

Mobile & Wireless Roundup No. 126 (see original on [LinkedIn!](#))

By Zahid Ghadialy

Welcome to the 126th edition of this newsletter. I've just returned from an inspiring trip to Barcelona for MWC, where the energy was infectious, even as I picked up a little bug on the way back! Despite the minor setback, the experience left me buzzing with excitement over the latest trends and innovations in mobile and wireless technology.

One of the things I love most about MWC is the chance to see cutting-edge equipment and demos in action. While many attendees flock to the talks (which, let's be honest, are often available on demand later), the real magic happens at the exhibition stands. There, experts are on hand to break down complex ideas and answer questions in real time, a benefit not normally available at many other conferences.

This year, AI was the undeniable star of the show, appearing in everything from enhanced analytics to bold new partnerships such as AI+Quantum and AI+6G. I also explored a range of private network solutions, including innovative "network-in-a-box" concepts and digital twin applications for real-time monitoring in diverse settings, from ports to factories.

Surprisingly, there still remains a wow factor with technologies like robots. I would have thought that after all these years people might have stopped being impressed by them, but that is not the case. They are still very much in demand. Amira from e& was probably the most talked-about robot, and I have uploaded a YouTube Shorts clip featuring her [here](#).

The highlight, however, was discovering the latest breakthroughs in 5G radios and antennas. I will be sharing more on these developments in the coming months.

For those of you who don't know me, I am a technologist with over 25 years' experience in mobile wireless technology, currently working as an independent advisor, analyst, consultant and a trainer.

This newsletter is a summary of my posts and other news that caught my attention since the last newsletter. Enjoy the read!

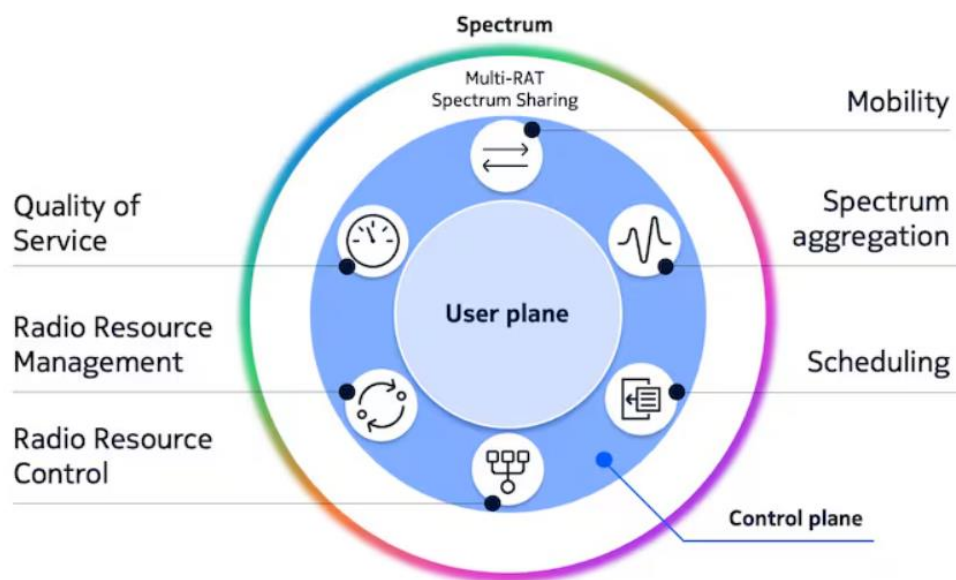
🕒 MWC 2025 Coverage

- Mobile World Live ([link](#))
- Light Reading ([link](#))
- Telecom TV ([link](#))
- Fierce Network ([link](#))
- CNET - MWC 2025 Live: All the Phones, Concepts, Gadgets and AI We Saw in Barcelona ([link](#))

🕒 6G

- Gabriel Brown on LinkedIn - Podcast review: The contours of 6G are taking shape ([link](#))
- LG Uplus' white papers on 6G Vision, NTN, and Ambient IoT make for a fantastic read ([link](#))
- Ruth Brown on LinkedIn: Sixth Sense ([link](#))
- Nokia - 6G radio protocols: Architecting for tomorrow's diverse connectivity needs ([link](#))

Figure 1: Core components of 6G radio protocols



🕒 5G

- Ookla: Illustrating the Global State of 5G SA ([link](#)) – Analyst Luke Kehoe's post [here](#).
- ZTE Technologies Feb 2025 Special Topic: User-Centric 5G-A Networks ([link](#), [PDF](#))
- Verizon sets new 5G upload speed record... ([PR](#)) – “Successful trial by Verizon, Ericsson and Qualcomm achieves North American uplink speeds of 480 Mbps using Advanced 5G technologies”
- Mohamed Abbas on LinkedIn: Does the 5G icon on the phone indicate that it is using 5G while it's 4G? ([link](#))

🕒 Open & Disaggregated Networks (including Open RAN, vRAN, etc.)

- Advancing RAN Performance: O-RAN ALLIANCE Participants Showcase Innovative Solutions at MWC Barcelona 2025 ([PR](#))

- ODIN: Can NEC's New RIC Convert Near Real-Time Sceptics? ([link](#))
- Light Reading: Verizon claims to operate 170,000 open RAN radios ([link](#))
- Bell Canada and Nokia expand 5G partnership to accelerate innovation with Cloud and Open RAN deployment ([PR](#))
- RCR Wireless: Rakuten Symphony's Real Open RAN program gets first three partners ([link](#))
- Airspan Expands Open RAN Leadership with Acquisition of Jabil's Radio Portfolio, IPR, and R&D Team ([PR](#))

📍 **Spectrum**

- RCR Wireless: What is the status of 6 GHz Automated Frequency Coordination (AFC) adoption? ([link](#))
- Light Reading: GSMA's head of spectrum warns sharing upper 6GHz with Wi-Fi won't work ([link](#))

📍 **Telecoms Infrastructure, Small Cells, Antennas & others**

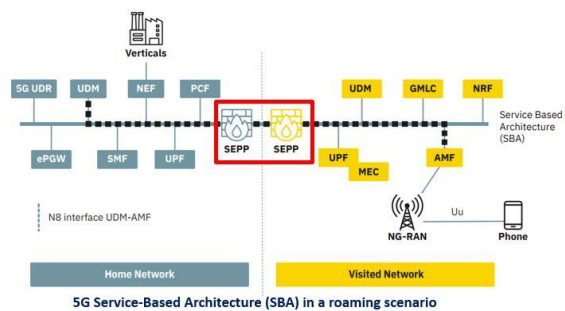
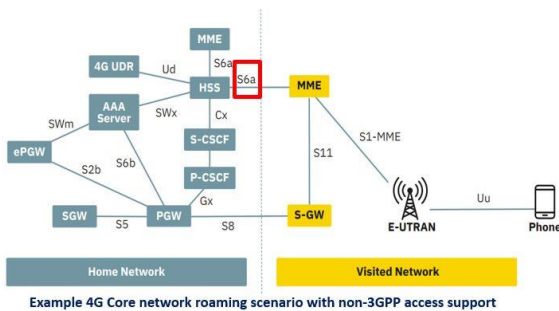
- Light Reading: DOCSIS 3.1+ gets ready to roll ([link](#))
- TeleGeography - The State of the Network: Your 2025 Update on the Telecom Industry ([link](#))
- Paul Rhodes on LinkedIn - Thursday School: Monumental Small Cells! ([link](#))

📍 **IoT / M2M / Smart Homes**

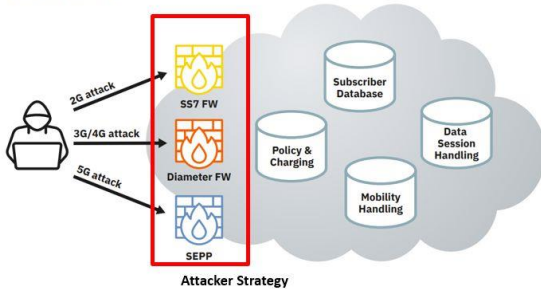
- RCR Wireless: Semtech boosts 5G family with Release 18 units, Japan meter pass, Skylo IoT samples ([link](#))

📍 **Security & Privacy**

- Forbes: Infostealers Behind 3.9 Billion Stolen Passwords Shared By Hackers ([link](#))
- Three junior and senior high school students arrested on suspicion of abusing AI to gain unauthorized access to Rakuten Mobile, obtaining and reselling over 1,000 lines ([link](#) in Japanese)
- Mohamed Abbas on LinkedIn: Securing the Path from 4G to 5G ([link](#))



Generic Attack



Generation	Sending Node	Receiving Node	Interface	Example Message
2G/3G SS7	HLR	VLR/MSC	C/D	MAP_Provide-Subscriber-Information (PSI)
4G Diameter	HSS	MME	S6a	Diameter Insert_Subscriber_Data_Request (IDR)
5G	UDM	AMF	Namf (SBA)	Namf_Location_ProvideLocationInformation

Examples of potential location tracking attacks through the generations

- 5G Americas: Post Quantum Computing Security ([link](#))
- Zoe Kleinman on LinkedIn: "Sometimes as a journalist you find something out that you know is has the potential to be a society-level game-changer. When my phone rang this morning, on a crowded train, I knew this would be one of those stories..." ([link](#)) – Analyst Ian Fogg's take on this [here](#).

🕒 Connected And Autonomous Vehicles (CAVs)

- RCR Wireless: The AA puts Ericsson 4G/5G routers on 2,700 UK breakdown vans ([link](#))

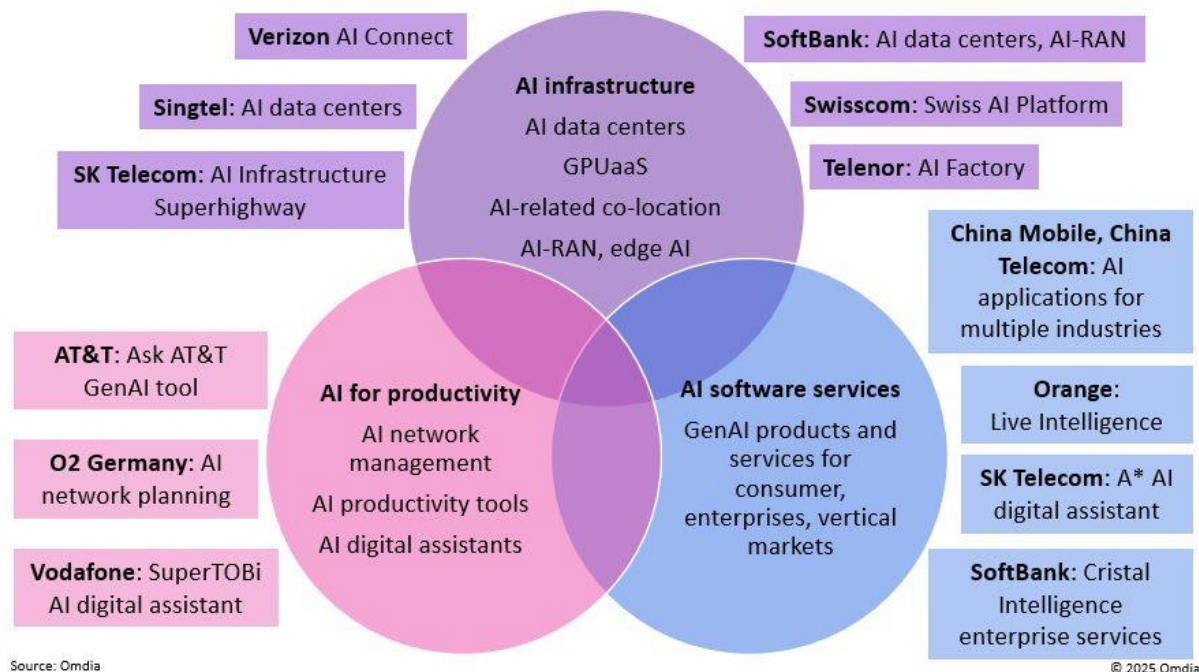
🕒 Smartphones, Devices, Wearables & Gadgets

- ComputerWorld: Everything we know about Apple's C1 5G modem in iPhone 16e ([link](#))
- Light Reading: Apple urged to support RCS for iPhones in South Korea ([link](#))

🕒 AI, ML & Automation

- The 3G4G Blog: Reigniting Growth in the Telecom Industry with AI and Cloud ([link](#))
- Jinsung Choi on LinkedIn: Key Challenges in AI Data Management for Telecom AI-Driven RAN ([link](#))
- Deutsche Telekom and Google Cloud Partner on Agentic AI for Autonomous Networks ([PR](#))
- Jinsung Choi on LinkedIn: Open Source Telecom Data Standardization for AI-RAN ([link](#))
- Matthew Reed on LinkedIn: "AI was the talk of the town at MWC, the telecom industry's annual gala in Barcelona this week, but to find out what telecom operators are actually doing with AI and why, look no further than my new report..." ([link](#))

Key service provider AI strategy areas with examples



🕒 Satellites, HAPS, Drones, UAVs & Space

- Australia: Labor's Universal Outdoor Mobile Obligation (UOMO) will require mobile carriers to provide access to mobile voice and SMS almost everywhere across Australia ([link](#))
- 5G Americas: New Developments and Advances in 5G and Non-terrestrial Networks ([link](#))

- Light Reading - T-Mobile's satellite messaging put to the test: Here are the results ([link](#))

📶 Wi-Fi

- Dell'Oro: In the Leadup to MWC Barcelona, Enterprise Vendors Target Network Refresh ([link](#))
- 650 Group: 802.11ah HaLow at CES ([link](#))
- Ookla - Wi-Fi 7 in Europe: France Leads in Differentiating Multi-Gigabit Fiber Experiences ([link](#))

📰 Other News and Technology Stuff

- Sebastian Barros on LinkedIn: Data alone won't pay Telco bills... ([link](#))
- Apple will spend more than \$500 billion in the U.S. over the next four years ([PR](#))
- Andrej Karpathy: Deep Dive into LLMs like ChatGPT ([video](#))
- BBC: Skype announces it will close in May ([link](#))
- Analysys Mason Podcast: The end of big capex in telecoms: causes and implications ([link](#))
- The Telecoms.com Podcast: MWC 2025 preview ([link](#))
- Light Reading: India and UK collaborate on telecom, AI, open RAN and 6G ([link](#))
- Rudolf van der Berg on LinkedIn: "Is 8 Terabit per second too much traffic? ..." ([link](#))

📸 **Picture of the week:** Last year I [wrote about](#) CU Phosco's 5G Smart Pole Streetlight Solution. Naturally, they were glad to show me what they were exhibiting at the UK Pavilion at MWC this year, and I couldn't resist taking a picture with the scaled-down replica of the mast.



Happy to hear your thoughts. Feel free let me know what worked, what didn't, how I can make this better, etc. Get in touch over LinkedIn!

PDF version of this and previous newsletters are available [here](#).