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Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Monday , March 06 2023|

## Dell results beat on server, network demand; CFO to retire

Dell Technologies Inc (DELL.N) on Thursday beat estimates for quarterly revenue and profit on strong demand for servers and network equipment that more than offset declines in the core PC segment, sending its shares up nearly 6% in extended trading.

The PC-maker also said finance chief Tom Sweet, 63, would retire this year. Sweet, who took on the role in 2014, will be succeeded by company veteran Yvonne McGill, Dell said.

Rising borrowing costs and lower consumer spending have hit Dell's growth, as customers and businesses delay their system upgrades.

Total revenue fell 11% to \$25.04 billion in the fourth quarter ended Feb. 3, but came above the Refinitiv consensus estimate of \$23.39 billion drawn from 12 analysts.

But storage and server demand has remained a bright spot, thanks to the ongoing digitization by corporates and the shift to hybrid work.

Exclusive: Microsoft set to win EU nod on Activision with licensing offer, sources say  
SEC objections to Voyager-Binance deal criticized by U.S. judge  
US Commerce chief urges chip companies to begin environmental reviews  
Revenue in the company's infrastructure solutions group, which includes servers, storage devices and networking hardware, rose 7% in the quarter. Meanwhile, revenue from the commercial and consumer units, which indicate PC demand, was down 17% and 40%, respectively.

Lifting of lockdowns in China, a key market as well as a dominant supplier of electronics components, is being seen as a positive for PC makers, and it will help

them rein in costs amid a sobering economic outlook.

In early February, Dell said it will cut over 6,000 jobs to reduce costs and ride out the demand downturn wrought by high inflation and rising interest rates. The company took a related charge of \$367 million in the fourth quarter.

Dell's net income from continuing operations stood at \$606 million in the reported quarter, compared with a loss of \$29 million a year earlier.

Excluding items, Dell earned \$1.80 per share, beating estimates of \$1.63 per share

## Apple blocks update to email app with ChatGPT tech

March 2 (Reuters) - Apple Inc (AAPL.O) has blocked an update to email app BlueMail, which uses a customized version of OpenAI's GPT-3 language model, the co-founder of the app developer told Reuters on Thursday.

"Apple has blocked the BlueMail update and continues to treat BlueMail unfairly and to discriminate against us," Blix's Ben Volach said.

"Other GPT-powered apps seem not to be restricted," he added.

Apple, which rejected the app update last week, asked the company to revise the app's age rating for those over 17 or implement content filtering, as BlueMail may produce content not appropriate for all audiences, according to a document viewed by Reuters.

"We want fairness. If we're required to be 17-plus, then others should also have to," Volach tweeted, adding that many other

apps that advertise ChatGPT-like features listed on Apple's app store do not have age restrictions.

Apple, which was looking into the complaint, said developers have the option to challenge a rejection through the App Review Board process.

"It suggests to us that the company may scrutinize apps with ChatGPT functionality in the same way it does others where there are concerns about the quality of the user experience and appropriate nature of the content or service provided by the app," D.A. Davidson analyst Thomas Forte said.

Google 'Incognito' users lose appeal to sue for damages as class  
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companies to begin environmental reviews  
OpenAI's ChatGPT, which can generate content in response to user prompts, has captivated the tech industry.

Microsoft (MSFT.O) and Alphabet Inc's (GOOGL.O) Google both announced their own AI chatbots earlier in February.

While AI-powered chatbots are a nascent field, early search results and conversations have made headlines with their unpredictability



Visitors to the Southbank are seen reflected in rainwater, in London, Britain, December 29, 2022. REUTERS/Peter Nicholls

## 知名音樂培訓學校美南招生

**美好藝術中心**  
MAY FLOWER ART CENTER

MAY FLOWER ART CENTER(美好藝術中心) 是一家音樂培訓學校，致力於培養普通琴童的音樂創造力。

**特色課程【古典音樂作曲】**學員年齡5-18歲，授課方式線上與線下結合，輔導學生完成樂器獨奏、二重奏、弦樂四重奏等室內樂及交響樂作品。

優秀學員的大型交響樂作品由美國國家青年交響樂團 (National Youth Orchestra) 紐約大都會青年樂團 (MYO)、馬里蘭青年交響樂團 (MCYO) 進行了演出。

作為大學第二專業或申學加分項目，藝術中心學員分別考入哥倫比亞大學&茱莉亞音樂學院、芝加哥大學、杜克大學、布朗大學、范德堡大學、UC伯克利、約翰霍普金斯大學等。

2023開年之際，藝術中心特在美南地區招收學員，希望為更多琴童提供音樂發展的多樣性。



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暑期作曲集訓營



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# OPEC+ oil output cut shows widening rift between Biden and Saudi royals

WASHINGTON/LONDON, Oct 7(Reuters) - The OPEC+ organization's decision this week to cut oil production despite stiff U.S. opposition has further strained already tense relations between President Joe Biden's White House and Saudi Arabia's royal family, once one of Washington's staunchest Middle East allies, according to interviews with about a dozen government officials and experts in Washington and the Gulf.

The White House pushed hard to prevent the OPEC output cut, these sources said. Biden hopes to keep U.S. gasoline prices from spiking again ahead of midterm elections in which his Democratic party is struggling to maintain control of the U.S. Congress. Washington also wants to limit Russia's energy revenue during the Ukraine war.

The U.S. administration lobbied OPEC+ for weeks. In recent days, senior U.S. officials from energy, foreign policy and economic teams urged their foreign counterparts to vote against an output cut, according to two sources familiar with the discussions.

Amos Hochstein, Biden's top energy envoy, along with national security official Brett McGurk and the administration's special envoy to Yemen Tim Lenderking, traveled to Saudi Arabia last month to discuss energy issues, including the OPEC+ decision.

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Analysis: Defeats in Ukraine stoke crisis for Vladimir Putin  
Putin orders Russia to seize Exxon-led Sakhalin 1 oil and gas project  
They failed to prevent an output cut, just as Biden did after his own July visit.

US officials "tried to position it as 'us versus Russia,'" said one source briefed on the discussions, telling Saudi officials they needed to make a choice.

That argument failed, the source said, adding that the Saudis said that if the United States wanted more oil on the markets, it should start producing more of its own.  
The United States is the world's No. 1 oil producer and also its top consumer, according to data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration.



The Saudi government media office CIC did not respond to Reuters emailed requests for comment about the discussions.

"We are concerned first and foremost with the interests of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and then the interests of the countries that trusted us and are members of OPEC and the OPEC + alliance," Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz told Saudi TV Wednesday.

OPEC weighs its interests with "those of the world because we have an interest in supporting the growth of the global economy and providing energy supplies in the best way," he said.

Washington's handling of the Iran nuclear deal and withdrawal of support for a Saudi-led coalition's offensive military operations in Yemen have upset Saudi officials, as have actions against Russia after the February 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

A U.S. push for a price cap on Russian oil is causing uncertainty, Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman told Bloomberg TV after the OPEC cut, noting the "lack of details and the lack of clarity" about how it will be implemented.

A source briefed by Saudi officials said the kingdom views it as "a non-market price-control mechanism, that could be used by a cartel of consumers against producers."

A Biden-directed sale of 180 million barrels of oil in March from the U.S. Strategic Petroleum Reserve put downward pressure on oil prices. In March, OPEC+ said it would stop using data from the International Energy Agency (IEA), a Western oil watchdog, due to Saudi-led concerns the United States had too much influence.

## Editor's Choice



Team Audi Sport's Mattias Ekstrom and Co-Driver Emil Bergkvist in action during Stage 2 of Dakar Rally, Sea Camp to Alula, Saudi Arabia. REUTERS/Hamad I Mohammed



Junior Lambrechts has his face painted in preparation for the Cape Minstrel Carnival in Cape Town, South Africa. REUTERS/Shelley Christians



A mourner reacts as Brazilian soccer legend Pele is transported by the fire department, from his former club Santos' Vila Belmiro stadium, in Santos, Brazil. REUTERS/Ueslei Marcelino



Pillars of light, which are optical atmospheric phenomena, beam up from the ground into the sky behind residential buildings in Omsk, Russia. REUTERS/Alexey Malgavko



A goat wearing a jacket is seen on a farm on a cold winter morning in New Delhi, India, January 3, 2023. REUTERS/Anushree Fadnavis



Newly elected freshman Rep. George Santos (R-NY), embroiled in a scandal over his resume and claims made on the campaign trail, yawns behind his hand as he sits alone in the House Chamber, on the first day of the 118th Congress at the U.S. Capitol in Washington. REUTERS/Jonathan Ernst



## These Everyday Products Could Soon Become Scarce

A photograph of a supermarket aisle. The shelves are mostly empty, with only a few items visible on the top shelves, such as boxes of instant noodles and some packaged goods. The bottom shelves are completely empty. The aisle is brightly lit, and the shelves are white. In the background, there are signs for different sections of the store, including 'Instant Noodles' and 'Instant Ramen'. A red fire extinguisher is visible on the right side of the aisle.

**ATTENTION CUSTOMERS:**

Due to extreme supply shortages of product, we will be temporarily limiting purchases to a

**3 CASE LIMIT**

on the following product(s):

**POTATOES**

10002	#12754	9001	#12727
10054	#12725	8001	#11729
#1	#12726	4001	#11842
6001		#11919	

Call 703.934.3434 for your business and see [www.hilltop.com/priceprogram.htm](http://www.hilltop.com/priceprogram.htm)

A photograph showing a woman with short grey hair, wearing a black t-shirt and green cargo pants, standing in a grocery store aisle. She is looking at empty shelves. The shelves are mostly empty, with some products visible on the top shelf, including bags of rice and boxes of cereal. A shopping cart is visible in the foreground on the right.

**(Article Continues Below)**

# COMMUNITY

## These Everyday Products Could Soon Become Scarce

A photograph of a retail shelf with various products and yellow price tags. The shelf is made of light-colored wood or cardboard. On the top shelf, there are several boxes of instant noodle cups, including brands like Nissin and Maruchan. Below that, there are more boxes of instant noodle cups, some in red and pink packaging. Further down, there are blue boxes of instant noodle cups. The bottom shelf has more products, including some in black and white packaging. Yellow price tags are attached to the front of the shelves, indicating the price of each product. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

A close-up shot of a hand holding a white price tag. The tag is for a '100mm x 25mm x 3m' pine board. It features a large '\$100.00' price, a '20% OFF' discount, and a 'SALES' logo. The tag is being held over a stack of similar wooden boards.

A photograph of a white garage door that has been completely covered with large sheets of plywood. The plywood is arranged in a grid pattern, with visible seams and knots. Above the door, there is a small blue square, possibly a window or a vent. The house has a dark roof and white siding. Two black lantern-style light fixtures are mounted on the white wall, one on each side of the door. A small black sign with the word "GARAGE" in white capital letters is mounted on the right side of the door.

A photograph of a suburban neighborhood. In the foreground, a concrete mailbox with a red flag stands next to a blue recycling bin. Behind them is a green lawn and a sidewalk. In the background, there are several houses with light-colored siding and gabled roofs. A white SUV is parked on the street in front of one of the houses. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

A photograph showing a worker in a striped shirt and orange safety vest working on a car chassis on an assembly line. The chassis is mounted on a blue and orange conveyor system. The worker is using a tool to work on the side of the car. The background shows other parts of the factory and other workers.

A wide-angle photograph of a busy airport terminal. Numerous people are walking through the corridor, some carrying luggage. The floor is highly reflective, showing the overhead lights. In the background, there are various signs and storefronts, including one for 'KFC'. The overall atmosphere is one of a busy, modern transit hub.

Increased connectivity via technology is something that we have come to expect. Along with advancements in communication come devices to help improve the way we relate to and see the world. Laptops, iPhones, iPads, and televisions are hot ticket items right now, with consumers clamoring for the latest upgrades and models to stay relevant. Even with all of the high-tech offerings, we somehow cannot supersede a waitlist.



Furniture is big, it's bulky, and it takes time to craft and ship to customers. Unless you buy used models on furniture showroom floors, you're likely to put an order in and then wait months to get your favorite pieces. Supply chain issues have prevented much foreign-made furniture from getting to American shores. It's likely that additional time and money spent on home improvements have caused demand that exceeds supply.

New shopping habits after the pandemic sent millions of customers to their computers and smartphones as we learned how to buy online. Amazon and other web retail giants now easily dominate our purchasing habits. Because of an increased need to ship goods across the world, shipping con-

A red Honda CBR600F4i motorcycle is shown on a yellow automated transport system (AGV) in a factory setting. The AGV is moving along a yellow line on the floor. In the background, other motorcycles are visible on similar transport systems, and the word "HONDA" is visible on a wall panel.

Not only did the supply chain fiasco mess with bicycle transportation, but it is also tinkering around with the motorized kind as well. Current fuel prices are causing many to seek alternative and more affordable means of transportation. Unfortunately, this means that motorcycle demand is high, and supply may be running low due to a shortage of aftermarket and repair parts. This low inventory is likely to last through the end of 2022 and into 2023.

**National Coin Shortage:**

If possible, please use exact change for cash transactions.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

THE COIN MACHINE

Pay with debit, credit, check, download, gift card or money order for cash transactions.

If you've been asked at a store or restaurant for exact change, you're not alone. A national coin shortage is being experienced due to safety measures implemented during the pandemic. U.S. Mint employees have slowed production of all U.S. coined currency. Another reason we are seeing less circulation of coins is due to the fact that people have not been spending physical money in recent years, so not enough remains in circulation. Need an extra quarter? Try searching your couch cushions for some long-lost dough.

A close-up photograph showing a hand wearing a purple nitrile glove holding a syringe. The syringe is connected to a clear plastic tube that leads into a glass blood collection bag. The bag is labeled with the 'American Red Cross' logo, which includes a large red cross on a white background and the text 'American Red Cross' in black. The bag also has some smaller, less legible text and a barcode. The background is dark and out of focus, showing some medical equipment and a box.

As of January 2022, the American Red Cross reported that the United States is facing the worst blood shortage crisis in over a decade due to a decrease in blood drives. This isn't the only issue that the Red Cross faces in its life-saving operations. Staffing shortages, a lack of interest in volunteering, and general apathy toward the organization itself have caused many branches of the Red Cross to shut down across the nation. The organization is attempting to partner with high-profile organizations just to garner additional support.