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Welcome to the end of August Edition of What's Emerging

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In September Paul will be travelling to Hong Kong and the USA to attend the Business Innovation Factory's 10th conference and present to the Las Vegas Community Catalyst event. He will be blogging at www.futuristpaul.com about the trip. On his return he will be presenting at the Queensland Nurse leader Conference on the future of medicine, working with State Trustees on their future strategy, working with the Bendigo Community Bank on the future of their network, and presenting on the future of retail to a private investment group. If any of these approaches interest you then please contact us at info@emergentfutures.com.

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

Cheers,

Paul Higgins, Sandy Teagle, Prafulla, Syed Muqthar, and Samantha Kyle-Little

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What are we writing about?

Paul's presentation to the NFF Blueprint for Agriculture Forum on the future of networks in the whole agriculture supply chain is now up on our website. You can access it by going to www.emergentfutures.com and looking under latest downloads on the home page. As always our presentations are designed to be an experience for the audience rather than asset of detailed notes. If you are interested in an online run through of any of our presentations then please contact us at info@emergentfutures.com. This is also a service that we offer clients during the presentation preparation phase for conference and workshops to fine tune our focus on the audience and the client requirements.

Business Tips

5 Essential Add-Ons That Will Make Your Gmail Great

If you could add just one improvement to Gmail, what would it be? Chances are there's an add-on, extension or plug-in that does exactly what you want—. [Read More...](#)

USB Condom: charge your devices without allowing sneaky data-transfers

Those public USB charging points are tempting, but could be used to propagate all kind of grotesque malware (imagine what happens when your phone's camera, mic, storage, keyboard and GPS start leaking your data to voyeurs and identity thieves) -- sure, you can always buy a charge-only cable, but these crowdfunded adapters turn any cable into a power-only source. [Read More...](#)

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What's Emerging?

Mobile devices get green light for use on Qantas and Virgin flights

Qantas and Virgin customers will now be able to use their mobile phones on domestic and international flights. Applies to tablets as well. [Read More...](#)

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

[22 Pictures That Prove We're Living In The Damn Future](#)

The future is now, y'all.

■ What's Emerging

3D printed bump keys make short work of high-security locks

High-end locks rely on their unique key-shapes to prevent "bumping" (opening a lock by inserting a key-blank and hitting it with a hammer, causing the pins to fly up), but you can make a template for a bump key by photographing the keyhole and modelling it in software. [Read More...](#)

This chart shows the stunning disappearance of middle-class jobs — everywhere

You are not imagining it. The above chart is from "Polanyi's Paradox and the Shape of Employment Growth," a new paper (my analysis to come) by David Autor at the Federal Reserve's Jackson Hole conference. And here is how Autor defines, high-, middle-, and low-wage jobs: [Read More...](#)

Red Hook's Cutting-Edge Wireless Network

Robert Smith, a 19-year-old in a gray T-shirt and camouflage pants, climbed the stairwell of the Joseph Miccio Community Center in Red Hook, scaled a ladder at the top floor and jumped onto the roof. He soon found what he was looking for: [Read More...](#)

Nobel guru fears it may be nigh impossible to stop deflation

A quick word from Lindau, where half the world's Nobel economists are gathered on a beautiful island with cobbled streets on Lake Constance, looking out across the Alps. It is a Wittlesbach jewel. [Read More...](#)

The Chairless Chair, an invisible chair that you can wear

It's like a chair that isn't there, but magically appears whenever you need it. It's called the Chairless Chair and you wear it on your legs like an exoskeleton: when it's not activated, you can walk normally or even run. And then, at the touch of a button, it locks into place and you can sit down on it. Like a chair that is now there. [Read More...](#)

Hedge funds gave Mugabe \$100M for genocide, got platinum mines in return

Zimbabwe's dictator Robert Mugabe unleashed a storm of brutal, genocidal violence after losing the 2008 elections -- and now we know that it was funded by western hedge-funds and banks, led by Och-Ziff Capital Management, the largest publicly traded fund, with assistance from Blackrock, GLG Partners, and Credit Suisse, who raised \$100M for Mugabe's weapons and torture-chambers in exchange for a sweetheart deal on the country's platinum mines. [Read More...](#)

\$35 electrochemical analyzer

Aaron writes, "The good folks of the George Whitesides Laboratory have been dedicated to making cheap medical tests and analytical gadgets for quite some time. Now, they've really outdone themselves with this beautiful \$35 electrochemical analyzer that can do everything from glucose tests to environmental analysis." [Read More...](#)

Nutella Prices Expected to Rise Due to Bad Weather for Hazelnut Crop (Video)

The next time you go to grocery store to pick up some Nutella, you will probably have to pay more at the checkout counter. A global shortage of hazelnuts could potentially drive up the cost. [Read More...](#)

What's Emerging?

These Georgia Teens Created a Yelp to Rate the Police

Like everyone else in America, Ima Christian has been nervously watching the news unfold in Ferguson, Missouri. The 16-year-old resident of Stone Mountain, Georgia, says that she and her siblings have been in constant conversation with their parents about the recent deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner (who died last month in Staten Island) at the hands of police.

[Read More...](#)

Researchers find it's terrifyingly easy to hack traffic lights

Taking over a city's intersections and making all the lights green to cause chaos is a pretty bog-standard Evil Techno Bad Guy tactic on TV and in movies, but according to a research team at the University of Michigan, doing it in real life is within the realm of anyone with a laptop and the right kind of radio. In a paper published this month, the researchers describe how they very simply and very quickly seized control of an entire system of almost 100 intersections in an unnamed Michigan city from a single ingress point. [Read More...](#)

GPS is Tracking West's Vanishing Water, Scientists Surprised to Learn

Throughout the western United States, a network of Global Positioning System (GPS) stations has been monitoring tiny movements in the Earth's crust, collecting data that can warn of developing earthquakes. [Read More...](#)

A Gene That Makes You Need Less Sleep?

Since June, 1957, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has been monitoring America's health habits, tabulating things like whether we smoke, drink, or sit around all day, and how many of us visit our doctors regularly and take our medications at the prescribed times. Until recently, though, one aspect of our behavior largely escaped note: the amount of time we spend sleeping. And so, in 2009, the C.D.C. decided to add a sleep dimension to its survey. [Read More...](#)

FDA Approves First 3D Printed Facial Implants

Oxford Performance Materials (OPM) has long been a leader in the area of 3D printing and high performance additive manufacturing. Their accomplishments include the development of a number of advanced materials technologies centered on poly-ether-ketone-ketone (PEKK), a high performance polymer used to deliver functional products to aerospace, industrial, and biomedical markets. In February, OPM became the first company to receive FDA clearance for the manufacturing of patient-specific 3D printed polymeric implants for a line of cranial prosthesis. [Read More...](#)

Larry Lessig and EFF sue music licensing company over bogus YouTube copyright claims

When Larry Lessig used a clip from "Lisztomania" by the French band Phoenix in a lecture, he was pretty sure that it was fair use -- after all, he's written several books on copyright and teaches at Harvard Law. But Liberation Music, who claim the license to the song, had the video of Lessig's lecture removed from YouTube several times, and threatened Lessig with a lawsuit for sending counter-claims asserting that he was in the right. [Read More...](#)

How a Renewable Energy Project in Denmark Created a Balance of Power

Making the transition from worldwide dependence on fossil fuel to greater use of renewable energy is challenged by the intermittent nature of renewable resources: The wind isn't always blowing; the sun isn't always shining. To facilitate the integration of clean energy sources, countries and cities are seeking better ways to store and distribute electricity. Essential in this effort is getting people to adapt their consumption behavior rather than expecting central generation plants to bear complete responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Read how a smart-grid project in Denmark is putting power back into the hands of the community. [Read More...](#)

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