with regulations and standards, such as GDPR and HIPAA.

Quantum Computing

Quantum Computing is a technology that uses quantum mechanics to perform complex calculations. Quantum Computing will be used in industries like finance, healthcare, and logistics, and will enable companies to solve complex problems in real-time. Quantum Computing will also enable companies to create new products and services, such as quantum cryptography and quantum machine learning.



Despite the promise of quantum computing, there are still many technical and practical challenges that need to be overcome, such as improving the stability and scalability of quantum systems and developing algorithms that can take advantage of the unique properties of qubits. Nevertheless, the field of quantum computing is rapidly evolving, and there is significant interest and investment in the technology from both academia and industry.

Zero Trust Security

Zero Trust Security is a cybersecurity model that requires all users and devices to be authenticated and authorized before accessing a network. Zero Trust Security will be used in industries like finance, healthcare, and logistics, and will enable companies to create secure and transparent networks. Zero Trust Security will also enable companies to prevent potential threats, such as data breaches and cyber attacks.

Biometrics

Biometrics is a technology that uses human characteristics, such as fingerprints, facial recognition, and voice recognition, for secure authentication. Biometrics will be used in industries like finance, healthcare, and retail, and will enable companies to create secure and convenient user experiences. Biometrics will also enable companies to prevent potential threats, such as identity theft and fraud.

Robotics

Robotics is a technology that uses robots to perform tasks in industries like manufacturing, healthcare, and logistics. Robotics will enable companies to automate repetitive tasks, reduce human error, and improve efficiency. Robotics will also enable companies to create new products and services, such as collaborative robots and medical robotics.

Space Technology

Space Technology is a technology that enables space exploration, space tourism, space mining, and space debris cleanup. Space Technology will be used by private companies like SpaceX, Blue Origin, and Virgin Galactic, and will enable us to explore new frontiers and create new opportunities.



Overall, space technology has had a profound impact on our understanding of the universe and on our daily lives, and it continues to drive scientific and technological innovation.

Edge Computing

Edge Computing is a technology that enables data processing and storage to be done closer to the source of the data. This reduces latency and improves real-time data processing. Edge Computing will be used in industries like manufacturing, healthcare, and logistics, and will enable companies to process data faster and more efficiently.

Digital Twin

Digital Twin is a technology that creates a digital replica of physical assets, processes, or systems. Digital Twin will be used in industries like manufacturing, healthcare, and logistics, and will enable companies to simulate and optimize their operations in a virtual environment. Digital Twin will also enable companies to reduce downtime, increase productivity, and improve efficiency.

The use of digital twins is driven by advances in sensors, data analytics, and artificial intelligence. By using data from sensors and other sources, a digital twin can provide real-time feedback on the performance and behavior of the physical object, enabling organizations to make better decisions and optimize their operations.

As technology continues to evolve, the use of digital twins is expected to become more widespread and transformative across industries.

Natural Language Processing (NLP)

Natural Language Processing (NLP) is a technology that enables computers to understand and interpret human language. NLP will be used in industries like healthcare, finance, and customer service, and will enable companies to automate processes and improve customer experiences. NLP will also enable companies to create new products and services, such as virtual assistants and chatbots.

LOGISTICS NEWS

Kraft Heinz says \$400 million DC will distribute more than 60% of its foodservice business

July 17, 2023

- Food distributor Kraft Heinz Co. will build a \$400 million distribution center in DeKalb, Illinois, saying the facility will become one of the largest automated consumer packaged goods (CPG) DCs in North America.
- The 775,000 square-foot national distribution facility will combine automation technology with national railway access, enabling Kraft Heinz to drive greater supply chain efficiencies and distribute its products to retail and foodservice customers faster than ever, the company said Thursday.
- When finished, the facility will play a critical role in the Pittsburgh-based company's operations. The facility's design includes a 24/7 automated storage and retrieval system with the ability to drive twice the volume for Kraft Heinz customers, distributing more than 60% of the company's foodservice business and approximately 30% of all dry goods.



- To build the facility, Kraft Heinz picked Daifuku as its integrated logistics automation provider, working alongside other groups such as Trammell Crow Company (TCC), a global commercial real estate developer; Krusinski Construction Company (KCC), as general contractor, and the City of DeKalb and the DeKalb County

Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC).

- “As we continue on our journey to lead the future of food, our talented North America teams and collaborative external partners are innovating at a rapid pace to expand our supply chain capabilities,” Carlos Abrams-Rivera, executive vice president and president, North America at Kraft Heinz, said in a release. “It’s a testament to the dynamic, out-of-the-box thinking of our supply chain teams whose work enables us to operate with greater efficiency and agility every day.”

OSHA sharpens focus on warehouse, DC safety

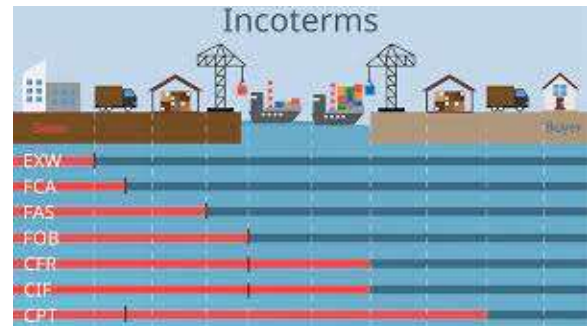
July 13, 2023

- The federal government has launched a safety effort aimed at reducing and preventing workplace hazards in warehouses and distribution centers (DCs), largely in response to the proliferation of those facilities nationwide in the past 10 years.
- The “national emphasis program” will be run by the Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and will also target mail and parcel processing facilities, as well as local delivery and so-called “high-risk” retail establishments.



- In making the announcement Thursday, the labor department said there are more than 1.9 million people employed in warehousing and distribution, and cited Bureau of Labor Statistics data that show higher than average rates of injury and illness in the industry. In some segments of the industry, those rates are more than twice the rate of incidents in private industry overall, according to BLS data.

structurally challenging to understand and use correctly.



LMI continues downward trend

July 7, 2023

- The monthly LMI registered 45.6 in June, an all-time low and only the second time the index has contracted since its inception in 2016. The LMI polls logistics managers nationwide each month to gauge economic activity across transportation and warehousing industries. A reading above 50 indicates expansion and a reading below 50 indicates contraction in the market.
- June's reading was down 1.7 points from May, which was the first time the LMI dipped below 50.
- Inventory metrics are the driving force behind the monthly decline, according to LMI researchers. The LMI's inventory levels index fell nearly seven points to a reading of 42.9, the fastest rate of decline in the history of the index. The inventory costs index remained in expansion mode but continued to slow from elevated levels over the past two years, falling more than seven points to a reading of 57.1. The dip in inventories has led to an increase in warehousing capacity and transportation capacity—up nearly seven points and two points, respectively—both of which contributed to the decrease in the overall LMI.
- Transportation utilization and transportation prices continued to contract in June, but at slower rates compared to May, according to the report.

Incoterms must die Part 3: Time to simplify

June 27, 2023

- The first two articles in this series discussed the state of Incoterms rules and how they are

- The articles made the case that every trade is impacted by Incoterms rules¹ and that the pain of using current Incoterms, multiplied millions of times per year across the world's economies, suggests that fixing these pain points should be a priority.
- There are two possible approaches for improving the Incoterms situation: 1) educate and train everyone thoroughly on using today's Incoterms to their best advantage, or 2) simplify Incoterms. In fact, these are not mutually exclusive.
- However, the first solution entails a sustained campaign to directly and permanently change the values and behaviors of millions of industry professionals, which is no small task, and one that never ends. The second only entails some diligent and thoughtful work by a few smart people working in the [International Code Council](#) (ICC).
- This may also be no small task, but it is orders of magnitude more realistic. For practical reasons, we believe this second approach is the right place to start.

SHARE MARKET

Share Market Highlights 27 July 2023: Sensex falls 440 pts, Nifty tests 19,650; Cipla spurts 10%

July 27, 2023 16:35

Sensex falls 440 points, Nifty tests 19,650

- Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty buckled under heavy selling pressure on Thursday as investors pared exposure to bellwether stocks HDFC Bank, M&M, Nestle and Reliance Industries amid a mixed trend in global markets.
- Besides, the interest rate hike by the US Fed failed to boost sentiments in the domestic market, which saw a steep decline led by banking and auto stocks, traders said.
- After opening with gains of over 125 points, BSE Sensex plunged 440.38 points or 0.66 per cent to settle at 66,266.82, while Nifty declined 118.40 points or 0.60 per cent to close at 19,659.90.

July 27, 2023 16:27

Gold jumps Rs 250; silver zooms Rs 900

- Gold price jumped Rs 250 to Rs 60,600 per 10 grams in the national capital on Thursday amid strong global cues, according to HDFC Securities.
- In the previous trade, the yellow metal had closed at Rs 60,350 per 10 grams.

- Silver also zoomed Rs 900 to Rs 77,900 per kilogramme.
- Gold advanced on Thursday, with spot gold prices in the Delhi markets trading at Rs 60,600/10 grams, up by Rs 250 per 10 grams, Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst - Commodities at HDFC Securities, said.



July 27, 2023 16:26

Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Q1 profit jumps 60 pc to Rs 324 crore

- Ujjivan Small Finance Bank on Thursday posted a 60 per cent rise in net profit at Rs 324 crore in the June quarter, helped by a decline in bad loans.
- The bank had posted a net profit of Rs 203 crore in the year-ago period.
- Total income in the first quarter of the current fiscal rose to Rs 1,464 crore as against Rs 1,030 crore, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank said in a regulatory filing.
- The lender's interest income also increased to Rs 1,287 crore from Rs 905 crore in the same quarter a year ago.

GLOBAL ECONOMY

The global recovery is slowing amid widening divergences among economic sectors and regions

- Global growth is projected to fall from an estimated 3.5 percent in 2022 to 3.0 percent in both 2023 and 2024. While the forecast for 2023 is modestly higher than predicted in the April 2023 World Economic Outlook (WEO), it remains weak by historical standards. The rise in central bank policy rates to fight inflation continues to weigh on economic activity.
- Global headline inflation is expected to fall from 8.7 percent in 2022 to 6.8 percent in 2023 and 5.2 percent in 2024. Underlying (core) inflation is projected to decline more gradually, and forecasts for inflation in 2024 have been revised upward.



- The recent resolution of the US debt ceiling standoff and, earlier this year, strong action by authorities to contain turbulence in US and Swiss banking reduced the immediate risks of financial sector turmoil. This moderated adverse risks to the outlook.
- However, the balance of risks to global growth remains tilted to the downside. Inflation could remain high and even rise if further shocks occur, including those from an intensification of the war in Ukraine and extreme weather-related events, triggering more restrictive monetary policy. Financial sector turbulence could resume as markets adjust to further policy tightening by central banks.
- China's recovery could slow, in part as a result of unresolved real estate problems, with negative cross-border spillovers.
- Sovereign debt distress could spread to a wider group of economies. On the upside, inflation could fall faster than expected, reducing the need for tight monetary policy, and domestic demand could again prove more resilient.
- In most economies, the priority remains achieving sustained disinflation while ensuring financial stability. Therefore, central banks should remain focused on restoring price stability and strengthen financial supervision and risk monitoring.
- Should market strains materialize, countries should provide liquidity promptly while mitigating the possibility of moral hazard.
- They should also build fiscal buffers, with the composition of fiscal

adjustment ensuring targeted support for the most vulnerable.

- Improvements to the supply side of the economy would facilitate fiscal consolidation and a smoother decline of inflation toward target levels.

EDUCATION

- JAIN (Deemed-to-be University) conducted a two-day Model G20 Summit in Bengaluru. Programme included a panel discussion on India's Role in Global Leadership, a paper and poster presentation and the Model G20 summit.
- Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) launched the New-Age NEP Compliant Skill Education Programmes and the Innovative Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) for the 2023-24 academic year. These courses have been designed by the School of Vocational Education and the Centre of Excellence in Teacher Education (CETE), respectively.
- The Department of Fashion in the College of Science and Humanities, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Chennai, organised the Designer's Runway in association with Mozhi- the Designer's club.
- Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited launched a new Student Travel Plan under the TravelAssure product. It is specifically designed to cater to the

needs of students who are embarking on higher studies abroad. The plan is available for students based in India or any other foreign country.

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- Prof. T G Sitharaman, Chairman, AICTE, announced the upcoming Happiness Rankings and awards. The awards have been curated by YOL-Happiness programme team under the aegis of AICTE, and applications are invited from all colleges in India.



- The ninth Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Service learning was held at CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Central Campus, Bengaluru. More than 70 papers were presented from the Asia-Pacific region in hybrid mode. Rajesh Tandon, the founding director of PRIA and the co-chair of UNESCO, delivered the keynote address.
- Lakshmi Sowmya Emani, a Ph.D. scholar in the Department of Biotechnology, KL Deemed-to-be University, was selected for the New Investigator Travel Award for 2023.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan top unemployment chart in July-Sept: Labour Survey

- Himachal Pradesh has witnessed the highest overall unemployment rate of 33.9 per cent, followed by Rajasthan at 30.2 per cent, among the age group of 15 to 29 years in cities during July-September 2023, according to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS).
- The PLFS data of the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) also revealed that unemployment among the 15-29 age group in urban areas was high among females at 49.2 per cent in the July-September quarter of this fiscal year as compared to 25.3 per cent in the quarter as against 27.2 per cent in males. Jammu & Kashmir also reported a high rate of joblessness at 29.8 per cent in the age group in cities.



- In the case of Jammu & Kashmir, unemployment was high among females at 51.8 per cent in the quarter compared to 19.8 per cent among males in the period in cities.
- The data showed that the overall unemployment in the country was 17.3 per cent in the 15-29 age group in cities

as per the current weekly status.

- The activity status determined on the basis of a reference period of the last seven days preceding the date of survey is known as the current weekly status (CWS) of the person.
- The overall unemployment was high among 22.9 per cent in cities in the country in the 15-29 age group compared to 15.5 per cent among females in the July-September quarter 2023, showed the data.



Unemployment

- The survey conducted in 22 states, showed that the lowest unemployment rate was 7.1 per cent in Gujarat followed by Delhi at 8.4 per cent in the July-September quarter among persons of the age group of 15-29 per cent.
- Joblessness, or unemployment rate, is defined as the percentage of unemployed people in the labour force. The NSSO launched PLFS in April 2017. This Bulletin for the quarter ending September 2023 is the twentieth in the series.