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An iWire publication

www.itwire.com

Editor: Stan Beer

Monday 15 July 2019

HUAWEI FLAGS EXTENSIVE JOB CUTS IN THE US



CommsWire (ISSN 2202-4549) is published by iWire Pty Ltd. 18 Lansdown St, Hampton, Vic, 3188

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HUAWEI SAID TO BE PLANNING BIG STAFF CUTS IN US: REPORT

Chinese telecoms equipment vendor Huawei Technologies is planning to lay off a large number of staff from its operations in the US due to its being placed on Washington's Entity List preventing it from using US components unless specific permission is granted.

[A report](#) in *The Wall Street Journal* said the cuts would take place at the company's R&D subsidiary Futurewei Technologies which employs about 850 people.



The newspaper cited anonymous sources as saying the numbers were in the hundreds, adding that some of the Chinese employees were being given the option of continuing to work with the company back in China.

Being placed on the Entity List means that components which have more than a certain percentage of content of American origin

cannot be used by Huawei without permission.

Last Wednesday, the US Department of Commerce [said](#) it would issue licences to Huawei for buying American products "where there is no threat to US national security".

Huawei was [placed](#) on the Entity List on 16 May. Five days later, the US Commerce Department said the ban would be eased for 90 days, so that existing networks and handsets, which had already been sold by the Chinese firm would continue to receive software updates.

US companies, a number of processor manufacturers among them, have [got around the ban](#) by selling Huawei goods made by their branches in other countries.

US President Donald Trump has [hinted](#) on more than one occasion that Huawei could be used as a bargaining chip to settle the ongoing US-China trade war.

In June, Huawei founder Ren Zhengfei [said](#) the company's revenue was expected to fall to US\$100 billion in 2019, compared to US\$105 billion in 2018. In February, a target of US\$125 billion had been set for the 2020 financial year.

Contacted for comment, a Huawei spokesperson said the company was not making any public comment on these claims.

Sam Varghese

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SMARTGATE FAILURE AT AUSTRALIAN AIRPORTS CAUSES DELAYS

SmartGate, the automated passport control system used in Australia's international airports appears to have suffered an outage, leading to a huge build-up of passengers both exiting and entering the country.

In a statement, the Australian Border Force said at 11.40am AEST: "Our staff are working hard to minimise earlier delays caused by an outage.

"All issues have now been rectified. We appreciate the patience of passengers at this time and apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused."



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@eternals



Line to get to the departure security/boarding.....at

#sydneyairport🙄👻

♡ 2 9:18 AM - Jul 15, 2019

Reports said that there were huge delays at Sydney, Melbourne and Perth airports. Brisbane was also affected, but Adelaide escaped.

In April, there was [a similar failure](#), with the passport control system going down at 6am.

Neither Melbourne nor Sydney airports have any information on their Twitter feeds as they did in April.

Over the last few days, a number of flights have been delayed by strong winds.

Sam Varghese



John de Ridder

Telecommunications Economist

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EUROPE GALILEO SATELLITE SYSTEM HIT BY TECHNICAL ISSUE

The European Union's satellite navigation system Galileo has been affected by a technical incident related to its ground infrastructure, the European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency says in a statement.

The GNSS Agency said this had led to a temporary interruption of the Galileo initial navigation and timing services. Only the Galileo Search and Rescue service was available at the moment.



Some reports had hinted that this lack of availability of the Galileo system might be due to Russian interference, and called it "a mysterious outage".

The GNSS Agency said the SAR service which is used for finding and helping people in distress was unaffected and remained operational.

It said indications of the issues had already been published on 11 July and 13 July.

"Galileo provides 'initial services' since December 2016. During this initial 'pilot' phase preceding the 'full operational services' phase, Galileo signals are used in combination with other satellite navigation systems, which allows for the detection of technical issues before the system becomes fully operational," the statement said.

"Experts are working to restore the situation as soon as possible. An Anomaly Review Board has been immediately set up to analyse the exact root cause and to implement recovery actions."

Sam Varghese

MYRIOTA INKS AGREEMENT WITH AUSTRALIAN SPACE AGENCY

Adelaide-based nanosatellite Internet of Things connectivity vendor Myriota and the Australian Space Agency have signed a statement of strategic intent aimed at expanding Australia's growing space industry.

In a claimed world-first for an Australian startup, Myriota has joined aircraft and aerospace manufacturer Boeing, and other companies, in agreements with the space agency.

Last March, Myriota, launched its developer toolkit aimed at accelerating the availability of IoT technology across the global tech community and enabling developers to integrate direct-to-satellite communications technology with IoT products.



Myriota announced the agreement with the Space Agency on Monday, outlining a number of plans that the Adelaide business has for growth, including:

- Expanding its current constellation to 25 satellites by 2022
- Hosting 10 internships per year across the business to encourage interest in STEM, with a particular focus on growing female involvement in technology companies
- Growing the number of employees from 25 to over 50 by 2022
- Delivering sensor connectivity for lunar and planetary exploration missions.

“The establishment of the Australian Space Agency comes at a time when nanosatellites and IoT are helping to solve major issues that have long plagued Australian businesses, such as manual water monitoring in regional Australia,” Dr Alex Grant, CEO and co-founder of Myriota said.

“We’ve outlined our growth plans which include adding 25 satellites to our constellation and expanding our team to 50 people by 2022 in order to support the delivery of these solutions.

“We’re passionate about fostering a diverse STEM workforce. Our strategy has a particular focus on developing initiatives that profile the achievements of female tech leaders, while investing in Women in STEM programs to creating a thriving female workforce.”



One of the key remits of the Australian Space Agency is to create a competitive space industry while improving Australia’s standing on the global stage through the application of innovative products and services.

Myriota says its use of nanosatellite technology continues to be used to “solve real-world problems, such as assisting with water and agricultural management in regional Australia”.

“This statement embodies the transformation we are witnessing in the space industry both here in Australia and around the world,” Anthony Murfett, Deputy Head of the Australian Space Agency said.

“It demonstrates that businesses of all sizes can make a significant contribution to Australia’s space industry

“As a startup with unique R&D and IP, Myriota’s technological innovation is important not only to support the growth and transformation of our space industry, but is inspiring to the wider Australian community and space entrepreneurs.”

Australia aims to grow the space market segment from \$3.9 billion to \$12 billion by 2030 and double space industry employment from around 10,000 today to 30,000.

Peter Dinham

MYGOV SITE CRASHES AS AUSTRALIANS PILE ON TO GET TAX CUTS

The Australian Government's myGov website has crashed as taxpayers pile on to file their returns in a bid to get the sum of a little over \$500 that will come to some as part of the laws to cut tax passed recently.

The Australian Taxation Office said in a tweet: "Some of our services (incl. the portals & our online services via myGov) are currently unavailable or experiencing slowness.

"We're working on the issue and apologise for the inconvenience. Stay tuned for updates."

On Wednesday, Federal Treasurer Josh Frydenberg said the ATO had received more than a million tax returns in just 10 days.

"As of this [10 July] morning over 1.1 million tax returns have been lodged compared to around 600,000 at the same time last year," he tweeted.

"Despite Labor's opposition, Australians have now got the tax cuts they voted for."



Prior to that, as soon as the tax measures got through the Senate, many people called the ATO and asked for the money that they thought would be paid directly to them.

There are three stages of tax cuts, with the first for those who earn up to \$125,000 per annum taking effect on 1 July. This will be provided as a refund when these individuals file their returns for the year.

Sam Varghese

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