ROUND-UP
OF THE LATEST NEWS
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Work on the EU's new AI Act is thought to be nearing completion as lawmakers attempt to close negotiations with members of the European Parliament. The **Artificial Intelligence Act** is the EU's next flagship piece of regulation and the world's first attempt to regulate AI based on its potential for harm. Member states have also agreed a 'common position' on a **new data act**, incorporating fair access and portability rights and designed to create a 'single market' in data across the EU.

The 1,000 mile range electric vehicle is now fully in sight with the development of a new lithium-air battery. In a joint project between the Argonne National Laboratory and the Illinois Institute of Technology, the design achieved a jump in energy density from 200 watt-hours per kilo (Wh/kg) to 675 Wh/kg, with the potential to reach 1200 Wh/Kg. The technology offers the possibility of **decarbonised transport** in areas like trucks, trains and aircraft, and would revolutionise the electric vehicle market.

In the US, the governor of Utah has signed into a law two new **social media regulations**.From March 2024 minors will be required to obtain parental consent to create social media accounts, with parents required to have full access to the accounts thereafter. It will also be easier to sue social media companies for alleged damage to teens. Another law requires that minor accounts are treated differently, limiting appearance in search results and prohibiting them from being targeted by advertising. It is the first US state to pass such a law.

The European Commission has proposed that manufacturers in various sectors will have to enable repairs for their products for up to ten years after purchase. The regulation would apply to any devices with repairability requirements in the EU, including washer dryers, vacuum cleaners and data-storage devices. The commission is said to be considering right-to-repair requirements for smartphones and tablets for up to five years. It estimates that over 15 years the rules would save **18.5 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions** and 3 million tonnes of waste.

The Federal Communications Commission says it wants to help satellite companies and mobile carriers partner up to close gaps in wireless networks. In a 4-0 vote, the FCC proposed a **new regulatory framework** designed to help satellite operators and wireless companies 'leverage the growth in space-based services to connect smartphone users in remote, unserved, and underserved areas.' It described its aim as to establish 'clear and transparent processes to support supplemental coverage from space'.

Gordon Moore, co-founder of Intel and **creator of 'Moore's law'** has died. In his now famous 1965 article he suggested that integrated circuits would lead to home computers. He also noted that the number of transistors on microchips had doubled every year over the previous few years, and that this would continue. This was the basis of his eponymous law, later amended to a doubling every two years. Chipmakers targeted their research towards making this come true.

A team of engineers at Columbia University in New York have used a 3D printer to make a cheesecake using edible food 'ink' as part of **printed food project**. 'The cheesecake is the best thing we can showcase right now, but the printer can do a whole lot more," said Jonathan Blutinger, an engineer at the university's Creative Machines Lab. 'We can print chicken, beef, vegetables and cheese. Anything that can be turned into a paste, liquid or powder. The vision is to have a food printer mixed with a laser cooker that can be a one-stop-shop sort of kitchen appliance. It's your own personal digital chef.'

Sources: The Financial Times, Wired, Euronews, TechCrunch, The Guardian, The Daily Telegraph, Bloomberg, Economic Times, Ars Technica, Reuters, BBC, Politico, telecom.com, telecommpaper.