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## End June 2014

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

Welcome to the end of June edition.

Here in Australia it is the end of the financial year and we are in a bit of a lull as usual while everyone runs around madly finishing of end of year stuff. Then we hot up again in July. In the next few weeks Paul will present three keynotes on the future of council services, present a keynote on the future for disability services beyond the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme, present at Servcorp on the disruptive effects of technology on business, and work with a major financial institution on their foresight processes, and finalise the strategy of a medium size not for profit organisation. If any of these approaches interest you then please contact us at [info@emergentfutures.com](mailto:info@emergentfutures.com). Paul is also a partner with Social Venture Partners Melbourne who are now in the final stages of assessing applications for their first ever round of funding from not for profit organisations. Paul is the lead partner on the full assessment of one of the final two candidates. Social Venture Partners is a global organisation taking some of the principles of venture capital startup funding to the not for profit sector. Partners commit their own money and become engaged with the not for profit over 3 years based on skills matching. If you are interested in any more details you can see the website at <http://www.socialventurepartners.org/melbourne/> and if you think you know an organisation that might be eligible for funding in the next round please contact Paul at [paul@emergentfutures.com](mailto:paul@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 has written the next instalment of his series on major disruptors – you can read it at [www.futuristpaul.com](http://www.futuristpaul.com).

### ■ Business Tips

Nine habits leaders need to break

“Keep learning” is the mantra of modern management. You have to keep up with the constant stream of new information, new technology, new paradigms – new everything. But sometimes one of the keys to progress is “unlearning.” Dumping old skills and habits is often more valuable than learning new ones. [Read More...](#)

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## What's Emerging?

### Visualization and Data Mining Software

A good list of resources. [Read More...](#)

### 5 great apps that let you make free online phone calls

Applications that can be downloaded to your phone, or tablet, allow you to make free calls by using Wi-Fi hotspots or the Internet.

Here are five worth a look: [Read More...](#)

### WHY YOU SHOULD KEEP A JOURNAL AT WORK

According to a recent working paper from Harvard Business School, setting aside 15 minutes to reflect at the end of the workday can boost your performance and impact your career success.

[Read More...](#)

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

### [7 Things Happy People Choose to Do Every Day](#)

Science shows that you can have an impact on only 12 percent of the things that determine whether you're happy. The happiest people among us understand that if you make the right choices, that small sliver is enough.

## ■ What's Emerging

### This Band of Small Robots Could Build Entire Skyscrapers Without Human Help

Even though most buildings are designed using the latest digital tools, actual construction is stuck in the past; building is messy, slow, and inefficient. 3-D printing might change that, but recent projects like these printed houses in China demonstrate one of the technical challenges--the equipment itself has to be gigantic, because it can't work unless it's bigger than the building itself. [Read More...](#)

### What America's changing bread preferences say about its politics

Once upon a time, Americans spent more money on white bread than wheat. Actually, that was only five years ago. [Read More...](#)

### A Slick Concept for a Wristband That Manages Your Money

Our smartphones seem poised to make our wallets obsolete, thanks to a raft of payment apps—PayPal, LevelUp, Venmo, Google Wallet, notably—and interest from traditional banking companies like American Express. But are any of these the best solution to be had? [Read More...](#)

### Here's What It's Like to Go for a Ride in Google's Robot Car

The Google self-driving car has come a long way. On a demo excursion through Google's Mountain View campus and surrounding neighborhoods today, the white Lexus self-driving test vehicle I rode in was much less of a conservative driver than I anticipated. [Read More...](#)

### 21 charts that explain how the US is changing

The US is a big, complicated place that has undergone some big changes over its 238 years, and even in the last few decades. Here are 21 charts that explain what life is like today in the US — who we are, where we live, how we work, how we have fun, and how we relate to each other. [Read More...](#)

### 5 Applications For Graphene, The 'Wonder Material,' That Could Change The Way We Live

The "super material" isn't ready yet, but it's going to make future technologies so awesome. [Read More...](#)

### Why you really want India to join the US and China as a superpower

Iraq joined Syria in civil war and Ukraine's crisis persisted this week. And yet let me argue that this week's most important geopolitical news is the economic program of India's new prime minister, Narendra Modi. [Read More...](#)

## What's Emerging?

### Researchers 3D Print Electrically Conductive Strain Sensors

It is amazing how quickly 3D printing technology has been advancing. The advancements we have seen from the time Chuck Hull invented the process of stereolithography in 1983 until the early 2000's, pales in comparison to the progress we have seen in just the last few years. When Chuck Hull invented 3D printing, I'm sure he had no clue that today we'd be printing out sensors and other electronic devices, but that's where exponential progress has taken us. [Read More...](#)

### Americans' Confidence in Congress Falls to Lowest on Record

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Americans' confidence in Congress as an institution is down to 10%, ranking the legislative body last on a list of 16 societal institutions for the fourth straight year. This is the lowest level of confidence Gallup has found, not only for Congress, but for any institution on record. Americans remain most confident in the military, at 76%. [Read More...](#)

### Food Startups Are Riding A VC Gravy Train

Investments in food-related startups, from delivery services to new restaurant chains to new types of foods and additives, have raised unprecedented amounts of cash in the most recent quarter, as investors dug in to the food business. [Read More...](#)

### Minority Report Eye Scan On The Way

The eye is more than the window into the soul, it's also the best identity card you can carry. A good photo of the colored part around the pupil called the iris contains so many unique features that researchers say it can tell who you are with an accuracy of about one in a billion people. [Read More...](#)

### Real Business Leaders Want to Save Capitalism

A few weeks ago I was visited in my office by the chairman of one of the country's biggest high-tech firms who wanted to talk about the causes and consequences of widening inequality and the shrinking middle class, and what to do about it. [Read More...](#)

### Robot doctors, online lawyers and automated architects: the future of the professions?

Advances in technology have long been recognised as a threat to manual labour. Now highly skilled, knowledge-based jobs that were once regarded as safe could be at risk. How will they adapt to the digital age? [Read More...](#)

### Blood Pressure Control By Disney: Football Tracking Might Eradicate Bad Calls

We've still got a whole summer to navigate before football season is upon us again, but some gameplay technology news might get you tossing around the pigskin this weekend. [Read More...](#)

### Holiday discounts offered to travellers with a large number of social media followers

Offering deals to social network users with a large number of followers is based on the logic that the cost of the discount will hopefully be outweighed by the subsequent exposure and publicity. We've already seen the model employed by fashion brand Volga Verdi, and now Hotelied is looking to apply the same thought process to the travel industry. [Read More...](#)

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