

# What's Emerging?

The latest news and information ...

We help you think about the future so you can act today ...

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## End-July 2017

### Welcome to the end of July 2017 Edition of What's Emerging

Paul is continuing to write his book on the future of driverless cars with Dr Chris Rice. They have reached 130 pages and now are preparing some detailed modelling on likely technology adoption timeframes for connected, autonomous, electric cars. Paul is also preparing an executive retreat workshop for a media group, working with a health group on strategy, and preparing for a future of tourism leadership program. We are also in the middle of preparation with a European company to bring a new software based foresight tool to Australia. The system is still in Beta and will be trialled with some clients before a wider release. If you are interested in registering for a webinar look at the tool in late August/early September please email us at [info@emergentfutures.com](mailto:info@emergentfutures.com).

We hope that you continue to find the newsletter interesting.

Cheers,

Paul Higgins, Sandy Teagle, Ranjitha and Samantha Kyle-Little

### ■ What are we writing about?

Paul's has written two new bog posts: [Electric Cars and the Legacy Issue](#) on the timeframes for widespread adoption of electric cars given how long the car fleet stays around, and [What Jobs Will Stay?](#) On the sort of jobs that will not be automated anytime soon.

### ■ Business Tips

The Best Ways to Set Goals and (Actually) Get Results From Them

Simple but true [Read More...](#)

A scalable agency business that can make \$50k plus per month.

A simple model with some automated tools – worth a look to think about your business  
[Read More...](#)

How To Build And Launch A Chatbot Over The Weekend

Most of us are probably not going to do this but it makes an interesting read and some of the tools are applicable to other quick prototypes. [Read More...](#)

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## ■ In case you missed it: Most popular links from the Last Edition

### [Renewable energy is becoming so cheap the US will meet Paris commitments even if Trump withdraws](#)

## ■ What's Emerging

Caltrans has begun modifying California roads for self-driving cars

The director of Caltrans said the state's highway management system has already begun modifying roadways to accommodate the way self-driving cars navigate. Lots of movement in this space, trials, open sourcing of technology, and government investment support.

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Indigenous rock shelter in Top End pushes Australia's human history back to 65,000 years

New excavations of a rock shelter near Kakadu National Park indicate humans reached Australia at least 65,000 years ago — up to 18,000 years earlier than archaeologists previously thought.

[Read More...](#)

Gamers promised better graphics thanks to nano technology breakthrough

Gamers frustrated by sluggish graphics could welcome new nano technology from the Australian National University (ANU) that promises ultra-fast rendering on gaming consoles. Just what we needed, more teenagers buried in their games! [Read More...](#)

Satellite snafu masked true sea-level rise for decades

Revised tallies confirm that the rate of sea-level rise is accelerating as the Earth warms and ice sheets thaw. [Read More...](#)

D-ID's tech protects your privacy by confounding face recognition algorithms

Unless you literally wear a mask all the time, it is almost impossible to completely avoid cameras and face recognition technology. Not only is this a privacy concern, but it also presents a potential liability for companies that need to protect personal data. [Read More...](#)

Battery breakthroughs? Here's how your devices could be powered in the future

You may have read headlines over the years shouting about batteries that can make your mobile phone last for weeks and charge in seconds. Battery breakthroughs — they're coming, we're told. This is important for the electricity grid, and the future of electric cars. Even if Lithium-ion batteries remain the go to technology for cars, the creation of cheaper static storage will reduce the re-sale value of the battery packs from electric cars once they no longer have the capacity to supply sufficient travel range. [Read More...](#)

Cloud-based smart mailbox eliminates waiting for deliveries

Waiting at home all day for a delivery to arrive is a common annoyance, but Estonia-based Cleveron's new smart mailbox, SnapLocker, means it could be a thing of the past. The cloud-based mailbox, which claims to be the first of its kind, provides tenants living in LAEV's smart house with a key-free solution for their letters and parcels. We either have to innovate at the delivery level, or the storage and pick up level. [Read More...](#)

Robots Are Replacing Workers Where You Shop

Wal-Mart and other large retailers, under pressure from Amazon, turn to technology to do workers' rote tasks. This is also happening at the warehouse level, where previously humans could beat robots. [Read More...](#)

Sea level fears as Greenland darkens

Scientists are "very worried" that the melting of the Greenland ice sheet could accelerate and raise sea levels more than expected. [Read More...](#)

## Does the opening predict a wave?

Congressional candidates filed their six-month financial reports with the Federal Election Commission (FEC) on July 15. There is a huge wave of Democrat nominations, way higher than in any previous cycle. This could be the turning point in USA politics and the Trump world.

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## Tomorrow's mini medical robots could squirm like maggots

Conventional Pharmaceuticals Aren't always the best way to treat an ailment. Drugs are often imprecise, unpredictable, or come along with tricky side effects. Enter the maggot robots. Sounds too creep for people to get used to, but if they could get used to maggots.....

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## Nexar releases 55K street pics from 80 countries to spur autonomous driving

Nexar has released a dataset that it says is the world's largest photo set featuring geographically diverse images for automotive tech development, for an open competition. More good news for innovation in the driverless car world [Read More...](#)

## Convoy raises \$62M from Bill Gates and other luminaries to transform trucking industry with technology

It's a warm summer afternoon at the TA Seattle East truck stop in North Bend, Wash., and Jerry Brooks is waiting for business. A couple of others have poured a lot of money into this space with very poor results. Hopefully this will change things [Read More...](#)

## Wearable patch analyses athletes' sweat

If you are an athlete, you probably already use a monitor to track your heart rate, or maybe use a wearable to count your steps or measure your hydration levels. This ups it to a new level. [Read More...](#)

## Crypto-tulips

Are the cryptocurrencies experiencing a classic bubble – as shown by historical data?

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