

TOGGLE

A publication of The Daily Star

WEEKEND LIVING IN THE DIGITAL AGE



Searching for air-cooled 911s in the wild – PG4



Why spend bejillions on the new Samsung Note 20 Ultra? - PG5



Buying Fridge From
Walton Plaza, Jhawtola, Bogura

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Android security bug left user data at risk

A vulnerability in Android security could have allowed malicious apps to steal sensitive information from other apps on the same device.



App security startup Oversecured claims they have discovered a flaw in Google's widely used Play Core library. The flaw allows installed malicious apps to inject phishing modules into other apps to steal private information, like passwords and credit card numbers. According to Oversecured founder Sergey Toshin, exploiting the bug was "pretty easy." Adding their proof-of-concept app was able to steal a victim's browsing history, passwords and login cookies.

The bug, rated 8.8 out of 10.0 for severity, has been confirmed by Google and fixed.

NEW BIKE this week

Runner's entry to the 165cc segment is a late but welcome one. Their new bike the Bolt 165R, is a naked sportbike with aggressive styling. Features include LED head & Tail lamp with DRL, digital speedometer, 130 rear tyre, underside exhaust, and front USD suspension. Runner claims the 165cc vertical single-cylinder engine is "race-tuned", but the 13.2 bhp/7500 rpm produced by the engine puts it behind many of its counterparts. For stopping, both of the wheels are fitted with disk breaks but lack any form of advanced ABS or CBS braking systems. That said, the omission of such advance systems allows Runner to offer the Bolt at a very competitive price of BDT 169,000, making it one of the most affordable options in the segment.



Instagram to add recommendation to their 'Guides' Feature

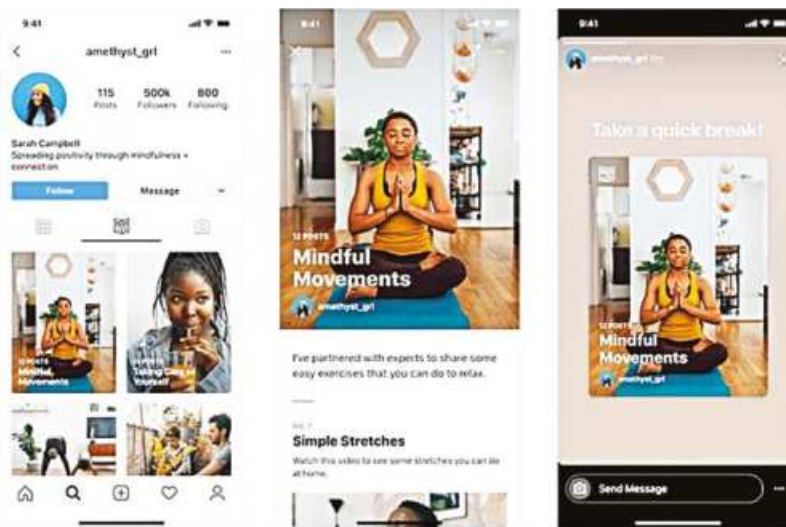
Instagram is working to expand its recently launched "Guides" feature to allow creators to recommended places or even products.

launched in May, the guide was initially debuted with a specific focus on wellness content. It allowed select organizations and experts to share resources related to managing mental health, such as anxiety or grief amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, Guides include photos, galleries, and videos sourced from the creator profile.

However according to Twitter user and self-described leaker,

Alessandro Paluzzi, a new recommendation feature is coming to guides. The feature, which he claims to have found by reverse-engineering the Instagram app, will allow Instagram influencers to recommend to followers about where to go, what to purchase, and more. If chosen, creators can also direct more users to their sponsored posts or increase their affiliate network revenue.

Instagram has confirmed the new features are part of a series of improvements to Guides but declined to say if or when the changes would roll out.



Xiaomi to debut under-screen camera to its smartphones

China smartphone manufacturer Xiaomi is planning to introduce under-screen camera phones to the market by next year.

As stated in part of their earnings report, Xiaomi will begin manufacturing handsets using the latest version of the technology. The company is confident that the latest iteration of the ready for production.

It should be noted that the company has been working on this for years now. with the current iteration representing the third generation of the tech. The previous

generations never made it to the market due to various reasons, prominent of which is the issue of pixel density. With the third generation, Xiaomi claims to have solved the problem.

In an official blog post, the company claims "The self-developed pixel arrangement used in Xiaomi's 3rd Generation Under-Display Camera Technology allows the screen to pass light through the gap area of sub-pixels, allowing each single pixel to retain a complete RGB subpixel layout without sacrificing pixel density."

EDITOR'S NOTE

Number one, engage

Star Trek, the show about finding strange new alien worlds and civilization with the power of magical technology and technobabble, will be 54 this Tuesday. Throughout its lifetime, the shows have come up with various new outlandish technologies, each serving some kind device to advance the plot. Some of these plot devices saw their usefulness end after one episode, others went on to become blueprints for real-life technology. Marvels such as mobile phones, tablets, touchscreens, augmented reality, transparent aluminum, and many others can trace their origins back to these shows. Even one of humanity's most plausible method of faster than light travel, the Alcubierre drive, was born out of a man asking if the Star Trek's warp drive is possible. Star Trek had and continues to inspire generations of young people to study science and engineering, many of whom go on to create useful and beneficial tools for humanity. The works of these people bring us one step closer to utopia, one step closer to turning Star Trek into a reality.

- Rahbar Al Haq, Trainee Reporter and avid Trekkie.

TOGGLE

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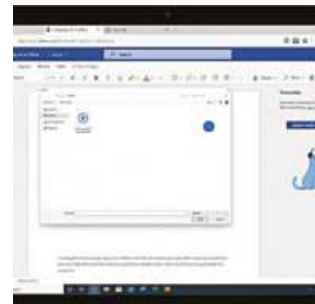
Spotify is working on a 'virtual events' feature

TikTok sues the U.S. government



Facebook to add a "Shop" section in its app

Microsoft adds transcribe feature to Word online



Twitter experimenting with adding 'Quotes' count to tweets



Business and leadership lessons from Star Trek

NABILA HOSSAIN

In 1966, the world was introduced to the world of Star Trek. People watched as Captain Kirk and crew of the Starship Enterprise ventured out to different parts of the universe to explore strange new worlds, to seek out new life and civilizations and to go boldly where no man has gone before. On the surface, it seems like it is a series about a bunch of pacifists trying to catalogue alien environments but there is much more happening underneath the surface. Crews learn from their encounters with alien races and adapt to them while reflecting on their actions. Take Data, for example, an android from Star Trek: The Next Generation, who is continually observing humans, to become more humanlike himself.

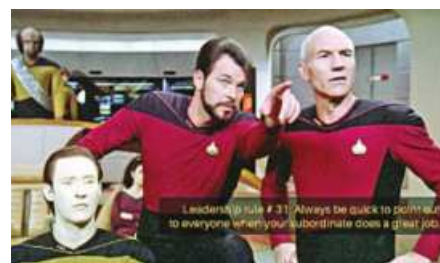
Gene Roddenberry had a progressive and hopeful vision of the future, one that was built on collaboration, exploration and diversity of perspectives. Almost 54 years, 6 television series and 12 films later, the Star Trek franchise and the vision behind it resonated with many people not just within the fandom but others as well. The Star Trek series was a groundbreaking

show not just in terms of pioneering various technological innovations but it also puts forth several key business and leadership lessons for managing people and businesses.

There is no 'I' in 'Leader', except Kirk, Picard and Sisko

Today, leading and managing a team as diverse as in Star Trek, be it in USS Enterprise or USS Voyager is not that unusual. Businesses might not have Klingons, Vulcans and Romulans to fight but the challenges they face are just as real. Learning leadership qualities from Star Trek Captains include the fact that all the Captains and Commanders are team leaders, connecting and communicating well with their crew members. In the episode "Melora" of Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, Doctor Bashir even said, "No one on this station is completely independent".

Everyone has ideas worth listening to Captain Benjamin Sisko, commander of Deep Space Nine is a master at effectively motivating and leading a



diverse (multicultural) workforce and playing to his strength of delegating tasks with full authority, all the while maintaining responsibility for them. Captain Kirk understands that every crew member is essential, be it Sulu, Uhura, Spock or McCoy. He listens to everyone's suggestions and tries to find a solution. Spock has all the facts, Scotty can fix anything and Uhura has great linguistic capabilities. Business leaders should take lessons from this in terms of trusting their subordinates and having faith in their judgements.

Take risks

Captain James Kirk said, "Risk is our business. That's what this starship is

all about." Indeed, successful leaders should be willing to take risks. They should be able to think on their feet and be daring enough to try out new things. From rash Kirk to stolid Picard, all of the captains had the courage and ability to make decisions with whatever limited information was available to them.

Know you're alien (or customer)

The 194th Ferengi rule of acquisition (Star Trek: Deep Space Nine) states, "It's always good business to know about new customers before they walk in your door." In any business, priorities on customer and customer service tend to lead to long-run success. Such instances can be seen in real-life examples from retail businesses to hospitality.

As we get ready to go where humanity has never gone before with the dawn of a new decade, it might just be useful for businesses and entrepreneurs to log onto a video streaming service holding Star Trek or dig a book or two off the shelf, for a refresher course and reminders on what it takes to be an effective and successful leader and run a successful business.



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The last air bender

AHBAAR MILKY

Air cooled Porsches are held in high esteem in the hearts of Porsche aficionados and petrolheads alike. Small wonder when they reply with the 993 when asked about the best Porsche ever made. Restrained yet free flowing contemporary lines while retaining the quintessential 911 shape compared to the Spartan 964 predecessor with its boxed hips. Zuffenhausen's air cooled pinnacle came in the shape of a

silver 993 Turbo S. The last air bender. It's a shame tougher emission regulations killed the air cooled legacy and a Luftgekühlt (literally translates to air cooled in German, a term Porsche nuts like to throw around a lot) icon. I'd like to thank my lucky stars now as I talk you through the three parallel 993 911's I was lucky enough to drool upon.

993 911 Turbo S: spot at a Duke

of London "classics and cakes" meet in London 2018. Sat pretty beside a (probably) guards red 964. Wish I took pictures of the interior, namely the carbon fibre door pads. Take a second to oogle at the whale tail and it's intake vents. One of 345 in the flesh.

993 911 GT2 'Black Snake': spot at Joe Macari's, a dealership in London, 2018. Apparently, a Nurburgring production car

track record car. Pictures do not do justice to the larger than life GT2 wing and the fat stance.

993 911 Turbo: a low resonating exhaust note took me by surprise while exploring the sights and scenes of Geneva late last year. The swiss plates made it much cooler than it seemed like. I know what silver car with swiss plates I am buying if I had \$300,000.



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Star Trek gadgets that are no longer fiction

NABILA HOSSAIN

As one of the television's very successful franchises, Star is considered to have been way ahead of its time. Created by American television screenwriter and producer, Gene Roddenberry, the franchise with its optimistic view of a future where people of all races unite together for the betterment of humanity, the franchise has in the years since its debut gone on to predict the development of the human race.

For people growing up in the 1960s, 80s and 90s, Star Trek provided a vision of the future. It seems that the future arrived sooner than

the writers could have imagined then. Many of the gadgets and gizmos that were initially popularized by the show then are being taken for granted now. In many cases, inventors might have taken inspiration from the shows of the franchise to develop practical uses for many commonly used present-day household technologies.

Here are some Star Trek gizmos that became real or are now becoming real.

Cellular phone

Martin Cooper, who is credited with the invention of the first viable cellular phone has stated publicly that

he was inspired by the Star Trek version of personal communicators, which was an amazing concept back in 1966. Star Trek's influence grew further as phone developers went on to create flip phones that exactly matched the props used in the series.

An often overlooked technological marvel today, the cellular phone is probably the most obvious prediction the original Star Trek series got right.

Tablet Computer

During the debut of Star Trek: The Next Generation, a concerted effort was made to make the new show stand out from its predecessor. As a result, among the new additions to Star Trek's technological capabilities was the Personal Access Display Device or PADD, a thin, flat touchscreen computer device.

prediction that Star Trek not only got right but if anything underestimated just how prevalent it would become.

Intelligent Virtual Assistant

You can talk to a computer (voiced by Majel Barrett Roddenberry, Star Trek creator Gene's wife) in the Star Trek universe. The franchise features computers which the user can speak to and receive logical answers from.

These days, smartphone and computer users regularly engage in voice-activated conversations with digital personal assistants such as Siri and Cortana. Google even codenamed its voice-based service "Majel" in honour of Barrett Roddenberry.

Universal Translator

Star Trek is a show that deals with difficulties of interactions between a variety of alien races. Such a circumstance called for a universal translator that could listen to any language and output it into an understandable language. In the later shows, it was integrated into the communication badges.

While Google translate has been the centre of jokes surrounding automatic translation, many companies are developing translation software and smartphone apps that can produce correct translation instantaneously by listening to the speaker.

Replicator

In Star Trek: The Next Generation, Captain Jean-Luc Picard would say "Tea, Earl Grey, Hot!" and it would be replicated immediately. It was not necessary to think too hard about the scientific logic behind the replicator while creating such a device for the show.

Replicators are becoming common and affordable every day as the price of 3D printers is dropping dramatically. 3D printers do not tackle tea, or food for that matter and use mostly plastic as a building material but there is still a wide range of practical applications for the device.

The world has changed a lot since the show, Star Trek initially debuted. The television show popularized many fictional concepts that were later created in real life by scientists who were inspired by watching the adventures of Captain Kirk and his crew.



In 2010, the first commercially successful tablet computer, the iPad came into existence and since then modern life has seen a variety of tablet computer devices. This is a

Samsung Note 20 Ultra: Killing it with the camera and the S Pen

EHSANUR RAZA RONNY

The Note 20 Ultra is ultra-expensive because it promises you more camera than you thought possible. It's also a gaming console/computer ready to tackle 5G while fitting in for your pocket. Well, your pockets have to be rather large because this is a massive phone.

First impressions: Camera modules being flush and hidden is a thing of the past. This one conspicuously sticks out a few millimeters. When you take a mirror selfie, your followers on social media will not mistake it for anything else. The 6.9 inch 120hz display is easy to hold but difficult to perform one handed camera functions. I did drop it.

Power? Well, it has the latest set of magic incantations, spells and mythical fairy creatures crammed inside the shell making it super-fast. There's no hiccup. There is no lag. And no game can slow it down. None of you are ever throwing anything at it that will require more juice.

There's really two areas to determine whether all that money is worth spending.

The camera. It has a 108MP rear camera with laser autofocus. Then it has a 12MP telephoto lens that can give you 5x zoom or super gimmicky 50x zoom. The former really work well. Then there's a third 12MP wide angle lens for taking group pictures of friends maintaining



social distancing. The telephoto has no autofocus though which is odd.

The front camera is a 10MP, f/2.2 lens with autofocus for that really clear selfie. Samsung has been offering autofocus on their front lenses since the S8 ensuring you get properly focused pictures when you stumble across a celebrity.

The photos always come out social media perfect. These are appealing with enough warmth and colour to briefly confuse your social media viewers if this really is #nofilter. In any lit condition, there is hardly any noise. Samsung does an intense noise correction that manages to keep detail without being too obvious.

They have really ramped up the night shots by managing to light up the images even when all you see with your naked eye is mostly darkness. A little bit of light and you can get almost good pictures worth your Instagram.

What you don't get is macro. Sure they have a gimmick to pull back the lens so it focuses better but generally, if you go too up close, you get blurry details. How'd they leave that out?

As for video, you get the brag worthy 8K recording at 24fps albeit you can't really show it on most display units

(TVs for the older folks lie me born in the 80's). You get 4k at 60fps on the main camera and 30fps on all the other cameras.

Then there's the S-pen.

They have really outdone themselves. The 9ms response time and the improved paper-like feel of the stylus tip on screen is a joy when taking notes or drawing. Here's a neat trick. The stylus can sync audio recordings to scribbles meaning you can later hear

detail and a comparison in a few weeks down the line.

Check online for more camera samples.

Specs:

Display: 6.90" Dynamic AMOLED 496ppi, 120Hz@FHD/60Hz@QHD refresh rate.

Chipset: Exynos 990

Memory: 256GB 12GB RAM

Rear camera: Wide (main): 108 MP, f/1.8, Laser AF, OIS; Telephoto: 12 MP, f/3.0,



the recordings as you scroll through the notes you took. If you spend time drawing smiley face poop characters while listening to your boss, then it won't really help clarify ideas.

And there you have it. Is the Note 20 Ultra the ultimate? Not quite. It has an amazing display, fantastic camera and that stylus feature is second to none. Cons involve slow charging and the photo quality is sometimes inconsistent. More

5x optical zoom, 50x hybrid zoom; Ultra wide angle: 12 MP, f/2.2, 13mm, 1/2.55"

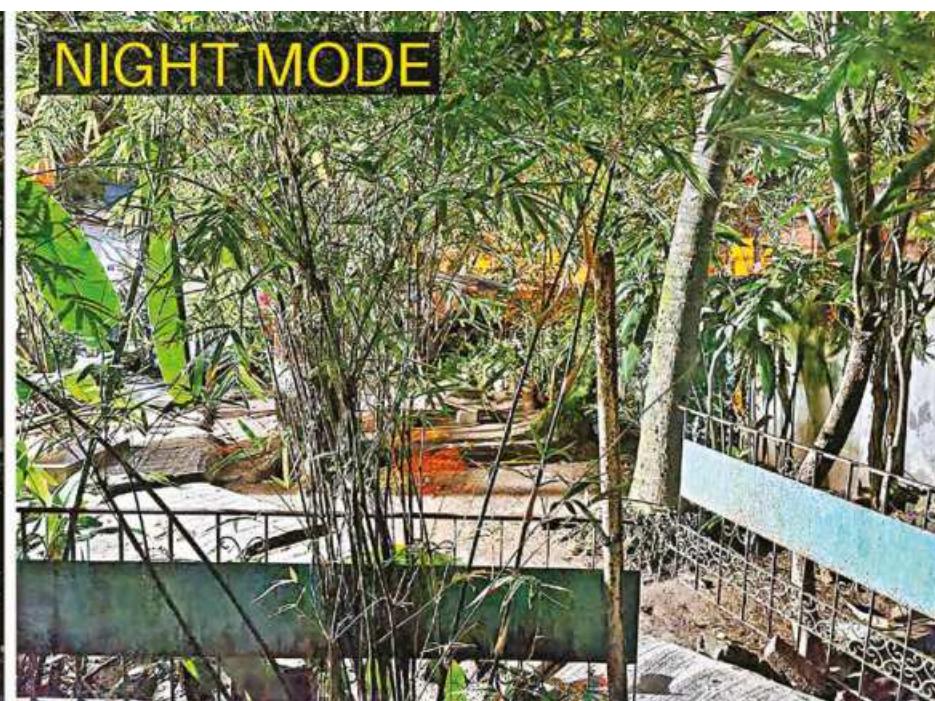
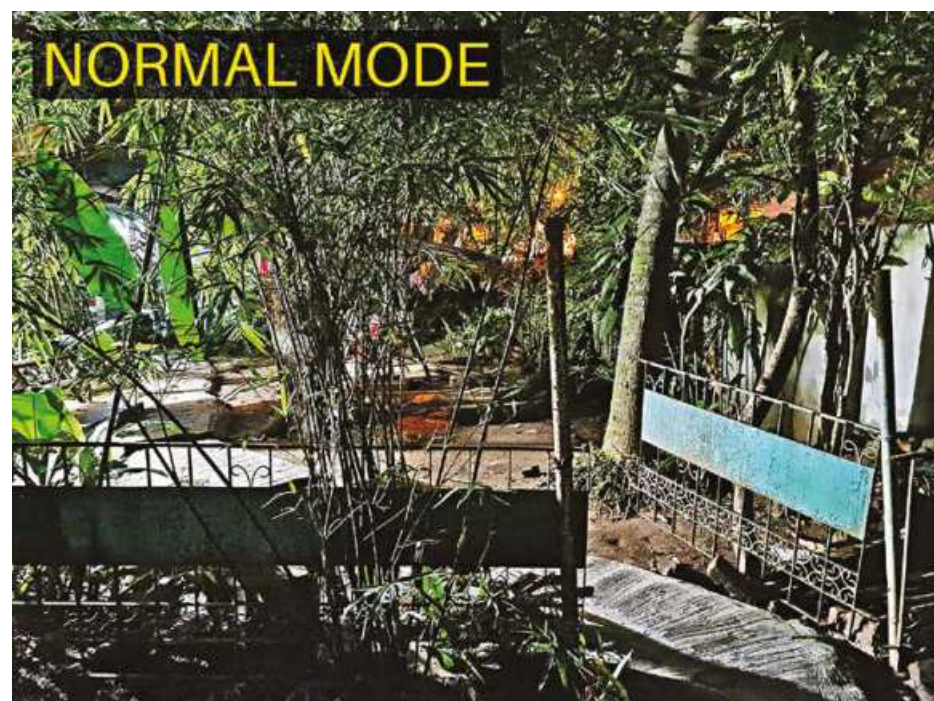
Front camera: 10 MP, f/2.2

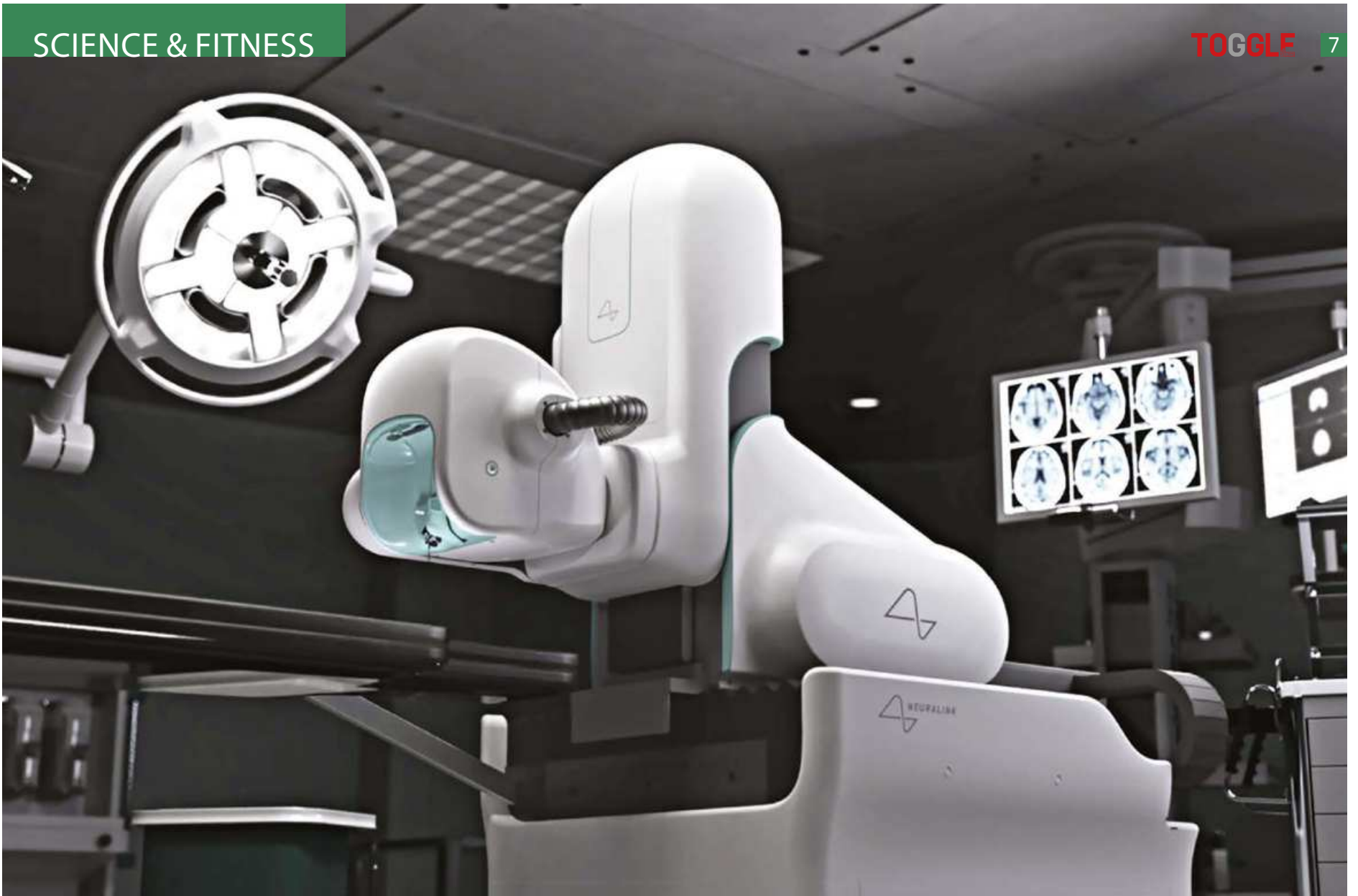
Video capture: Rear camera: 8K@24fps, 4K@30/60fps, 1080p@30/60/240fps, 720p@960fps

Battery: 4500mAh; Fast charging 25W IP68 dust/water resistant

Price: BDT 1,34,999

Photos: Ehsanur Raza Ronny





Neuralink surgical robot: Take a look at Musk's brain-machine interface

JINAT JAHAN KHAN

SpaceX and Tesla CEO Elon Musk has finally brought out the much-awaited Neuralink surgical robot, a revolutionary and developed brain-machine interface that can blur the red thick lines between humans and machines. This device has been developed by Musk's company, Neuralink in partnership with Woke Studio. According to Musk, the Neuralink robot can fight insomnia, memory loss, blindness and other medical conditions.

Neuralink conducted a live demo of its coin-sized device on three pigs which had different levels of interest in cooperating. Pigs were chosen for this experiment because they have dura membrane and skull structure which are similar to those of humans. Audiences could see real-time neural signals only from one of the pigs named Gertrude. Gertrude has had the brain implant for almost two months as per Elon Musk. This demonstration on the pigs was one of the first demonstrations of the tech in the action of Neuralink.

The prototype has about 1,024 thin electrodes that can penetrate the outer layer of the brain and communicate with brain cells. "It's like a Fitbit in your skull with tiny wires", said Musk. The

Neuralink robot can perform different types of tasks such as providing a warning about a possible heart attack beforehand with its 24-hour battery life. This device can also play music as per the command, like a "phone in your brain".

Major parts of the Neuralink robot

The Neuralink surgical robot can be distinguished into three major parts such as the head, the body and the base. The robot has a part similar to a helmet as its head which houses many automated surgical tools and brain-scanning cameras and sensors to map the brain of the patient and a specific guide for the surgical needle. The helmet holds the head of the patient while carrying out the surgery. The Neuralink robot has a mint-coloured interior providing 'an anthropomorphic characteristic' to stop any invasion. There are also single-use disposable bags attached with magnets around the sphere for sterile operation and easy cleaning.

The next major part of the robot is its soft and car-like curved body with visual asymmetry. It includes all the parts that control the motion of the robot as it starts the procedure. The use of colour or the

interior holds importance on this portion as well, given that white colour has been used to assure sterility. However, pinch-points, where the motion occurs, have been highlighted with colours that give a visual dynamic to it.

This high-tech device's body is attached to a base which provides a weighed support to the whole structure and saves it from tipping over. This part contains the brain-bot's computing brains, allowing the entire system to operate.

Providing medical help

As mentioned earlier, this particular robot can help fight some medical conditions. People with spinal cord or brain injuries or congenital defects can expect some help from this brain-machine device. For example, paraplegics who have lost the strength to move or sense can somehow be helped by this technology to improve the medical conditions such as paraplegia and tetraplegia.

Neuralink is forming a robotic installer to handle the entire surgical installation process. This installer is specially designed to dodge blood vessels to avoid any bleeding. According to Musk, Neuralink chips can measure pressure, temperature

and movement that can indicate a potential heart attack or stroke. Neuralink is also interested to help people save and replay memories.

May not be a good idea

Neuralink robot has got its initial success on the demonstration on the pigs. However, there are still uncertainties and risks associated with this new invasive headset and its application on human beings. No doubt that invasive headsets hold a high-risk to harm the brain, the most important and delicate part of our body. "The safety and health risks of invasive implants are significant", said Sid Kouider, the founder and CEO of NextMind, a Neuralink competitor. According to him, there are more complex health problems due to these implants. For instance, there can be any kind of infection or inflammation or electrode poisoning. He also appreciated Neuralink for its attempt to work on neural interfaces. Although Musk and his company plan to develop this robot further, this recent demonstration has helped Musk get closer to his vision of allowing humans to control their brains.



Key takeaways from DC Fandome event

SADMAN SAKIB PANTHO

Trailers, teasers, concept arts, posters, first looks – you name it, DC came out with all guns blazing in their 24-hour DC Fandome event. Here's our round-up of the most exciting reveals from DC's global online experience.

First off DC showed a new trailer for Wonder Woman 1984. The trailer included a full reveal of one of Wonder Woman's most iconic villains, Cheetah, in her complete humanoid-cheetah look. Diana of Themyscira will be back on the big screen on October 2nd, 2020.

DC finally revealed the trailer of Batman: Gotham Knights scheduled for 2021 after about a year of teases regarding the next Batman game. And what's most shocking about it is that Batman is apparently dead. The game includes Nightwing, Red Hood, Batgirl and Tim Drake Robin as the playable characters. The trailer also teases the Court of Owls

being involved and the Bat-Family has a serious challenge ahead of them. Gotham Knights is coming to PlayStation 4, PlayStation 5, Windows PC, Xbox One, and Xbox Series X, and will be playable solo or in co-op.

DC officially confirmed that the Flash movie will be based on the critically acclaimed Flashpoint storyline and will feature crossovers. Official concept arts give us the first look of Ezra Miller's new Flash suit which is going to be designed by Batman. Previously, Ben Affleck was confirmed to reprise his role as Batman in the Flash movie.

Fandome showcased an absolutely crazy first look at James Gunn's The Suicide Squad movie and also featured character introductions. Apart from the returning roles of Margot Robbie as Harley Quinn, Joel Kinnaman as Rick Flag, Jai Courtney as Captain Boomerang, and

Viola Davis as Amanda Waller, the cast includes Idris Elba as Bloodsport, John Cena as Peace Maker and others.

Rocksteady and DC have a new game coming called Suicide Squad: Kill the Justice League and boy, it looks amazing! The first look trailer shows Harley Quinn, Captain Boomerang, Deadshot and King Shark getting ready to confront a bloodthirsty Superman and the game is scheduled for 2022 on PlayStation 5, Windows PC, and Xbox Series X.

Justice League #TheSnyderCut has a trailer now and after months of teases from Zack Snyder himself, it has been confirmed that this version of the story will be divided into 4 hour-long episodes. The trailer features Darkseid, a more menacing Steppenwolf and a whole lot of new scenes.

As you probably already know, DC dropped the trailer for The Batman and the internet has broken loose. Fans

are hyped to see Robert Pattinson's Batman and the trailer gives a whole lot to look forward to. As it has already been revealed, the story will take heavy inspirations from the Long Halloween comic. Batman hasn't been in the crime-fighting business for long and is already swarmed by the Penguin, the Riddler, Catwoman, the Joker and most likely a few others. A prequel series is also in development for HBO Max.

DC also showcased concept arts/teaser for the Black Adam movie. The Justice Society of America featuring Hawkman, Dr Fate, Cyclone and the Atom Smasher. The next Shazam movie is titled Shazam: Fury of the Gods. Fans are excited with Titans season 3 being set to feature Batgirl, Red Hood and Scarecrow. DC have given fans and viewers a lot to look forward to, and everyone will have their fingers crossed for them to deliver.

us on [f/Sandalina](#)

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