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## End August 2013

### Welcome to the End of August Edition of What's Emerging

In Australia it looks like spring has really sprung right on the calendar time with forecast temperatures here in Melbourne in the mid-twenties over the next week. With questions of climate change and the uncertainty most of us feel hanging over us this might be a good time to start thinking about the future and what change we should be embracing. We hope the newsletter plays a part in helping you do that.

In next two weeks Paul will be running a senior management future challenge session for a retail and services company, presenting on the future of agriculture for wheat growers in Western Australia, and working with a collaboration group on ways to experiment more with strategy in complex futures. If any of these interests you please contact Paul at [paul@emergentfutures.com](mailto:paul@emergentfutures.com).

After that Paul will be travelling to the US to meet with some of our international network, attend the [Business Innovation Factory Conference](#), [The Work Revolution Summit](#), and the [Mashable Social Good Summit](#). Paul will be writing on these events as he travels and if any of you want to discuss ideas from them then please contact us.

We hope that you continue to find the newsletter interesting and useful.

Cheers,

Paul Higgins, Sandy Teagle, Kim Stewart, Smitha K, Syed Muqthar, and Samantha Kyle-Little

### What are we writing about?

Due to holidays and the current busy work schedule we have nothing in his section for this newsletter.

### Business Tips

Draft is a small and simple co-editor

[Draft](#) is a small and simple co-editing application that is based on markdown text editing and that incorporates a very cool side-by-side comparison of different drafts of documents shared among editors. [Read More...](#)

Best Android tablets (August 2013 edition)

And if you're looking for budget Android tablets, there are two here you might be interested in. [Read More...](#)

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## What's Emerging

### Spreading Literacy, Spreading Internet

Literacy has always been about more than just the ability to read. [Read More...](#)

### Ecuador's president abandons no-drilling plan

President Rafael Correa said Thursday that he has abandoned a unique and ambitious plan to persuade rich countries to pay Ecuador not to drill for oil in a pristine Amazon rainforest preserve. [Read More...](#)

### The Ethics of Saving Lives with Autonomous Cars are far Murkier than you think

If you don't listen to Google's robot car, it will yell at you. I'm not kidding: I learned that on my test-drive at a Stanford conference on vehicle automation a couple weeks ago. [Read More...](#)

### White House Had Advance Notice on Heathrow Detention

The White House was given advance notice of the British government's plans to detain the partner of the Guardian reporter who has written a series of high-profile stories about U.S. surveillance practices. [Read More...](#)

### A Tiny iPhone Photography Studio built into a Moleskine Notebook

Barcelona design studio Honest & Smile teamed up with Moleskine to create a truly one of a kind iPhone gadget. It's a notebook that doubles as a recording stand for your phone. [Read More...](#)

### Climate change denial organizations funded in secret by wealthy conservatives

Wealthy conservatives are funding climate change denial organizations, often more than a \$1 million at a time, to try to keep the United States government from cracking down on business like oil companies. But the identities of these donors remain unknown. [Read More...](#)

### Kinect app that turns any surface into a touch screen now available starts at \$149

With several companies developing technologies that can turn any surface into a touchscreen, it should be widely available soon. [Read More...](#)

### Why there are Ice Ages Every 100,000 Years? Mile High Ice Sheets Hold Answers

Science struggled to explain fully why an ice age occurs every 100,000 years. As researchers now demonstrate based on a computer simulation, not only do variations in insolation play a key role, but also the mutual influence of glaciated continents and climate. [Read More...](#)

### The Internet Police: How Crime Went Online, and the Cops Followed

The Internet Police: How Crime Went Online, and the Cops Followed, is a brisk, eminently readable, and important history of the relationship between law, law enforcement, and the net, and as you'd expect, it's excellent. [Read More...](#)

### There's a tiny coach in your basketball

A small gyroscopic sensor detects backspin and emits a whistle when the ball is shot correctly, allowing players to make corrections as they play. [Read More...](#)

### Easy Credit Dries Up, Choking Growth in China

As the Chinese economy boomed, few cities soared faster or higher than Shenmu, a community of nearly 500,000 in northwestern China. [Read More...](#)

### Best Buy: Can stores be asset vs. Amazon?

The first part of Best Buy's store plan revolves around improving the customer experience and price analytics. The second part uses stores as an online fulfillment center. [Read More...](#)

### Four ways that 'smart' councils are using technology to regenerate areas

From energy self-sufficiency to open data collaboration: meet the ambitious local authorities in UK pioneering digital innovation. [Read More...](#)

## KAIST Unveils Foldable Micro Electric Car, Armadillo-T

The small and light electric car completely folds in half when parking, making it a perfect fit for public or private transportation in an urban environment. [Read More...](#)

## Uruguay forces businesses to reveal tax payments via QR codes

The Uruguay Tres Milliones scheme makes it mandatory for high street stores and restaurants to place QR code stickers on their premises, detailing information about how they pay tax..

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