

Hi there,

Here are the top updates in Crypto & Blockchain, AI, Online Gambling, and M&A from the past 24 hours. Summarized clearly, with strategic insights and links to dig deeper.

Crypto & Blockchain — Top 5

Will deposit tokens like JPMD make stablecoins obsolete for institutional use?

JPMorgan has launched a new blockchain token called JPMD, aimed at facilitating transactions for large institutional clients. This innovative deposit token could potentially challenge the traditional stablecoin market by offering enhanced liquidity and reduced volatility. As institutions seek more efficient means to conduct transactions, the flexibility and security of JPMD may make it a competitive alternative to existing stablecoins, which have dominated this space. The development may signal a shift in how institutions handle digital assets, as JPMD is tailored to meet their specific needs.

Strategic Take: *The introduction of JPMD opens up potential merger and acquisition (M&A) opportunities, particularly for fintech companies focused on blockchain technology and digital asset management. Institutions exploring efficient transaction solutions may look to acquire or partner with innovative startups that complement JPMD's functionality. Furthermore, traditional stablecoin issuers may seek alliances or investments to bolster their offerings in response to JPMorgan's move, potentially leading to a consolidation phase within the digital asset market. Companies that adapt and integrate JPMD capabilities could position themselves favorably in the evolving financial landscape.*

Bitcoin CBD Heatmap Marks \$95,500–\$97,000 As Make-Or-Break Zone – Details

Bitcoin has shown limited movement since reaching an all-time high nearly a month ago, recently trading around \$104,000, a 2.03% decline within a day. Amid new US trade tariffs and rising geopolitical tensions, Bitcoin has become increasingly bearish, with significant market analysts predicting further downturns. A report by Glassnode highlights a critical price range of \$95,500-\$97,000, identified as a vital support zone. Falling below this threshold could trigger panic

selling, impacting market sentiment. Currently, Bitcoin holds a market cap of \$2.05 trillion, with a dominance of 64.3% in the cryptocurrency market.

Strategic Take: *The potential downturn in Bitcoin's price and the established support level of \$95,500-\$97,000 creates a strategic opportunity for mergers and acquisitions in the cryptocurrency space. Firms looking to enter the market could consider acquiring assets in distressed crypto firms, while those with capital could invest in key blockchain technologies. Additionally, partnerships with analytics firms like Glassnode could enhance market insights, allowing better strategic positioning. Companies that can provide liquidity or stability products during this volatility might capitalize on market players seeking to hedge against potential massive sell-offs.*

Trump announces US airstrikes on Iran's nuclear sites, Bitcoin dumps, then pumps

In a significant escalation, former President Trump announced airstrikes targeting Iran's nuclear sites, prompting an immediate reaction in financial markets. Following the announcement, Bitcoin experienced a sharp decline, followed by a recovery phase, displaying volatility typical of cryptocurrency markets in reaction to geopolitical events. These airstrikes have intensified tensions in the Middle East, raising concerns over regional stability and the potential for wider conflict. As a result, global market dynamics are likely to shift, influencing various sectors and investment strategies as investors respond to increased uncertainty.

Strategic Take: *The heightened geopolitical tensions resulting from Trump's airstrikes open up strategic M&A opportunities, particularly in defense, energy, and cybersecurity sectors. Companies with technological prowess in these areas may become attractive targets for acquisition as governments and corporations seek to bolster their capabilities in response to potential future conflicts. Additionally, firms with a strong focus on cryptocurrency may see increased investment interest, driven by market volatility. Identifying key players poised for growth in these turbulent times can lead to significant competitive advantages and investment returns.*

Bitcoin, Ether, XRP, and Solana crash as US drops bombs on Iran's nuclear sites

On Saturday, Bitcoin dropped below the six-figure mark for the first time in over a month, falling to \$99,822. This decline coincided with escalating tensions in the Middle East, particularly following U.S. President Donald Trump's announcement of airstrikes on three Iranian nuclear sites. The news triggered a sell-off in crypto markets, impacting major cryptocurrencies like Ether, XRP, and Solana. Investors reacted to the geopolitical instability, affecting overall market sentiment as

reacted to the geopolitical instability, affecting overall market sentiment as uncertainty looms over the implications of U.S. military actions and potential international repercussions on financial markets and digital assets.

Strategic Take: *In light of the recent market reaction to geopolitical events, companies in the blockchain and cryptocurrency space may consider strategic M&A opportunities to bolster their market positions. This can involve acquiring startups focused on security solutions that mitigate risks from geopolitical instability or partnerships with established financial institutions looking to expand into crypto assets. These moves could strengthen their resilience against volatility and potentially enhance their product offerings, catering to an increasingly risk-conscious investor base. Furthermore, strategic alliances could provide better access to regulatory insights, ensuring compliance amidst evolving global regulations.*

Ethereum Network ‘Looking Healthier Than Ever’ As Rival Layer-1 Siphons Social Media Attention: Sentiment

Despite Ethereum's price stagnation, the Ethereum network is thriving, according to crypto analytics firm Santiment. The firm reported on X that the network's utility and growth appear robust, with an increase in the creation of new weekly ETH addresses. This increase indicates rising user engagement and adoption, even as rival Layer-1 blockchains gain traction in social media discussions. The data suggests that while the price may not reflect it, the underlying infrastructure and activity within the Ethereum ecosystem are progressing positively, positioning it well for future developments in the crypto landscape.

Strategic Take: *The findings present M&A opportunities for firms looking to capitalize on robust blockchain infrastructures. Companies involved in blockchain technology may consider acquiring firms or projects that focus on Layer-1 solutions or cater to Ethereum's ecosystem, particularly those that can enhance network scalability or user engagement. Moreover, strategic investments in projects supporting Ethereum's growth, such as DeFi or NFT platforms, could bolster market positioning as Ethereum increases its utility despite price fluctuations.*

AI — Top 5

Cloud quantum computing: A trillion-dollar opportunity with dangerous hidden risks

Quantum computing (QC) is emerging as a formidable frontier in technology, poised to unlock unprecedented capabilities across industries. Leading companies

such as IBM, Google, Microsoft, and Amazon have launched commercial QC cloud services, while specialized firms like Quantinuum and PsiQuantum rapidly gained unicorn status. The substantial financial potential of the QC market is projected to exceed \$1 trillion in the coming years, sparking intense interest and investment. However, these innovations also carry significant risks that need to be addressed to ensure security and ethical considerations in the deployment of QC technologies.

Strategic Take: *The burgeoning quantum computing landscape presents ripe opportunities for mergers and acquisitions (M&A), particularly for established tech firms seeking to enhance their capabilities or expand their offerings in the QC space. Companies like IBM and Google may look to acquire specialized startups like Quantinuum or PsiQuantum to augment their R&D and technology portfolios. Additionally, firms venturing into quantum algorithms or security solutions could be attractive targets for strategic partnerships to mitigate risks associated with QC deployments. As competition intensifies, proactive M&A strategies could significantly bolster market positions.*

The Best AI Coding Tools You Can Use Right Now

The landscape of AI-powered coding tools is rapidly changing, with startups and tech giants competing to offer innovative solutions. Tools like Cursor and Claude Code are gaining popularity, with Cursor emerging as a favored integrated development environment (IDE) due to its user-friendly features and reliability. Conversely, Claude Code serves as a command line interface, appealing to developers who prefer more control. Windsurf, while backed by OpenAI, seems to lag behind. Traditional IDEs like Visual Studio Code are adapting, but their slower integration of AI features may push developers towards newer options. The pace of advancement in this field is extraordinary.

Strategic Take: *The evolution of AI coding tools presents significant M&A opportunities, particularly for established tech companies looking to expand their portfolios. As startups like Cursor and Windsurf gain traction, larger players could consider acquisitions to rapidly enhance their AI capabilities. The interest from big companies, such as OpenAI's purchase of Windsurf, indicates a trend towards consolidation. Targeting promising startups with innovative tech or proven market adoption could allow established firms to accelerate their growth in the AI domain, potentially preventing them from losing market share to agile competitors.*

Building Open API Documentation Using YML File in Resources Folder

The article discusses how to create Open API documentation using a YML file

stored in the resources folder. It outlines the steps for constructing the YML file, detailing the structure required to document RESTful endpoints effectively. The emphasis is on using the YML format to describe API functionalities which can then be utilized to generate interactive API documentation via tools like Swagger UI. This approach simplifies the maintenance of documentation in sync with the actual code, making APIs easier to understand for developers and consumers alike.

Strategic Take: *The trend of utilizing Open API documentation through YML files signals a growing emphasis on standardization in API development. Companies that streamline their API documentation processes are likely to enhance their interoperability and integration capabilities. This may create M&A opportunities for firms developing API management solutions or documentation tools. Corporations that specialize in API infrastructure could benefit from acquiring companies that focus on generating automated documentation, creating a more robust service offering in the tech sector.*

Introduction to Ambassador Design Pattern

The article 'Introduction to Ambassador Design Pattern' explores the concept of the Ambassador Design Pattern, which is primarily used to abstract various networking functions in microservices architectures. It highlights how this pattern can facilitate network routing, observability, retry and circuit breaker mechanisms, as well as caching and security workflows. By employing the Ambassador Pattern, services can be managed more effectively, allowing for improved stability and responsiveness in distributed systems, particularly in cloud-native environments. The article serves as a foundational overview for developers looking to enhance their microservices with reliable networking practices.

Strategic Take: *Given the increasing reliance on microservices and cloud-native technologies, companies focusing on enhancing their networking capabilities, such as those offering tools for observability, caching, or security workflows, may present lucrative M&A opportunities. Firms incorporating the Ambassador Design Pattern into their tech stack may attract acquirers looking to bolster their service offerings. Investing in or partnering with companies that specialize in advanced network routing and reliability mechanisms could significantly enhance an organization's competitive edge in the rapidly evolving tech landscape.*

Accenture's \$1.5 Billion AI Wake-Up Call for Indian IT

Accenture has made a significant investment of \$1.5 billion to enhance its capabilities in artificial intelligence (AI), highlighting a growing trend in the tech industry. This move underscores the urgency for Indian IT firms, which are still primarily discussing Proof of Concepts (PoCs) rather than fully committing to

primarily discussing Proof of Concepts (POCs) rather than fully committing to generative AI solutions. The disparity between Accenture's proactive approach and the more cautious stance of Indian IT companies emphasizes the need for rapid innovation to stay competitive in the market. This initiative positions Accenture to capitalize on evolving AI opportunities before Indian rivals catch up.

Strategic Take: Accenture's \$1.5 billion investment in AI presents strategic M&A opportunities for Indian IT firms. To remain competitive, they should consider acquiring or collaborating with AI startups that have established generative AI capabilities, thereby accelerating their own technology adoption. Additionally, partnerships with firms specializing in AI can enhance their offerings and reduce the time to market for innovative solutions. A strategic focus on acquisitions could enable Indian IT companies to quickly bridge the capability gap and improve their competitive positioning in a rapidly evolving landscape dominated by AI advancements.

Online Gambling — Top 5

Italy's Public Gaming Revenues Continue to Show Stable Growth in 2025

Italy's public gaming sector has showcased its importance to the nation's economy, with reported revenues of €2.36 billion in the first four months of 2025. This figure indicates a stable growth trajectory, reflecting a 1.8% increase compared to the same period in 2024, as stated by the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF). The continued positive performance of public gaming revenues highlights its foundational role in supporting fiscal health and may influence future policy decisions regarding regulation and taxation in the sector.

Strategic Take: With Italy's public gaming revenues showing consistent growth, there are strategic opportunities for mergers and acquisitions (M&A) within this sector. Companies looking to expand their market presence could consider acquiring smaller gaming firms or engaging in partnerships that facilitate technology sharing and diversification of offerings. Additionally, firms could explore investments in online gaming platforms that complement traditional gaming experiences, capitalizing on rising digital engagement. Strategic M&A could enhance operational efficiencies and broaden market access in a sector that demonstrates resilience and growth potential.

M&A Activity — Top 5

The Week's 10 Biggest Funding Rounds: Energy, Defense Tech Led

The recent funding landscape highlighted the thriving sectors of energy and defense technology, which saw significant venture capital inflows in the U.S. This week's top funding rounds featured substantial investments in automated defense technologies and energy solutions, reflecting a growing interest in innovation within these fields. Additionally, vertical software solutions powered by artificial intelligence (AI) emerged as a prominent trend, particularly within the sports, healthcare, and financial services industries, showcasing the versatility and applicability of AI across diverse domains.

Strategic Take: *The surge in funding for AI-driven solutions in key sectors presents lucrative merger and acquisition opportunities for companies looking to diversify. Businesses in traditional industries may seek to acquire AI startups to enhance their competitive edge, especially in sports, healthcare, and financial services. Additionally, firms engaged in energy and defense technologies could pursue strategic partnerships or acquisitions to strengthen their capabilities in automated solutions, bolstering their positions as leaders in innovation and expanding their market reach.*

Snap acquires Saturn, a social calendar app for high school and college students

Snap Inc. has announced the acquisition of Saturn, a social calendar application designed for high school and college students. The app enables users to manage their school schedules effectively while facilitating the sharing of these schedules with peers, making it easier for students to coordinate events and maintain social interactions. This acquisition aligns with Snap's goal to enhance its offerings for young users and strengthen its position in the education niche. By integrating Saturn's capabilities, Snap aims to foster a more engaging platform for student life and improve its overall user retention among younger demographics.

Strategic Take: *The acquisition of Saturn by Snap presents a significant opportunity for M&A in the education technology sector. This move signals Snap's commitment to expanding its user ecosystem, which will likely attract more students to its platform. Other tech companies should consider exploring similar acquisitions to enhance their social offerings tailored for younger audiences. Identifying startups that provide innovative solutions for student engagement and community building could lead to strategic alignments, increased user loyalty, and competitive advantages as the demand for educational tech solutions continues to grow.*

Data: Tech Layoffs Remain Stubbornly High With Big Tech

Small Tech Layoffs Remain Staggeringly High, With Big Tech Leading The Way

Tech layoffs continue to surge, particularly in the big tech sector, causing concern for the industry's future stability. Following a significant decrease in job cuts last December, layoffs rebounded sharply in February and April. As of June, data from Crunchbase indicates that at least 923 U.S. tech workers have already been laid off. This trend underscores the volatility in the tech job market, with implications for workforce management and recruitment strategies in the sector.

Strategic Take: *The persistent layoffs in the tech industry present unique M&A opportunities, particularly for firms looking to acquire talent or technology at favorable prices. Companies may consider targeting organizations experiencing layoffs to integrate innovative platforms or skilled employees, fostering growth through consolidation. Buyers can leverage the situation to negotiate advantageous terms, establishing a competitive edge amid uncertainty in the tech labor market.*

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