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## Mid May 2014

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

Welcome to the End of May edition.

As discussed in the last newsletter we were hoping that the Federal budget here in Australia might have been the start of a real debate about the future and values of the country. Unfortunately it has mostly descended into carping and mudslinging. In Europe there are very interesting developments with Marine Le Pen's Front National party winning 25.41% of the vote in the European elections and the UKIP party in the UK being the first party in 100 years to get more votes than Labour or the Conservatives in a nationwide election in the same European poll with 27.5% of the vote. It is possible that this signals a real swing away from Europe as a unified region and a significant swing to the right in European politics. Given the issues with unemployment and austerity measures this is not that surprising. One of our concerns is that ongoing disruption of employment by technology innovation plus economic uncertainty may fuel ongoing tensions in Europe which then feedback on themselves. Certainly an area to keep on the radar.

We hope that you continue to find the 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 was interviewed by Intel as part of the 2nd Birthday celebrations for their IQ publishing platform. By necessity the content was edited down so you can see the full set of answers along with links for the two articles at <http://futuristpaul.com/2014/05/24/the-iq-zeitgeist-futurists-forecast-the-world-of-tomorrow/> . Paul was also cited in Forbes magazine by Thomas Baekdal as one of the key people to follow on future trends. You can read the article which describes Thomas' reading and learning habits at <http://www.forbes.com/sites/kaviguppta/2014/04/29/how-im-informed-with-thomas-baekdal-founder-of-baekdal-media/>

### Business Tips

#### Stanford study finds walking improves creativity

Steve Jobs, the late co-founder of Apple, was known for his walking meetings. Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg has also been seen holding meetings on foot. And perhaps you've paced back and forth on occasion to drum up ideas. A new study by Stanford researchers provides an explanation for this. [Read More...](#)

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# What's Emerging?

## MIN / MAX NOTE TAKING FOR CONFERENCES

Great methodology and explanation to get the most out of being at conference presentations. [Read More...](#)

## Tackle Any Problem With These 3 Questions

WARREN BERGER, AUTHOR OF A MORE BEAUTIFUL QUESTION, COLLECTED THE PROVOCATIVE QUESTIONS TOP DESIGNERS, TECH INNOVATORS, AND ENTREPRENEURS ASK THEMSELVES TO SPARK CREATIVITY. [Read More...](#)

## 5 comprehensive dataviz catalogues for journalists & designers

These five data visualization catalogues feature and categorize the best projects out there. [Read More...](#)

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

### [8 Ways Neuroscience Can Improve Your Presentations](#)

Here are eight rules, based upon conversations with Stephen M. Kosslyn, former chair of the psychology department at Harvard University, and what he knows about the brain.

## What's Emerging

### California approves self-driving cars by 2015

If California rules regarding autonomous cars are any indication, they could be on the streets as early as 2015. [Read More...](#)

### Budget pain? Not for millionaires who pay no tax

"Pain all round" will be the rallying cry of the night. Joe Hockey says his first budget - tonight - will hit everyone from high earners to politicians to Australians too poor to pay to see the doctor. All of us will have to "contribute budget repair". [Read More...](#)

### Is Climate Change Real? The Pentagon Sure Thinks So

U.S. military and intelligence agencies are increasingly monitoring and preparing for how, when and where the consequences of a warmer planet will collide with national security, requiring the eventual need to deploy American troops to weather-torn lands. [Read More...](#)

### Killer apps, literally: Wearable and smartphone tech on the battlefield

The US military has been experimenting with heads-up data displays for years, but now the services are looking to cheaper alternatives to custom-built systems in the consumer electronics realm. In the not-too-distant future, when an Army squad leader wants to know what's up ahead, he or she may reach for a smartphone or a Google Glass device instead of binoculars. [Read More...](#)

### Melbourne's population set to almost double to 7.7 million by 2051

Melbourne's population is expected to almost double to 7.7 million by 2051, as latest figures show that interstate migration is on the rise. [Read More...](#)

### Citizen Powered Neuroscience with Project EyeWire – Using Your Neurons to Map the Brain!

If you're wondering about how different from (or similar to) me you are, then it's probably because of the way the neurons in your brain connect to each other. [Read More...](#)

### Consumers to be big winners in solar/storage revolution

Last week we wrote that some utilities in Australia – particularly those in regional areas – accepted that the future would bring big changes to the way energy was produced and delivered, and that communities would use local renewable energy sources and storage to look after their own needs. [Read More...](#)

## What's Emerging?

### Fleets of Sailing Robots to Help Research & Protect the Oceans

Imagine fleets of small boats cruising around the ocean, monitoring levels of plastic, oil and radioactivity, and eventually helping to clean up the ocean, and all completely unmanned. That may not be as far from reality as one might think. Scoutbots, a company that develops and builds open hardware technologies for environmental stewardship, recently began selling the first commercial prototype of its radio-controlled sailing robot, the Protei 011 "Optimist." It is kind of like a seafaring drone. [Read More...](#)

### Biodegradable Plastic Made from Natural Polymer

During his three decades with Virginia Tech's College of Natural Resources and Environment, Glasser worked with many students as they advanced the field of natural polymers. But the most recent breakthroughs came in partnership with two University of Arkansas MBA graduates. [Read More...](#)

### World's smallest nanomotor can pump drugs into cells at 18,000 RPM

Scientists at the Cockrell School of Engineering in Texas have created a nanomotor less than one micrometer in diameter, smaller even than a cell. [Read More...](#)

### The Democratic Party's Future Is Awash in Dark Money

Looking for the fight over the heart and soul of the Democratic Party in the waning days of the Obama administration? Next Tuesday morning, take the elevator to the eighth floor of a downtown Washington, DC, building and step into the offices of America's Natural Gas Alliance (ANGA), the premier lobbying group for some of the largest fracking companies in the world. [Read More...](#)

### Drone speeds up wheat selection

It would be hard to miss the large helium-filled tethered balloon, floating above the wheat fields in Mexico's Yaqui Valley, near Obregon. [Read More...](#)

### World's First Self-Replicating 3D Printer Assembles in Just 30 Minutes

If you're thinking of buying a 3D printer, why not get one that can replicate itself? Boots Industries' new BI V2.0 3D printer can produce parts of a clone that can be assembled in a mere 30 minutes. You can 3D print and improve upon and share components without having to go through such tricky steps as stringing the pulleys or wiring the towers. [Read More...](#)

### The Stunning Result in India's Elections

No country is more besotted with politics than India, and for good reason: the architecture of a system designed to give three-quarters of a billion people a free and fair vote can't help but be fascinating. Each Indian general election is the "world's biggest," and each one feels primal and vital, as if the electioneering itself were the stuff of nationhood. [Read More...](#)

### Take A Look At The First Keyboard For Google Glass In This Twee-Tastic Video

Now that Google is allowing anyone with a cool \$1,500 lying around to score themselves a pair of Glass, you'll probably start seeing a lot more tech geeks wearing headsets in public talking to themselves. Our hands-free, hyper-tethered future is well on its way! So if voice command interfacing is the wave of the future, what good is something seemingly as reductive as an input keyboard? [Read More...](#)

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