

PHP: The three letters that shut down sites all over the internet today

Two bugs found with AI are behind major issues today for 4chan, DeviantArt, Wikipedia, and the blog where the bar around the corner posts pictures of people's dogs. The "critical vulnerabilities" were discovered in the PHP programming language, which underpins much of the internet, including any site built on WordPress. But it's far bigger than that. Some Dutch and Finnish government agencies took their sites down as a precaution. The NSA Cybersecurity account on X recommended that organizations take their systems offline if "an immediate update is not feasible," as did the UK's National Cyber Security Center. Even *Pokémon Home* and *Pokémon C ...*

Read the full story at The Verge.

<https://www.theverge.com/tech/1015906/php2shell-vulnerability-october-2026>

Flying Roadsters can't lift Tesla's flat Q3 revenues

As the smoke clears from its outrageous Roadster demo, Tesla reported Q3 earnings on Wednesday – and the cold reality is that revenue has flatlined.

Tesla said it earned \$1.7 billion in net income on \$28.0 billion in revenue in the quarter that ended in September 2026. Revenues were flat, while profits dropped 4 percent compared to the third quarter of 2025, when the company earned \$1.4 billion in net income on \$28.1 billion in revenue. Tesla's revenue came in above Wall Street expectations of \$27.9 billion, according to data compiled by LSEG. Tesla's own company-compiled expectations predicted Q3 revenues of \$28.3 billion.

The earnings ...

Read the full story at The Verge.

<https://www.theverge.com/transportation/1015790/tesla-q3-2026-earnings-revenue-profit-roadster-spacex-merger>

Bose acquires Skullcandy to help it reach a wider audience

Bose announced today it has acquired Skullcandy. Although the

two companies are competitors in the consumer audio space, Skullcandy recently partnered with its new owner to bring several of Bose's audio technologies – including its head-tracking spatial audio and excellent active noise cancellation (ANC) – to products like the Skullcandy Crusher 1080 ANC headphones and Method 360 ANC earbuds.

Specific details about the deal weren't shared, but according to a news release, Bose plans to keep Skullcandy a separate brand that will become part of its premium consumer audio business. Skullcandy will remain based in Park City, Utah, where it was ...

Read the full story at The Verge.

<https://www.theverge.com/tech/1015276/bose-acquisition-skullcandy-headphones-earbuds-speakers>

Airbnb bans making guests do dishes and take out the trash

Checking out of your next Airbnb might be less of a hassle now that the company is banning hosts from including time-consuming chores in their house rules. Airbnb's updated house rules policy, which starts with reservations booked on or after November 20th, says hosts can't ask guests to "complete tasks that require significant effort or time, or would typically be performed by a cleaner." According to Airbnb, that includes:

- **Dishes:** Guests shouldn't be asked to wash and put away dishes, but you can ask them to put used dishes in the sink.
- **Laundry:** Guests shouldn't be asked to remove sheets from the bed or start a load of laundry, but yo ...

Read the full story at The Verge.

<https://www.theverge.com/tech/1015844/airbnb-chores-house-rules-update>

The new human-crafted Apple Music brand matters in an AI world

Apple just revealed a new brand identity for Apple Music, with the expected turn to Liquid Glass. I'm not much of a fan of their new design language in general; this is where I admit that I'm still running MacOS Sequoia and have grumpy things to say about rounded corner radii and text legibility.

It's just a trend, it will pass, and at some point I'll probably cave and upgrade when it starts actually affecting my ability to get work done, or more importantly get security updates. Once I adjust, I'll stop noticing it, and life will go on.

As such, I wouldn't normally find an obvious rebrand like this notable, much less feel like I had much to say about it. But then I happened to catch Apple's behind-the-scenes video in my YouTube recommendations, and I realized I did have thoughts.

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<https://arstechnica.com/culture/2026/10/the-new-human-crafted-apple-music-brand-matters-in-an-ai-world/>

RIP BioWare: EA shuts down storied RPG studio after over three decades

The legendary studio behind series like *Mass Effect*, *Dragon Age*, *Neverwinter Nights*, and *Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic* is no more. BioWare announced via social media Wednesday afternoon that “after more than three decades of shared adventures, BioWare is closing and early development on the next *Mass Effect* project is ending.”

The official announcement was posted mere minutes after a Bloomberg report detailed 400 job cuts across BioWare parent company Electronic Arts, including 50 at BioWare, based on reports from “a person familiar with the company’s plans.”

“Across our portfolio, we’re making deliberate choices to align talent and investments where we see the greatest opportunities for players and long-term growth,” EA executives wrote in a message to staff, according to Bloomberg.

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<https://arstechnica.com/gaming/2026/10/rip-bioware-ea-shuts-down-storied-rpg-studio-after-over-three-decades/>

OpenAI's latest AI models are coming to Google Cloud and Antigravity

Google would certainly prefer that everyone used its Gemini models with Google Cloud services, but soon, you'll have more options. OpenAI and Google have come to an arrangement that will see the former's frontier models arrive in Google Cloud services. Perhaps more importantly, GPT models will soon appear in Antigravity, Google's agent-powered coding tool.

For enterprise customers and AI enthusiasts, OpenAI's latest model will appear in Google's "Model Garden" in the coming weeks, adding to its 200-plus options. The garden already offers access to Google's Gemini models, as well as an assortment of open models like Mistral, Llama, and Gemma. Anthropic's Claude AI has also been available for some time. Google says it's now the only large cloud provider offering access to all three leading closed LLMs.

While OpenAI notes that Microsoft continues to be its primary cloud partner, the full suite of current GPT 6 and 6.1 models—Astra, Sol, and Luna—will launch on Google Cloud. Astra will naturally cost the most to run, but Google's system supports dynamically moving workloads between LLMs based on performance, latency, and efficiency.

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<https://arstechnica.com/ai/2026/10/openais-latest-ai-models-are-coming-to-google-cloud-and-antigravity/>

Report: Musk ordered Starlink slowdown in Ukraine, then blamed it on Trump

A Wall Street Journal report said SpaceX CEO Elon Musk ordered the Starlink throttling that blindsided Ukraine's air assault forces last week, despite Musk's claim that all decisions on the military version of Starlink are made by the US military and President Trump.

Trump denied ordering the restrictions. While Musk may have spoken to Trump and administration officials before the decision, The Wall Street Journal reported yesterday that Musk made the final call. The decision came after both Musk and Trump criticized Ukraine for attacking Russian diesel refineries.

"Elon Musk ordered the slowdown of a military-grade version of Starlink relied on by Ukraine, a decision that sparked panic in Kyiv and confusion inside the Trump administration," the WSJ wrote, citing unnamed US officials and people familiar with the matter. The report said that "Musk capped the speeds at which Ukrainian hardware could stay connected to the satellite-based network... rendering some offensive drones and interceptor drones virtually useless."

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<https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2026/10/report-says-musk-not-trump-ordered-starlink-throttling-that-blindsided-ukraine/>

Judge rejects Trump's wild claim EPA can dismiss data center pollution lawsuits

Elon Musk's SpaceXAI is stuck facing a lawsuit over alleged data center pollution after Donald Trump failed to convince a judge that his Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has complete control over all Clean Air Act lawsuits and can dismiss any suit at whim.

Soon after unpermitted gas turbines were discovered powering Musk's giant Colossus data center in Memphis, Tennessee, the NAACP sued. Its lawsuit sought an injunction requiring xAI (which, following a merger, is known now as SpaceXAI) to use the best available pollution control technology when operating the turbines and ordering penalties up to \$124,426 per day per violation. Without such remedies, the turbines risked drastically spiking pollution in already vulnerable neighborhoods housing predominantly Black communities nearby, the NAACP argued.

To block the lawsuit, Trump tried to intervene, arguing that the EPA had the power to unilaterally dismiss lawsuits any time the president decides against enforcing the Clean Air Act. According to Trump, it would supposedly "not serve the public interest" if citizens were allowed to seek massive civil penalties to punish polluting AI firms that were trying to get data centers operational as fast as possible to support Trump's AI Action Plan.

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Does opting out of smart TV tracking work? Research finds “suspicious” traffic.

Smart TVs running operating systems from Samsung, Vizio, and Roku continue sending data to automatic content recognition (ACR) endpoints after users opt out of tracking in the devices’ settings, according to research published on Monday. The paper from Northeastern University researchers points to potential privacy violations from some of the biggest TV brands.

ACR captures video screenshots or audio clips from smart TVs and sends the data to remote servers, where it’s used for things like measuring content viewership and serving targeted ads.

The paper, “Watching the Watchers: Privacy Analysis of US Smart TV Automatic Content Recognition,” examined eight smart TV OSes across 12 smart TVs from 10 manufacturers (Amazon, Hisense, LG, Roku, Samsung, Sony, Supersonic, TCL, Vizio, and Westinghouse) to examine when smart TVs use ACR and how effective opting out of user tracking is.

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