

SKYGO taps PLDT Enterprise for digital transformation

PLDT Inc.'s corporate business unit PLDT Enterprise is partnering with motorcycle retailer and distributor SKYGO Marketing Corp. to support the latter's digitalization by providing connectivity solutions.

Under the partnership, PLDT Enterprise will provide SKYGO a network foundation with its MY Only WAN setup, which is bundled with Fiber 100MB, wireless internet backup, Meraki SD-WAN, managed network services, postpaid plans, and Internet of Things (IoT) solutions.

"PLDT Enterprise remains committed to helping businesses build the secure and scalable digital foundations they need to grow. Through solutions that combine connectivity, centralized management, and resilience, we support organizations like SKYGO as they modernize operations and move toward a more integrated digital environment," Jay Lagdameo, PLDT Enterprise's head of domestic enterprise business, regional & commercial, said in a statement on Tuesday.

The company said SKYGO's digital transformation journey aims to build an integrated and secure ecosystem to improve operational efficiency and scale its business.

"To support this direction, the partnership with PLDT Enterprise is intended to address key business challenges, including inconsistent connectivity, lack of network redundancy, limited visibility across sites, and rising demands from cloud-based and IoT-driven systems, as these issues can affect critical applications, productivity, and overall operational efficiency if left unaddressed," it said.

The MY Only WAN setup provides automatic failover, uninterrupted connectivity, centralized network management, and intelligent traffic routing that will allow business-critical applications to work seamlessly.

"The solution also supports standardized security policies across branches and users, helping strengthen compliance and protection against cyber threats and unauthorized access," it said.

"Together, these solutions are designed to provide SKYGO with business continuity, centralized visibility and control, stronger network security, and improved application performance across its growing operations," PLDT Enterprise added.

Shyrwinsteel Sia, chief technology officer of SKYGO, said the partnership will help strengthen their digital infrastructure.

"As SKYGO continues to modernize its business processes and expand its digital capabilities, the partnership with PLDT Enterprise highlights how integrated connectivity, IoT, cloud-ready infrastructure, and managed services can work together to support a more secure, resilient, and future-ready business environment," he said.

Hastings Holdings, Inc., a unit of PLDT Beneficial Trust Fund subsidiary Media-Quest Holdings, Inc., holds a majority stake in *BusinessWorld* through the Philippine Star Group. — **Juliana Chloe A. Gonzales**

Data needs to be ready for AI — Boomi

By **Cathy Rose A. Garcia**
Editor-in-Chief

CHICAGO — Boomi, the data activation company, wants to help enterprises make their data ready for the artificial intelligence (AI) world.

"Only 7% of your organization's data is AI ready today. AI-ready being things like contextual, consistent, etc. And these projects, they're going to be abandoned unless you have your data activated and ready," Steve Lucas, Boomi chairman and chief executive officer (CEO), said in a keynote speech during Boomi World here on May 13. "But we can help. We can do this together."

Boomi currently moves twice the amount of data per second for its 30,000 customers than Visa does every day, he said.

"When I looked at that number, I realized we are way more about the journey for the data than the destination. At Boomi, our job is to help you move data, get information to the right place, to the right people, to the right agents... with quality and context," Mr. Lucas said.

The Boomi CEO said data activation is critical to the success of any enterprise, as the data will be activated not just for human intelligence but for AI.

"We want to put you at the center of the center, that center of data. Automation, integration, and AI. And that's what we're focused on with Boomi as the data activation company," Mr. Lucas said.

"Data is not the new oil... Data is simply sand. There are tons of it. Not all of it's useful, but we can do amazing things with it. We can turn sand into chips, silicon. We can do these things with data, but it's only if you put it to work. It's only if you activate that data," he said.

With all the hype about AI, Mr. Lucas emphasized that AI needs to translate into real return on investment (RoI).

"No matter how good AI is, if RoI doesn't exist, it won't matter. Who cares if it's more creative... The RoI must exist for AI," he said.

He noted that around 95% of AI projects miss RoI, because "it's just too easy to start" with no planning and analysis.

"Our job is to find value in RoI. Our job is to not brag about numbers. Our job is to help you become the center of the universe where data, automation, integration, and AI, where they converge," Mr. Lucas said.

In terms of RoI, he said they are looking at time savings and productivity boosts.

"Are we saving people time? Time equals capacity for our sellers, for our marketers, for our engineers... I would say that we have solidly saved 100,000 or so hours per year at Boomi worth of productivity," he said.

"We are still growing. What we're realizing is that we can produce more products and support more customers with the same number of people that we have. So, if anything, I would say that productivity or all of this AI has led us to a greater ambition for our growth. That's the RoI," he added.

ENTERPRISE PLATFORM

Meanwhile, Boomi announced a major expansion of its enterprise platform to support modern, AI-driven environments.

At Boomi World, the company said it was adding new capabilities across orchestrated agentic workflows, agentic engineering, governed agent connectivity, grounded agent context, and localized agent infrastructure.

These innovations are expected to power the agentic enterprise, "where agents and humans work together to drive action and operationalize AI at scale," it said.

"Every enterprise transformation has a platform moment. For agentic AI, that moment is now. Customers don't need

more disconnected tools; they need an active data foundation that connects data, orchestrates workflows, and governs AI for people and agents. With these new innovations, we're extending the Boomi Enterprise Platform to make that foundation a reality," Ed Macosky, chief product and technology officer at Boomi, said.

With an acceleration in AI adoption, many enterprises are having problems in scaling beyond initial use cases because of fragmented systems and lack of operational infrastructure.

Boomi introduced new innovations to address these issues faced by enterprises.

Boomi Connect provides secure, governed connectivity between AI tools and enterprise applications through model context protocol (MCP)-enabled tools, while Boomi AI Gateway enables built-in policy enforcement, cost controls, and observability.

The MCP Registry allows enterprises to scale AI with control and manage MCP servers across Boomi.

Boomi Orchestrate allows customers to turn business ideas into enterprise-grade agentic workflows, while Agent SIM lets organizations simulate and validate agent behavior before deployment.

Boomi Companion is touted to accelerate agentic engineering on the Boomi platform. It is a collection of open-source agent skills that allow developers to design, build, test, deploy, and diagnose integrations through natural language using AI tools that they prefer.

With Agentstudio, developers can invoke Boomi agents from any architecture or pipeline, while non-technical users can securely surface them within custom apps and portals.

Boomi Knowledge Hub provides a single, unified context layer to ensure AI agents and people always work from trusted, up-to-date information.

Boomi Meta Hub grounds AI agents and people in expert-endorsed business

definitions that improve agent accuracy, eliminate fragmented interpretations, and ensure consistent business logic at scale.

Distributed Agent Runtime reduces cloud latency and controls costs by deploying agents on-premises while keeping sensitive data behind the firewall.

Agentstudio Multi-region Instances allow enterprises to scale agents globally by leaving agent metadata and runtime execution in specified regions.

"We're entering the next phase of enterprise AI, where success won't be defined by how many agents you deploy, but by how well they are connected, governed, and grounded in trusted data. With more than 30,000 customers and AI guided by hundreds of millions of integrations, we're helping organizations move from connected and automated to fully agentic, and turn AI into real operational impact," Mr. Lucas said.

Boomi recently received several analyst recognitions, such as being named a Leader for a 12th straight year and positioned highest for Ability to Execute in the 2026 Gartner Magic Quadrant for Integration Platform as a Service (IPaaS).

It was also named a Leader in the IDC MarketScape: Worldwide API Management 2026 Vendor Assessment, and included in the 2026 Constellation ShortList for Cross-Platform Agentic AI, the 2026 Constellation ShortList for Data Integration and Transformation for Cloud-Based Analytical Data Platforms, and the 2026 Constellation ShortList for IPaaS.

Boomi was also named a Leader in the Nucleus Research iPaaS Technology Value Matrix 2026.

"We believe this wave of analyst recognition reflects the strength of our platform and the momentum we're seeing from customers who want one strategic foundation for integration, APIs, data, automation, and agentic AI," Mr. Lucas said.

Kindle loyalists scramble as Amazon turns page on old e-readers

SAN FRANCISCO — For Claudia Buonocore, the thought of parting ways with her 15-year-old Kindle Touch e-reader is painful.

"I've never felt the desire to have another device," said the 39-year-old Pittsburgh area resident. "It's a part of me, a lifesaver, I fall asleep with it almost every night."

Ms. Buonocore and other Kindle users face an unwelcome change. Amazon last month said it would end support for e-readers released in 2012 and earlier, preventing users from downloading new books or receiving software updates after May 20.

"It's just a complete betrayal of customers," said Ms. Buonocore.

Amazon will support newer devices and has offered a 20% discount on recent models, priced from \$110 to \$680, with \$20 in e-book credits. But many Kindle loyalists are not ready to turn the page on their beloved gadgets.

Brian Oelberg has been loading up his 2010-era Kindle Keyboard with e-books since learning of Amazon's plans, and estimates he now has about 250 titles. He plans to switch off the device's WiFi starting on Wednesday to keep it safe from any software updates that wipe it clean.

Mr. Oelberg, 64, said he recently tried newer models at a Best Buy store but was unimpressed, noting they

lack physical page-turn buttons. "There's no reason for Amazon to be doing this," said the Chicago resident, adding the buttons allow him to read outdoors in cold weather without removing gloves.

Fans of older Kindles say the devices' durability and physical buttons are unmatched by newer versions such as the \$180 Kindle Paperwhite, which they say drains battery life more quickly with its backlit screen.

Many technology firms phase out older devices due to security, cost and other factors, prompting users to upgrade. It was not possible to determine how many devices are affected by Amazon's move.

Amazon said it had supported the devices for 14 years or more and could not keep doing so indefinitely. "Technology has come a long way in that time," said a spokesperson.

While Amazon was not the first company to produce e-readers, it pushed them into the mainstream with the introduction of the first Kindle in 2007. In a near-instant, users could download e-books onto the device over cellular networks and gain access to Amazon's vast catalogue of titles.

Today, Amazon commands 72% of the e-reader market, according to research firm Business Research Insights. Amazon itself has never disclosed Kindle sales.

Commentators on social media sites offer plenty of solutions to keeping the devices useful for years to come. That includes so-called jailbreaking, meaning removing software restrictions to allow other software to be installed; and sideloading, a means of adding books to the device from a computer, typically through a USB cord.

Others are turning to open-source software like e-book manager Calibre, which does not rely on Amazon's systems.

Cathy Ryan, who repairs older Kindles for resale on eBay as a hobby, expects the change to hurt her business. The 59-year-old Vermont resident owns five Kindles and still uses a second-generation device bought in 2009.

"I suppose nothing lasts forever, but I am just really annoyed," said Ms. Ryan.

Cathy DeMail, 69, from The Villages, Florida, said she sees an ulterior motive and has been trying to load her device with books. "It's a shame I am getting railroaded into this," she said, adding she will likely have to buy a newer touchscreen model.

"I hate it, it's the principle of the thing that bothers me." — **Reuters**

SM Offices reports full occupancy at Clark Tech Hub office dev't



SM CLARK TOWERS integrates a future-ready workplace with an onsite transport hub for optimal accessibility.

SM OFFICES, the commercial leasing arm of SM Prime Holdings, Inc., said its Clark Tech Hub office development in Pampanga has reached 100% occupancy and that it will begin the development of Tower 11 within the complex.

In a statement on Wednesday, SM Offices Head Alexis L. Ortiga said the full occupancy of Clark Tech Hub reflected demand for office spaces outside Metro Manila.

"The full utilization of Clark Tech Hub underscores sustained demand for global-standard, sustainable workspaces outside Metro Manila," Mr. Ortiga said.

The 10-tower Clark Tech Hub office complex is located within the SM City Clark Complex in Angeles, Pampanga. The development has 72,392 square meters (sq.m.) of gross leasable area across 10 five-story buildings.

SM Offices said most tenants are global information technology-business process management (IT-BPM) and multinational companies operating under long-term lease agreements.

Towers 1 to 6 were launched in 2016, while Towers 7 to 10 opened in 2021. All towers are accredited by the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA).

SM Offices also said it will develop Clark Tech Hub Tower 11, which will add about 20,000 sq.m. of gross leasable area. The building is planned to rise nine stories.

"With major infrastructure projects improving access and connectivity, we believe SM City Clark Complex will become even more attractive to locators seeking high-quality workspaces outside Metro Manila," Mr. Ortiga said.

Tower 11 will be built above the SM Clark Skylink terminal, which is expected to connect to Clark International Airport through the North-South Commuter Railway by 2028. — **Juliana Chloe A. Gonzales**

SEC revokes Mount Peak registration, issues advisory on unauthorized MocaMoca-linked platforms

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission (SEC) said it had revoked the broker-dealer registration of Mount Peak Securities, Inc. over alleged regulatory violations and deficiencies identified during an investigation, while separately warning the public against online lending platforms allegedly misrepresenting themselves as affiliated with the "MocaMoca" lending brand.

In a Feb. 13 decision, the SEC's Markets and Securities Regulation Department canceled Mount Peak's registration for alleged violations of 12 provisions under the implementing rules and regulations of Republic Act No. 8799, or the Securities Regulation Code (SRC).

The decision followed an investigation conducted by the Capital Markets Integrity Corp. (CMIC), which cited alleged irregularities involving the company's business operations, records, books, and back-office systems.

The CMIC had placed Mount Peak under involuntary suspension in August 2025, citing potential risks to the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) and the investing public if the company continued operations.

The SEC also revoked the salesman license of the company president and the license of an associated person, and permanently disqualified both from future registration under the SRC.

The regulator likewise imposed P17.25 million in penalties.

According to the SEC decision, the company president admitted that an account under the name "Michael Malate" was allegedly used as a dummy account for personal transactions.

The SEC also cited alleged discrepancies in customer account records, internal controls, capital adequacy compliance, and reserve account balances.

"In the instant case, notwithstanding its breach of the minimum prescribed RBCA ratio across various periods, [Mount Peak] did not cease doing business or notify the PSE and the Commission of such breach," the SEC said in its decision.

The ruling has been appealed and remains pending before the SEC Commission En Banc.

Mount Peak did not immediately respond to an e-mail seeking comment.

In a separate advisory, the SEC warned the public against online lending platforms and mobile applications allegedly claiming affiliation with Copperstone Lending Inc. and the lending brand "MocaMoca."

The advisory, issued through the SEC's Financing and Lending Companies Department, said Copperstone Lending had reported several websites, applications, social media pages, and online platforms allegedly using the company's name, branding, and identity without authorization.

The SEC said the reported platforms were also linked to complaints involving

alleged collection harassment, suspicious loan applications, and unauthorized transactions.

"The Company likewise reported that several consumers complained regarding alleged collection harassment, threats, suspicious loan applications, and fake lending platforms falsely representing themselves as connected with 'MocaMoca,'" the SEC said.

The commission advised the public to verify whether lending and financing firms are properly registered and authorized before transacting online, and cautioned consumers against sharing personal and banking information through unverified platforms. — **Alexandria Grace C. Magno**