

THE TAKE

Rollout boundaries matter more than model launches this evening. Apple sets a China timetable with explicit exclusions, while infrastructure users face secret rotation and service deadlines. Local tools keep broadening their capabilities, but product previews still need separating from usable, tested releases.

Coverage: 31 October 2026, 05:35-17:30 UTC. Day-only announcements and missed catch-ups retain their actual dates.

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CONSUMER AI / ANNOUNCED 31 OCT / BETA 4 NOV

Apple sets a November beta for China



Apple's China feature overview. Promotional UI, not evidence the announced features are live today. [Apple](#)

- Apple says its first core Apple Intelligence features for mainland China enter the iOS developer beta on November 4, followed by iOS 27.3 in December. This is a rollout plan, not availability today.
- The initial set includes live translation, Writing Tools, Photos Clean Up and Genmoji. Alibaba Qwen connects to selected Siri, Writing Tools and Visual Intelligence experiences.
- Siri AI and the other next-generation features announced at WWDC 2026 are explicitly excluded. Other platforms await necessary approvals; supported iPhones and language settings also limit eligibility.

[Apple announcement \(Chinese\)](#) · [Apple China feature overview](#) · [Independent coverage](#) / [SCMP](#)

UPDATES / SECURITY AND MCP OPERATIONS

UPDATE / 31 OCT, 13:34 UTC / INCIDENT OPEN

Northflank expands secret-rotation tools

- MySQL and Redis secret rotation is now available to all customers, Northflank says. Its incident remains Identified / Major outage; the tooling update is not a resolution or a newly disclosed compromise.
- The provider still advises rotating all secrets. Revoke exposed credentials with the issuing provider, create replacements, update affected workloads and inspect AI-provider usage and billing. Earlier guidance also calls for disabling public access to addons.
- Audit logs became available to all customers at 01:04 UTC. Separately, customer Quiltt reports rotating exposed credentials and finding no evidence of unauthorized customer-data access in its own review. That result does not establish the impact across Northflank.

[Northflank incident timeline](#) · [Customer cross-check](#) / [Quiltt](#)

DATED CATCH-UP / SHUTDOWN DATE 31 OCT / HOUR UNSPECIFIED

Smithery proxy users reach migration day

- Smithery scheduled its MCP Proxy and managed identity/connection services to shut down today. Its notice includes run.tools and server.smithery.ai endpoints, API, Connect, Toolbox, accounts and keys; CLI and SDK versions are to be deprecated.
- The public, non-proxied MCP registry remains, powered by Arcade. Replace Smithery proxy URLs with each server vendor's official MCP endpoint. This is an earlier-announced deadline, not an independently tested claim that every endpoint has already stopped.

[Smithery transition notice](#)

LOCAL AI AND PRACTICAL 3D TOOLS

MISSED MORNING CATCH-UP / 31 OCT, 04:51 UTC

KoboldCpp adds more local media and agent tools

- Version 1.124 integrates audio.cpp models, including YuE2 music generation and TTS options, while MusicUI gains a transcription tab. It also adds support for image models including MOSS Image, Fibo 2 Edit and Flux 3 Klein.
- For agents, the release adds a custom MCP endpoint wizard and fixes an MCP loader race. Kobold Lite gains /v1/responses support and shared parallel context-pool controls.

[KoboldCpp 1.124 release notes](#)

- The notes also list CPU flash-attention and legacy-model buffer-overflow fixes. These are maintainer-stated capabilities, not our benchmark results; hardware needs and individual model licences still vary.

3D TOOLS / 31 OCT, TIME UNVERIFIED

Print preparation gets clearer warnings

- 3D AI Studio v6.9.2 highlights thin walls and offers strengthening while preserving colour and texture. Its repair panel explains fixes such as closed holes and reversed faces.
- Export size checks now align to a tenth of a millimetre, and downloads wait for pending geometry/colour updates. These are vendor release claims, not a test of printability; the day-only timestamp does not prove a post-morning launch.

[3D AI Studio changelog](#)

LOCAL INFERENCE / 31 OCT, 08:07 UTC

A small OpenCL addition

- llama.cpp prerelease b12020 adds OpenCL support for FWHT, the fast Walsh-Hadamard transform operation. This is a backend compatibility addition, not evidence of a general inference-speed increase.

[b12020 prerelease](#) · [Implementation](#) / [PR 31434](#)

THE MAKER DESK / DATED CATCH-UPS

MISSED CATCH-UP / RELEASED 29 OCT

EINSTAR expands the mobile scanning workflow

- EXStar Hub 2.0 and Android EXStar Mobile add a mobile workflow for Rockit and EINSTAR 2. iPhone and iPad support is still forthcoming.
- The vendor says wireless IR without texture and Laser Feature capture rise from 20 to 30 FPS; IR Texture is not included. Real-Time AI Isolation needs Windows with an RTX 3060 or higher; Mac support is in development.
- 3D Gaussian Splatting is for visual presentation, not a replacement for a manufacturing/measurement mesh. Each project stores one mesh, so importing a replacement overwrites it.

[EINSTAR release details](#) · [Publication date / news index](#)

MISSED CATCH-UP / REVEALED 28 OCT

A desktop metal printer, still a launch plan

- Studio 3e8 plans a December 1 Kickstarter launch for Mesa1, starting at \$3,500. That is a planned crowdfunding price, not shipping availability.
- The company describes sealed metal/scaffold cartridges depositing into a crucible inside an integrated sintering furnace, without lasers or binders. Its samples and process claims have not been independently tested here; a reveal is not proof of reliable production.

[Studio 3e8 original reveal](#)



Mesa1, cartridges and samples in the vendor's reveal photograph. Not independent print-test evidence. [Studio 3e8](#)

UPDATES / COSTS, ACCESS AND DEADLINES

UPDATE / SCHEDULED CHANGE 31 OCT, 16:00 UTC

DeepSeek's free web-call period has ended on its published schedule

- The October 17-announced free period for server-side Search and Fetch calls ended at 16:00 UTC today (November 1, 00:00 Beijing), according to DeepSeek's schedule. Each endpoint is listed at \$0.75 per 1,000 successful calls, plus model-token charges.
- Only HTTP 200 responses with nonempty results or fetched content count; failures, empty results and timeouts do not. Documentation still uses forward-looking language, and we have not verified a charged transaction.

[DeepSeek Search/Fetch rules](#) · [Original 17 Oct notice \(Chinese\)](#)

DEADLINE CATCH-UP / CLAIM BY 31 OCT / TIMEZONE UNSPECIFIED

US student offer reaches its claim deadline

- Eligible students at US degree-granting colleges and graduate schools can claim four free monthly Plus billing periods through SheerID. The offer is not a UK-wide student promotion.
- A valid payment method is required; it renews at \$20 per month unless cancelled. Existing direct-billed monthly Plus users can qualify, but App Store/Google Play-billed subscriptions are excluded while store-billed. The official deadline gives no exact hour or timezone.

[Official eligibility and terms](#)

Edition notes

Ten deduplicated developments and useful dated catch-ups. Precise times are UTC where established; day-only pages are not asserted to have appeared after the morning cutoff. The opening take and practical implications are editorial interpretation.

PUBLIC COVERAGE

Research used public/indexed X searches, primary announcements, repositories and independent reporting. No new X-only claim was independently useful and verifiable. This is neither your personal feed nor exhaustive coverage of X.

EVIDENCE LIMITS

Vendor capabilities and images are not hands-on test results. Apple's original release and product page were verified; SCMP independently reports the rollout. Links sit beside each story. No new frontier-model launch was verified in this pass.

Research cutoff: 31 October 2026, 17:30 UTC. Formatting-only revisions do not advance it. Unchanged earlier stories and unsupported launch claims were omitted.