

# 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 October 2013

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

Paul is just back at the end of 10 weeks solid travel and work all over Australia and the United States and is looking forward to being around more and getting down to some serious writing over the next couple of months. If you are interested in his blog stuff you can see it at [www.futuristpaul.com](http://www.futuristpaul.com).

In the next few weeks Paul will be running a strategic thinking and future thinking session for 3 combined statutory boards, finalising a strategic plan for medium sized agribusiness, running a foresight session for a retail services company, working with the leadership team of a listed public company on foresight, and finalising the strategic plan of a medium sized not for profit company in the disability sector. If any of these approaches interest you then please contact us at [info@emergentfutures.com](mailto:info@emergentfutures.com).

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

Cheers,

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

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### What are we writing about?

Paul's presentations from the Mid North Community Options Conference, and his presentation to the Governance Institute of Western are now up on our website. Go to the [home page](#) and look under latest downloads.

An article on Paul's presentation to the Nexus Youth Philanthropy Summit can be found at: <http://www.probonoaustralia.com.au/news/2013/10/more-risks-key-future-philanthropy#>. This was broadcast on Foxtel and we hope to have the video soon.

### Business Tips

#### Three tips for overcoming your Blind Spots

We all have such blind spots, and they are weaknesses we should combat. Even that idea is unfashionable in an era when we are urged to focus on polishing strengths. [Read More...](#)

#### 14 Google Tools you didn't know existed

Now that you've written your eulogies for Google Reader, it's a good time to remember that Google has an abundance of other resources that may not be as popular but still deserve a spotlight. [Read More...](#)

#### The Big Lesson from Twelve Good Decisions

How is it that managers facing high-stakes decisions, despite all the resources and knowledge available to them, often make them so poorly? In large part, it's because their whole perspective on decision-making is wrong. [Read More...](#)

## Do you know how to use this Classic Tool? Industry Cost Curves

Some tools and concepts are must-haves in the tool kit of any performance improvement professional. The industry cost curve is one of them. [Read More...](#)

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

### [50 Competitive Intelligence Analysis Techniques](#)

Analysis is often where the ball drops as far as competitive intelligence analysts are concerned. Yet this is the only way the team can truly extract insights from the data and the intelligence gathered, and have a chance to play a role in the company's strategic planning process. You will find below 50 analysis techniques you should master. This is not a complete list, and it should be adapted depending on the strategic needs of your company, as well as the nature of your business.

### [The 5 Common Characteristics of Ideas That Spread](#)

Your success as a creative depends not only on coming up with great ideas and making them happen, but also with getting those ideas adopted by your target audience. Whether it's the buying public, an art dealer, or just your direct supervisor, getting your work off of your hard drive and into the world is perhaps the most important (and scariest) part of creative work.

### [How these 11 Products made us NEED them](#)

Here is my list of the top eleven triumphs of demand generation, the tactics used, and the psychology of why consumers fell for it.

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## ■ What's Emerging

### James Dyson Award 2013 finalists

James Dyson will announce the winner of the international student design award that carries his name in a little over a week, so it's an opportune time to take a closer look at the finalists.

[Read More...](#)

### 4 Upcoming Technologies to Disrupt the Next Decade

If we compare old technology products with new devices, we can notice that the technology has evolved at a bewildering speed. [Read More...](#)

### Kickstarter in Australia & New Zealand

We're hosting a bunch of events in Australia and New Zealand in the coming weeks! Thinking about launching a project, here's everything you need to know about launching a project in Australia and New Zealand... [Read More...](#)

### "All bets are off for Brazil's future", says Porritt

Social unrest and greater scrutiny of former President Lula's legacy mean all bets are off as far as the future of Brazil is concerned, says Jonathon Porritt, Founder-Director of Forum for the Future. [Read More...](#)

### Future Home Nutrimea

Nutrimea calculates the nutritional values, possible toxins and freshness of your food. The appliance is foldable, easy to bring along and supported by an app mapping your experiences giving tips of resellers with high quality ingredients. [Read More...](#)

### The Science of Cities: Is Urbanization Sustainable ?

"Rapid urbanization is the fastest, most intense social phenomenon that ever happened to humankind, perhaps to biology on Earth. I think we can now start to understand in new and better ways why this is happening everywhere and ultimately what it means for our species and for our planet." [Read More...](#)

### Record-Breaking Early Flowering in the Eastern United States

Flowering times are well-documented indicators of the ecological effects of climate change and are linked to numerous ecosystem processes and trophic interactions. [Read More...](#)

## 8 Indisputable Reasons Why We Don't Need Offices

Looking back a decade or so ago it was absolutely essential to have an office, or more likely, a cubicle. That's where we had meetings, saw our coworkers, and just got work done. But today do we really need corporate offices? [Read More...](#)

## Report: Overwhelming Risk: Rethinking Flood Insurance in a World of Rising Seas

Science Group Calls for Reforms to Flood and Wind Insurance Programs to Help Reduce Risk and Taxpayer Costs. [Read More...](#)

## Journey into the near future of mobile payments

The ongoing debate over the perceived success or failure of particular mobile payment initiatives like Google Wallet or Isis can be lively — to the extreme. [Read More...](#)

## Transcript: Warren Buffett at Fortune MPW

Fortune's Carol Loomis joined her old friend Warren Buffett, CEO of Berkshire Hathaway, on stage at Fortune's Most Powerful Women Summit. [Read More...](#)

## The threat of Artificial Intelligence

Is artificial intelligence a threat to humanity? Gary Marcus on an argument for why we should be at least a little worried. [Read More...](#)

## What's happening to global incomes ?

Now here's an interesting graph, courtesy of the World Bank's resident inequality guru, Branko Milanovic. It shows change in real incomes over the period of 1988 to 2008 at different percentiles of globa... [Read More...](#)

## Dawn of Autonomous Corporations, powered by Bitcoin

Bitcoin will power the next generation of corporations and the only way to deal with those corporations will be through Bitcoin (that's right, they won't, or rather can't, accept fiat like US Dollar). [Read More...](#)

## How Utah Turned Its Unpopular Public Transit System into a Hit

It wasn't always the case that Utah was in a hurry to build public transit. [Read More...](#)



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