Coeus Chronicles

Insights and a Whole Lot More

Newsletter | Looking ahead into 2026

Published by Coeus Consulting |
Your Southwest-Based IT & Cybersecurity Partner

Welcome to the **Titans of Technology**:

Coeus Chronicles, your monthly briefing from Coeus Consulting. We cut through the noise to bring you the essential cybersecurity and IT insights that matter to your business. This month, we're tracking a massive global takedown, the new normal for AI, and the compliance clock that's ticking faster than ever.

Happening Now: Alphabet's $4.75B Power Play:

Securing the AI Future

This week, Alphabet (Google) announced a definitive agreement to acquire Intersect, a leader in clean energy and data center infrastructure, for **$4.75 billion**.

This is the definitive IT story today because it addresses the single biggest bottleneck in the AI race: **Power**.

As generative AI demands unprecedented amounts of electricity, Alphabet is moving from "**buying green energy**" to "**owning the energy infrastructure.**"

The deal secures a pipeline of projects expected to deliver **10.8 gigawatts** of power by 2028 - roughly 20 times the Hoover Dam's output.

By acquiring Intersect, Google can now co-locate massive data centers with clean energy plants (as in its current joint project in Haskell County, Texas).

This "energy-first" strategy bypasses aging public grids and ensures Google Cloud remains the dominant platform for energy-hungry AI workloads in 2026 and beyond.

Source: Alphabet Investor Relations - Alphabet Announces Agreement to Acquire Intersect to Advance U.S. Energy Innovation

Corporate AI: Microsoft Launches "Copilot Business" for SMBs

As of December 2025, Microsoft has bridged the gap between personal AI and enterprise-grade power with the launch of **Copilot Business**.

For **$21.00 per user/month**, SMBs with up to 300 seats can now access the whole "Work IQ" intelligence layer-previously reserved for larger corporations.

This rollout includes **Agent Mode** for Word and Excel, allowing users to choose between **OpenAI and Anthropic (Claude)** reasoning models for complex data analysis.

Additionally, a new **Employee Self-Service Agent** is now generally available, enabling smaller teams to automate HR and IT tasks, like benefits lookups and ticket submissions, directly within the Microsoft 365 app.

This move signals Microsoft's aggressive push to make "Agentic AI" the standard for every professional, regardless of company size.

Source: Microsoft Ignite 2025: Copilot and agents built to power the Frontier Firm | Microsoft 365 Blog