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## Mid January 2014

### Welcome to the Mid January Edition of What's Emerging

Welcome to the first newsletter for the year. We hope that you and your families had a great Christmas and New Year. As promised our first newsletter has a few more prediction stories than is our norm.

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?

Obviously we have had no presentations over the last few weeks but Paul has blogged on a few things including:

[An App Store and Service to Completely Change the World](#)

[Bolted on and Squeezed In – Is New Car Technology Killing People?](#)

[More Than 300 Sharks In Australia Are Now On Twitter – Is it Bad Public Policy?](#)

[My job advice to my nephews and nieces for 2025](#)

[My Best Future Thinking and Strategy Books of 2013](#)

[Algorithms, Robots and the Future of Management](#)

### Business Tips

Amazon Launches Storybuilder: A Virtual Corkboard to Help Writers Visualize Their Next Script

While still in beta the product is launching with a few different templates for common narrative structures. *Paul Higgins: I think that this might be useful for building story narratives for presentation.* [Read More...](#)

Cybercriminals are eyeing these 5 targets in 2014

Next year, hackers and cybercriminals will increasingly attack via devices such as smart TVs and use data from social networks to craft and target their attacks, cybersecurity experts predict. How prepared are you? [Read More...](#)

## What's Emerging?

Start here: the best apps for all your new devices

Christmas morning is over. The fire is roaring with wrapping paper, broken candy cane pieces litter the phone, and you've just opened a brand-new gadget. Maybe it's a new PlayStation 4, or an iPhone 5C, or the Windows tablet you've been not-so-subtly asking for all year. You've unwrapped it, torn the box to shreds, and turned it on. Now what? [Read More...](#)

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

### [4 World-Changing Products Dreamed Up by Bill Gates](#)

This holiday season, Bill Gates wants stuff that doesn't exist. Not for himself, but for the developing world. Gates has tons of ideas for products that would improve lives there, if only someone would build them. Four premier product design firms turn some of his notions into full-blown prototypes.

### [The Safest Suburb In The World Did It By Ending The Culture Of Cars](#)

The difference between this Dutch city and most North American commuter towns is that it actually makes good on its promise of safety, security, and good health. It is a happy city transforming our lives by urban design.

### [Are Alzheimer's and diabetes the same disease?](#)

Having type 2 diabetes may mean you are already on the path to Alzheimer's. This startling claim comes from a study linking the two diseases more intimately than ever before.

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## ■ What's Emerging

### 20 Predictions in Medicine and Healthcare for 2014

20 predictions for the upcoming year regarding medicine and healthcare. From DIY Biotech to Mind-Controlled Exoskeletons. Google Glass, IBM Watson's first commercial use by hospitals, the doctor chair to name a few. [Read More...](#)

### Seth Godin on the future

Accuracy, resilience and denial... Seth Godin has an important point when he writes in his blog that there are three ways to deal with the future. [Read More...](#)

### Eric Schmidt's 2014 predictions: Big genomics and smartphones everywhere

Google's executive chairman looks ahead, and admits to his biggest mistake - one he says he won't repeat .What does 2014 hold? According to Eric Schmidt, it means smartphones everywhere - and also the possibility of genetics data being used to develop new cures for cancer. [Read More...](#)

### Jeff Rubin predicts disaster on Canada's railways

Jeff Rubin, author and former CIBC World Markets chief economist, correctly warned of a big real estate slump in Ontario in the 1990s and soaring oil prices in the 2000s. [Read More...](#)

### Which fields hold jobs of the future? Low-paying ones, Mostly

Elder care and other low-wage jobs will be among the fastest growing career fields over the next decade. Postal carriers and journalists might have a harder time finding work. [Read More...](#)

### Utilities will spend \$65 Million on gamified applications in 2016 to engage consumers, according to IDC Energy Insights

In a new study, "Business Strategy: The role of gamification in Utilities' Consumer Engagement" (Document #EIRS04V), IDC Energy Insights forecasts that by 2014, worldwide utilities IT spending for gamification tools, applications, and services will be approximately \$13.5 million, rising to \$65 million in 2016. [Read More...](#)

### Where do we go from here? 8 hypotheses about Tech in 2014

The year ahead will be the beginning of a new cycle in the long story of humans and the tools they use. [Read More...](#)

## What's Emerging?

### Real jobs gap not closing any time soon

December's lacklustre jobs report offers another reminder of the huge hole in the U.S. labor market. [Read More...](#)

### Cars are the new smart phones: Chevrolet adding LTE and app store to 2015 models

Apart from the engine, wheels, seats, and enormous difference in size, 2015 Chevys will be nearly indistinguishable from smartphones: General Motors is announcing at CES today that next year's lineup will be available with built-in LTE and an app store. [Read More...](#)

### Algae converted to Crude Oil in One Hour

An innovative process that starts with algae slurry efficiently produces crude oil in less than an hour. [Read More...](#)

### America abandons Afghanistan to drug Lords

This year, Western troops will withdraw from Afghanistan after 13 years of war. They'll leave behind an undefeated enemy – as well as an Afghan government that's shaky, corrupt and only nominally democratic. [Read More...](#)

### FaceRig

Facial tracking software uses your webcam feed and presents you as a high-quality 3D character, mimicking your facial expressions and position. Also claims to alter your voice amongst other features FaceRig is a program enabling anyone with a webcam to instantly embody any character they want. [Read More...](#)

### The Year of the Great Redistribution

One of the worst epithets that can be leveled at a politician these days is to call him a "redistributionist." Yet 2013 marked one of the biggest redistributions in recent American history. It was redistribution upward, from average working people to the owners of America. [Read More...](#)

### California could experience 'historic' drought in 2014

The Central Valley's wine industry fears protracted dryness will cut into profits. California's wine industry worries about the prospect of an ecological disaster. [Read More...](#)

### Ford Exec: 'We know everyone who breaks the law' Thanks to our GPS in your Car

Because of the GPS units installed in Ford vehicles, Ford knows when its drivers are speeding, and where they are while they're doing it. [Read More...](#)

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