

Sunday, October 4, 2026

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Maya: Good morning, and welcome to the Tech Morning Briefing for Sunday, October fourth, twenty twenty-six. I'm Maya.

Devon: And I'm Devon. Sunday edition, and even on a quieter day, the tech world did not sit still. Let's get into it.

Maya: Starting with artificial intelligence, where the agent swarm race just got a new contender. A company called Exa launched Agent Ultra, a deep research A P I built on coordinated subagents that fan out across thousands of sources at once for list building and entity research. Exa claims it beats top models like O pus five point five and G P T six Astra on four benchmarks, including eighty-one point four percent on a test called WANDR.

Devon: That's the pattern now, isn't it? Not one big model doing everything, but dozens of smaller agents working in parallel. Same story at Google, where the company's own Gemini four Argon agents freed up more than three hundred terabytes of data-center memory.

Maya: And Google keeps spreading Gemini outward. Reusable Gemini Skills are rolling out to personal accounts, with all existing Gems converting automatically on November seventeenth, and work and school accounts next year. Plus two new speech models, Gemini three point eight Flash T T S and Flash-Lite T T S, which design brand-new voices from plain-language prompts in more than a hundred languages.

Devon: Voice is having a real moment. A French lab called Kyutai released Voice of Reason, two open-weight speech-to-speech models that reason directly in spoken language, with no transcription step. They lifted spoken math accuracy from about twenty-seven percent to over seventy-seven percent, and both are on Hugging Face, running on a single H one hundred graphics card.

Maya: Now, what's new with Muse, Meta's personal A I agent. This week Muse started rolling out shopping features. You can ask it to find products by brand, price, and availability, browse the suggested listings, and check out right through the app or the retailer's website.

Devon: With retail partners like Walmart, Gap, Sephora, Expedia, Wayfair, and Best Buy, though Amazon has reportedly blocked Muse from buying on its site. Mark Zuckerberg said at Connect that Meta will take a small fee on transactions, and PayPal was announced as a payment provider, though it's not available yet.

Maya: Beyond shopping, nothing new has launched since the Small Business connectors on September twenty-ninth. The rest of the Connect roadmap, the real-time avatar, the Mac app, smart glasses, and the Charm keychain device, is still in the coming-months category, with Charm expected in December.

Devon: One more thing to watch. A leaked page suggests OpenAI may be building an always-on assistant codenamed the lowercase o agent. But its capabilities, pricing, and

patch this one now.

Devon: Second, South Korea is dealing with a wave of bank breaches. President Lee Jae Myung ordered a full investigation after Shinhan, K B Kookmin, Hana, and Woori banks all reported cyberattacks. Regulators believe attackers broadly scanned the financial sector rather than targeting one bank, and they can't rule out that A I was used in the attacks.

Maya: And third, a ransomware group called Warlock used Microsoft SharePoint flaws to hit a water utility, a telecom provider, a regional government, and a university across Europe, Africa, and Latin America, encrypting at least thirty-three hosts and disabling security tools on forty more.

Devon: That's the morning in tech.

Maya: We'll be back tomorrow with a fresh briefing. Have a great Sunday.