T&I News
TECHNOLOGY • INVESTMENT • INNOVATION

AUG 2026
MONTHLY EDITION

TECHNOLOGY • ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

THE UAE'S MACHINE MOMENT

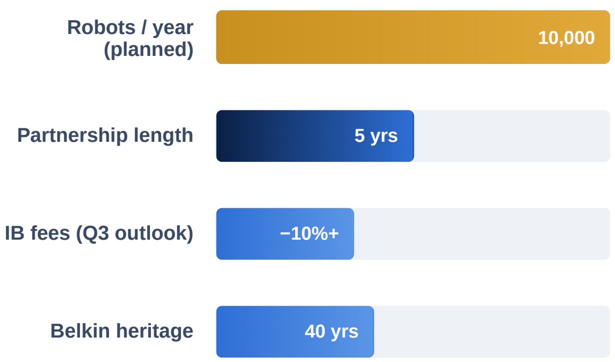
A Dubai firm pivots to humanoid robots, battery chemistry gets a Gulf debut, and Wall Street's dealmaking boom starts to cool.

UAE • DUBAI • ABU DHABI • SHARJAH

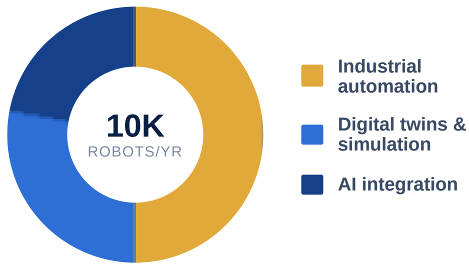
AUGUST 2026 · BY THE NUMBERS

Robotics, Hardware & Markets in Focus

Headline figures shaping this month's coverage



Figures reflect deals and guidance reported by T&I News · tai.news



Semi-Solid
BELKIN BATTERY DEBUT

IFA 2026
UNVEILED FROM DUBAI

BofA
DEAL-SLOWDOWN WARNING

Crypto
US LEGISLATION ADVANCES

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A five-year China deal targeting 10,000 robots a year

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BofA sees IB fees falling 10%+ in Q3

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US ethics concession advances the bill

COVER STORY • ROBOTICS & ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Dubai Gaming Firm Enters the Humanoid Robotics Sector

A five-year China partnership targeting up to 10,000 robots a year • T&I News

10,000	5 yrs	3	UAE–CN
ROBOTS / YEAR (PLANNED)	PARTNERSHIP TERM	CORE TECHNOLOGIES	CROSS-BORDER DEAL

Dubai-based No Competition Infinity Gaming Development Services has signed a five-year strategic partnership with Jiangsu Yunmu Intelligent Manufacturing Technology, a Chinese intelligent-manufacturing company, to jointly develop AI-integrated solutions spanning digital twins, advanced simulation and humanoid robotics. The agreement, signed in Taicang, China, projects the eventual deployment of up to 10,000 humanoid robots annually — a significant departure for a company previously known for its work in gaming.

The collaboration combines artificial intelligence with digital-twin technology — virtual replicas of physical systems used for testing, monitoring and optimisation — alongside advanced simulation. Together, these point toward applications on manufacturing floors, in logistics operations and across broader industrial automation, sectors increasingly turning to robotics to address labour shortages and efficiency demands.

WHY IT MATTERS

- **Marks a bold UAE pivot from entertainment into advanced robotics and AI.**
- **Deepens commercial ties between Gulf firms and Chinese manufacturing capacity.**
- **Aligns with national priorities in automation, logistics and smart infrastructure.**
- **Positions Dubai as a bridge between Gulf capital and Asian industrial ecosystems.**

A Strategic Pivot for the UAE Tech Sector

The deal reflects a broader trend among UAE technology and entertainment companies expanding into adjacent high-growth sectors as AI and automation attract global investment and policy attention. For the UAE, it adds to a growing list of partnerships between local firms and international manufacturers, reinforcing the emirate's positioning as a hub linking Gulf markets with innovation ecosystems in Asia.

> ***"Should the projected figures materialise, the agreement could position the firm as a notable player linking Gulf capital with Chinese industrial manufacturing capacity in humanoid robotics."***

Regional Appetite for Automation

The timing coincides with rising regional interest in automation. Gulf economies, including the UAE and Saudi Arabia, have invested heavily in robotics and AI as part of diversification strategies aimed at building capacity in advanced manufacturing and technology services.

TECHNOLOGY • CONSUMER HARDWARE

Belkin Unveils Semi-Solid-State Power Banks — From Dubai

Next-generation battery chemistry meets ultra-slim design • T&I News

Belkin has announced a new line of portable power banks built on semi-solid-state battery technology — a step beyond conventional lithium-ion. The UltraCharge Pro series, powered by the company's BoostSolid Cell technology, debuts at IFA 2026, with the reveal made from Dubai — underscoring the Gulf's growing role as a launch market for premium consumer electronics.

A battery leap. Semi-solid-state cells are widely seen as a meaningful evolution from standard lithium-ion, offering the potential for improved energy density and safety. Belkin positions UltraCharge Pro as an early commercial application in the portable-charging category, long reliant on largely unchanged chemistry.

Design as differentiator. Alongside the chemistry shift, Belkin is emphasising ultra-slim form factors — framing the range as advanced cells in a compact, everyday-carry design suited to the region's affluent, tech-forward consumers.

Why Dubai. By choosing Dubai for the reveal, Belkin signalled GCC consumers are a priority audience alongside European buyers reached through IFA. The region increasingly serves as a launch and testing ground for global technology brands.

Industry direction. Interest in solid-state and semi-solid-state research is rising across electronics — from smartphones to EVs. Belkin bringing it into a mainstream accessory suggests the innovation is moving from trade-show talking point toward everyday products.

WHY IT MATTERS

- **Brings next-generation battery chemistry into a mass-market consumer product.**
- **Confirms Dubai's pull as a global launch stage for premium electronics.**
- **Signals accessory makers competing on battery innovation, not just design.**

INVESTMENT • MARKETS

Wall Street Signals a Dealmaking Slowdown

Bank of America has told investors it expects investment-banking fees to fall by more than 10% in the third quarter — a warning that sent its shares lower and raised questions about the durability of Wall Street's recent dealmaking boom. Fees are a closely watched barometer of corporate confidence, reflecting M&A, debt and equity issuance and IPOs; a double-digit decline suggests clients may be pulling back even as equity markets stay resilient.

For Gulf investors the signal matters: sovereign funds and regional banks hold substantial US equity exposure and frequently co-invest alongside major US lenders, so a slowdown could narrow cross-border deal flow. It also feeds a wider debate over whether the AI-linked investment surge of the past year is entering a period of recalibration.

KEY TRENDS

01. UAE Moves Into Physical AI

Local firms pivot from software and entertainment into humanoid robotics, digital twins and industrial automation.

02. Gulf–Asia Manufacturing Ties

Cross-border partnerships link Gulf capital and business development with Chinese industrial and robotics supply chains.

03. Battery Chemistry Advances

Semi-solid-state cells move from research into mainstream consumer hardware, with the Gulf as a launch market.

04. Dubai as a Launch Stage

Global technology brands increasingly choose Dubai to unveil premium products for regional and world audiences.

05. Dealmaking Recalibrates

A projected drop in Wall Street banking fees hints the AI-driven M&A and IPO boom may be cooling.

06. Crypto Rules Take Shape

Advancing US legislation and ethics provisions signal a maturing regulatory frame that Gulf markets track closely.

KEY DEALS

Dubai Firm × Jiangsu Yunmu Robotics Pact

A five-year UAE–China partnership to develop AI, digital twins and humanoid robots, targeting up to 10,000 units a year.

Strategic Value

- Advanced-manufacturing entry
- Gulf–Asia industrial ties
- Automation capacity building
- Technology diversification

Belkin UltraCharge Pro Launch

Semi-solid-state BoostSolid Cell power banks unveiled from Dubai ahead of IFA 2026.

Strategic Value

- Next-gen battery adoption
- Premium consumer market
- Dubai launch positioning

BofA Flags Q3 Fee Decline

Investment-banking fees projected to fall more than 10%, an early signal of cooling deal momentum.

Strategic Value

- Market recalibration signal
- Gulf portfolio relevance
- Cross-border deal-flow watch

US Crypto Legislation Advances

An ethics-provision concession clears a path for cryptocurrency legislation, a regulatory milestone with global reach.

Strategic Value

- Regulatory clarity
- Digital-asset maturation
- Gulf market relevance