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2016 Presidential Election

Where do Clinton and Trump stand on policy?

6 September | FCW

With the presidential election fast approaching, technology-minded groups are delving into the agendas put forth by the presidential candidates. According to a report by the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, Democrat Hillary Clinton has been more specific in outlining her positions than her Republican counterpart Donald Trump. Put more simply, Clinton has a policy while Trump, by and large, does not.

WIRED Endorses Optimism

18 August | WIRED

For all of its opinions and enthusiasms, WIRED has never made a practice of endorsing candidates for president of the United States. Through five election cycles we've written about politics and politicians and held them up against our ideals. But we've avoided telling you, our readers, who WIRED viewed as the best choice. Today we will. WIRED sees only one person running for president who can do the job: Hillary Clinton.

The rise of technology in the 2016 presidential election

21 August | Washington Post / Technology

Georgetown University adjunct professor Mikah Sellers explains how technology has changed the way campaigns connect with voters and volunteers.

Clinton quietly amasses tech policy corps

23 August | POLITICO

Hillary Clinton's campaign has tapped a network of more than 100 tech and telecom advisers to craft a policy agenda that echoes many of Silicon Valley's top priorities, from knocking down laws that limit innovation to defanging so-called patent trolls, sources familiar with the effort told POLITICO.

The breadth of her outreach to technology experts - not previously reported - marks yet another contrast with Donald Trump, who has offered few clues about who might have his ear on issues important to the tech sector, and whose positions on issues like immigration have alienated large segments of the industry.

As Clinton and Trump Call for Tax Reform, Silicon Valley Must Prove VCs Are Special

23 August | Bloomberg

Venture capitalists are now the ones making a pitch. As both major presidential candidates promote U.S. tax policies aimed at ending special tax treatment for investment managers' income, Silicon Valley is girding itself for potential reforms. Venture investors, facing the possibility of bigger tax bills, are trying to convince Washington that they're special and should be exempt.

Connected Cars

Ford will start selling driverless cars in 2021

17 August | Washington Post

Ford said Tuesday that it wants to be first to roll out a completely automated transportation service. By 2021, it expects to win the race by beginning to make and sell thousands of robotic cars that can ferry passengers to and fro, without any human input other than the destination.

Beyond Uber, Volvo and Ford: Other automakers' plans for self-driving vehicles.

22 August | LA Times

A recent McKinsey study found that new revenue from on-demand mobile services, data-driven services and autonomous driving could add up to more than \$1.5 trillion a year industrywide by 2030 – on top of an estimated \$5.2 trillion in traditional car sales and aftermarket products and services. The companies pushing driverless cars insist they will be safer, and federal transportation officials agree. New rules and regulations are expected soon from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the agency's administrator has said that the rules are being written so as not to hinder innovation.

Groups Urge FCC To Create Cyber, Privacy Rules for Vehicle Communications

24 August | POLITICO

Public Knowledge and six other consumer groups urged the FCC to grant a request to create cybersecurity and privacy rules for vehicle-to-vehicle communications, arguing that the messages will make vehicles vulnerable to cyber attacks.

Auto, technology industries clash over talking cars

25 August | Phys.org

Cars that wirelessly talk to each other are finally ready for the road, creating the potential to dramatically reduce traffic deaths, improve the safety of self-driving cars and someday maybe even help solve traffic jams, automakers and government officials say. But there's a big catch. The cable television and high-tech industries want to take away a large share of the radio airwaves the government dedicated for transportation in 1999, and use it instead for superfast Wi-Fi service. Auto industry officials are fighting to hang on to as much of the spectrum as they can, saying they expect they will ultimately need all of it for the new vehicle-to-vehicle communications, or V2V.

Tech Industry

[An update on Twitter's efforts to combat violent extremism](#)

18 August | Twitter Blog

Twitter announced that they have suspended an additional 235,000 accounts for violating policies related to promotion of terrorism in the six months since our February 2016 post. This brings the overall number of suspensions to 360,000 since the middle of 2015. As noted by numerous third parties, Twitter's efforts continue to drive meaningful results, including a significant shift in this type of activity off of Twitter.

[How Tech Giants Are Devising Real Ethics for Artificial Intelligence](#)

4 September | NY Times

For years, science-fiction moviemakers have been making us fear the bad things that artificially intelligent machines might do to their human creators. Now five of the world's largest tech companies are trying to create a standard of ethics around the creation of artificial intelligence. While science fiction has focused on the existential threat of A.I. to humans, researchers at Google's parent company, Alphabet, and those from Amazon, Facebook, IBM and Microsoft have been meeting to discuss more tangible issues, such as the impact of A.I. on jobs, transportation and even warfare.

[GE buys two 3D printing companies at \\$1.4 billion](#)

7 September | Ars Technica

On Tuesday, General Electric announced that it would spend \$1.4 billion (~£1 billion) to acquire two European 3D printing companies—Arcam AB from Sweden and SLM Solutions Group from Germany. According to the Associated Press, GE spent \$1.5 billion (~£1.1 billion) on 3D printing investments since 2010, meaning the acquisitions will double what the company has invested in the last five years.

[The copyright case that should worry all Internet providers](#)

12 August | Washington Post

Will Internet providers have to start cracking down harder on their own customers for suspected copyright infringement? That's one of the big questions being raised in the wake of an obscure court ruling that finds that Cox Communications is liable for the illegal music and movie downloads of its subscribers.

Cybersecurity

Survey: Consumer fears on cybersecurity slowing mobile banking growth

22 August | FedScoop

Just over a third of consumers in the U.S. and U.K. say they don't use mobile banking applications, just under a third say they never will and nearly three quarters of the hold-outs blame fears about poor security, according to a new survey.

NSA seeks to reassure on merging cyber defense, offense

21 August | FedScoop

The NSA's fabled Information Assurance Directorate may be going away in a major reorganization of the agency at the end of August, but "the mission will continue," the directorate's chief said this week. According to an NSA handout, the reorganization, dubbed NSA21, will reconfigure the huge sprawling agency into six directorates, including "Operations," which will merge the two largest existing directorates — signals intelligence and information assurance. Crucially, that means, in cyber, offense and defense are playing together for the first time.

Fitch: U.S. Cyber Insurance Premiums Total \$1B Per New Supplemental Filing

24 August | Business Wire

Aggregating the cybersecurity statutory supplement data for the U.S. property/casualty (P/C) insurance industry finds that approximately 120 insurance groups reported writing cyber coverage in 2015 totaling approximately \$1 billion in direct written premiums volume. Fitch analyzed cyber insurance market share and performance in a new special report, 'U.S. Cyber Insurance Market Share and Performance' that analyzes data from a new 2015 statutory supplement to compile company and industry statistics on cyber insurance.

After Illinois hack, FBI warns of more attacks on state election board systems

30 August | Ars Technica

An FBI "Flash" memorandum on state Board of Elections site warns of attacks on two states so far and asks for other states to check their logs. Someone using servers in the US, England, Scotland, and the Netherlands stole voter registration from one state's Board of Elections website in June and attacked another state's elections website in August, according to a restricted "Flash" memorandum sent out by the FBI's Cyber Division.

Hacker Guccifer, who exposed Clinton's use of private e-mail, gets 52 months

1 September | Ars Technica

The Romanian hacker who helped expose Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton's use of private e-mail as secretary of state was sentenced Thursday to 52 months in prison in connection to an admission that he broke into about 100 Americans' e-mail accounts. The compromised accounts included celebrities, former Secretary of State Colin Powell, and family members of former Presidents George W. Bush and George H.W. Bush, and Sidney Blumenthal, a political advisor whom Clinton corresponded with using her private e-mail account.

House panel report: Massive breaches at OPM were preventable

7 September | Washington Post

A blistering new report from Republicans on the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform says that the massive breaches at the Office of Personnel Management revealed last summer were preventable and that the agency misled the public about the severity of the problem.

Federal Government

[NTIA wants more info on adopting IPv6](#)

23 August | FedScoop

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration is looking for more information about adopting a next-generation internet protocol that could accommodate the growing number of internet-connected "smart" devices, such as phones, watches and cars.

[FCC Proposes 5G Cybersecurity Requirements, Asks For Industry Advice](#)

28 August | Slashdot

The FCC published a request Wednesday for comment on a new set of proposed 5G rules to the Federal Register focused on adding specific "performance requirements" for developers of example internet-connected devices. If a company hopes to secure a license to access higher-frequency 5G spectrum in the future then they will need to adhere to these specific requirements -- in other words, compliance is non-negotiable.

[AT&T's common carrier status helps it defeat data throttling lawsuit](#)

31 August | Ars Technica

AT&T today won a major victory over the Federal Trade Commission, which was trying to punish AT&T for throttling the Internet connections of customers with unlimited data plans. The FTC sued AT&T in October 2014, seeking refunds for customers who paid for unlimited data. The FTC said AT&T deceived customers by offering unlimited data plans and then throttling speeds once customers hit certain usage thresholds, such as 3GB or 5GB in a month. In response, AT&T claimed that the FTC had no jurisdiction over AT&T because of the company's status as a common carrier.

[FCC admits defeat in municipal broadband, won't appeal court loss](#)

31 August | Ars Technica

The Federal Communications Commission has decided not to appeal a court decision that allows states to impose laws restricting the growth of municipal broadband. The FCC in February 2015 voted to block laws in North Carolina and Tennessee that prevent municipal broadband providers from expanding outside their territories, but the states convinced a federal appeals court to keep the laws in place. The FCC could have asked for another appeals court review or gone to the Supreme Court but will instead let the matter drop.

[U.S. Treasury Steps Up Pressure on EU Over Apple Tax Dispute](#)

24 August | Bloomberg

The U.S. is stepping up its effort to convince the European Commission to refrain from hitting Apple Inc. with a demand for possibly billions of euros in underpaid taxes. In a white paper released Wednesday, the Treasury Department in Washington said the Brussels-based commission is taking on the role of a "supra-national tax authority" that has the scope to threaten global tax reform deals. The commission has initiated investigations into tax rulings that Apple, Starbucks Corp., Amazon.com Inc. and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV. received in separate EU nations. U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob J. Lew has written previously that the investigations appear "to be targeting U.S. companies disproportionately."

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