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## Mid December 2014

### Welcome to the Mid-December Edition of What's Emerging

Welcome to the Mid December edition.

Things have pretty much wound down for us now so this is our last newsletter for the year and then there will be a break until the middle of January. If you wish to contact us we are still around so email us at: [info@emergentfutures.com](mailto:info@emergentfutures.com).

Paul's first job back will be presenting a master class on dealing with unknown unknowns at the [VLGA Mayoral Leadership Conference](#) on Jan 15th 2015 at Werribee Mansion. You can download a registration form for the conference by clicking on the link.

We wish all of our clients and our wider network a happy and safe Christmas and New Year and we look forward to being in touch in 2015.

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


Cheers,

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

### What are we writing about?

Paul's presentation to the Leadership Victoria Director Dynamics Program on embracing uncertainty is now up on our website. You can see our presentations by going to [www.emergentfutures.com](http://www.emergentfutures.com) and looking under latest downloads on the home page. Paul has also started a series of longer form blog posts on the issues that were discussed during the workshop. You can read the first one by going to : [The Board's Role In Complex and Uncertain Environments – Part One](#). If you sign up to follow the blog then you will get notifications of subsequent posts on the this issue and other blog posts as they are published. Alternatively we will highlight them in this newsletter and you can click on them as you receive the next newsletter.

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](mailto: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.


 [Top of the page](#)

#### SECTIONS

[What we are writing about](#)

[Business Tips](#)

[What's Emerging](#)

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## ■ Business Tips

Just one simple tip before the holidays

x.ai is a personal assistant who schedules meetings for you

Paul: This Artificial Intelligence assistant is still in Beta so you have to sign up on a waiting list but I have experienced it in setting up a meeting with Stowe Boyd in New York who we work with and it worked seamlessly despite the time differences from the USA. I would highly recommend you sign up for the waiting list. [Read More...](#)

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

### [17 Tools For Remote Workers](#)

KEEPING A REMOTE TEAM CONNECTED GETS A LITTLE EASIER WITH THESE TOOLS.

## ■ What's Emerging

Gartner's Top 10 Strategic Technology Trends for 2015

Gartner's top 10 strategy technology trends cover three themes: the merging of the real and virtual worlds, the advent of intelligence everywhere, and the technology impact of the digital business shift. [Read More...](#)

Rise of the Machines: Downfall of the Economy?

A few weeks ago, Stephen Hawking, the greatest astrophysicist of our time, gave a provocative speech of his own: Hawking suggested that humans should start thinking about colonizing other planets, because eventually artificial intelligence and robots will replace the human race.

It may sound crazy now—but what seems crazy today may not sound so crazy 25, 50, or 100 years from now. [Read More...](#)

Electronic Jell-O

The future of medical diagnostics may come in the form of 3-D printed electronic Jell-o, according to an Australian chemist who's working on developing edible sensors made out of materials like gelatin. [Read More...](#)

Watch: How Europe is greener now than 100 years ago

"More than 100 years ago, timber was used for almost everything: as fuel wood, for metal production, furniture, house construction. Hence, at around 1900 there was hardly any forest areas left in Europe. Especially after World War II, many countries started massive afforestation programs which are still running today," Fuchs told The Washington Post. [Read More...](#)

Smart Clothes to Become Biggest Wearables Sector By 2016

A new report by Gartner has predicted that the currently negligible sector of smart garments will storm past smart watches and fitness bands to become the bestselling area of the wearables industry by 2016. [Read More...](#)

China's Illicit Outflows Were US\$1.08 Trillion from 2002-2011

GFI's Current Methodology Finds Illicit Outflows from China Totaled US\$1.08 Trillion from 2002-2011, Not US\$2.83 Trillion from 2005-2011. [Read More...](#)

Why Factory Jobs Are Shrinking Everywhere

A report from the Boston Consulting Group last week suggested the U.S. had become the second-most-competitive manufacturing location among the 25 largest manufacturing exporters worldwide. [Read More...](#)

IBM opens beta for Watson Analytics with freemium pricing

Last week, IBM opened the beta of its Watson Analytics service, a set of predictive and visual analytics tools for business. [Read More...](#)

No Single Country Can Solve Climate Change

John Kerry : I touched down in Lima, Peru, today for the international climate change conference for a simple reason: [Read More...](#)

## The 10 Most Livable Global Cities For Balancing Work And Play

Some cities, like New York and Tokyo, offer economic and cultural clout. Others, like Vancouver and Melbourne, offer "comfort." A new ranking attempts to balance both. [Read More...](#)

## THE FUTURE OF MOBILE: 2014 [SLIDE DECK]

The future of mobile is being redefined. The smartphone and tablet markets are nearing saturation. The days of heady hardware growth are long gone. [Read More...](#)

## Is Livestreaming the Future of Media, or the Future of Activism?

On 3rd Dec 2014, hundreds of chanting protesters marched fast down Tenth Avenue after a grand jury declined to indict an NYPD officer for killing Staten Island street vendor Eric Garner with a chokehold. [Read More...](#)

## 100 Great Articles about Science and Technology

The best science and technology articles -- the best articles on science and technology -- all available to read online. [Read More...](#)

## Get used to low rates - they're here to stay

How do we prepare for a long period of steady (and possibly falling) prices and very low interest rates? That's the question to which there is no easy answer, writes Alan Kohler. [Read More...](#)

## Uber Adds a Billion Dollars More to Its Coffers

Uber wants to be the world's private driving service. Now the company is amassing the war chest to do it. [Read More...](#)

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