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Honeywell AI platform targets $60m annual savings at Dangote refinery

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Honeywell has launched an artificial intelligence platform at the Dangote Petroleum Refinery in Nigeria, targeting annual savings of more than USD 60 million through real-time facility monitoring and predictive maintenance. The American technology and industrial company announced the deployment on 26 October 2026, marking a significant step in the application of AI-driven operations management at one of Africa's largest refining assets. A subsequent report by Energies Media on 3 November 2026 confirmed the deployment details, lending additional visibility to what is shaping up as a landmark digital infrastructure project in African downstream energy.

The platform combines Nvidia AI models to create a real-time digital representation of refinery facilities, commonly referred to as a digital twin. By continuously mirroring physical plant conditions in a virtual environment, the system is designed to anticipate mechanical breakdowns and operational inefficiencies before they escalate into costly unplanned shutdowns or production losses. The integration of Nvidia's modelling capabilities with Honeywell's industrial software stack underpins the solution's predictive analytics functions.

The Dangote Petroleum Refinery, located in Lagos State, is among the largest single-train refineries in the world by designed throughput. Its scale means that even marginal improvements in uptime and process efficiency can translate into substantial financial gains, which explains the USD 60 million annual savings figure that Honeywell has projected for the deployment. Operational reliability at a facility of this complexity depends on the ability to detect subtle deviations in equipment

performance across thousands of data points simultaneously — a task that conventional monitoring approaches struggle to handle at speed and scale.

The deployment reflects a broader trend across African downstream energy infrastructure, where operators are increasingly turning to digital and AI-driven tools to close the efficiency gap with global refining benchmarks. For the Dangote refinery, which has been ramping up production capacity since its commissioning, reducing unplanned downtime and optimising throughput are commercial priorities that directly affect its ability to displace petroleum product imports into Nigeria and broader West African markets. The growing media coverage of this deployment across specialist energy outlets suggests that outcomes at Dangote are being closely watched as a reference case for AI adoption at large-scale African refining assets.

Honeywell's move signals growing commercial interest from global technology companies in Africa's downstream sector as large-scale refining capacity comes online. The pairing of industrial AI platforms with major refinery assets in the region is likely to generate further procurement activity around digital infrastructure, process control upgrades, and systems integration services as operators seek to replicate or improve on outcomes demonstrated at flagship sites such as Dangote.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This remains a downstream digitalization deployment rather than an upstream project, limiting immediate relevance for Norwegian companies focused on subsea, drilling, or FPSO segments. However, the growing media profile of the Dangote deployment reinforces its role as a bellwether for African refinery digitalisation, and Norwegian companies with industrial digitalization or operations technology expertise should treat it as an early signal of a maturing procurement pipeline. Proactive engagement with Dangote's operational and procurement teams remains advisable, particularly for firms that can translate offshore digital-twin experience into onshore refinery applications.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Industrial digitalization / OT software providers:** The Dangote deployment validates commercial appetite for AI-driven process monitoring at African refineries;

positioning alongside or complementary to Honeywell's platform for future expansions or adjacent facilities could open doors.

- **Systems integrators:** Large-scale AI platform rollouts require significant systems integration work; companies with refinery OT/IT integration experience can target the Dangote buildout and operators looking to replicate the model elsewhere in West Africa.
- **Subsea / offshore digital-twin specialists:** Norwegian companies with established digital-twin methodologies from offshore assets have transferable expertise; framing onshore refinery applications as an extension of proven offshore capabilities could differentiate in this emerging market.

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