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Welcome to our last edition for 2006.

We hope you have enjoyed the newsletters during the year and found them of value in your business. We will be back with the next edition in January.

Wishing you all a very happy and safe Christmas and prosperous New Year.

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

Business tip

[jajah](#)

jajah is an internet telephony service that allows you to put your telephone number into their site and enter any other telephone number that you want to call. The service then rings your phone plus the phone of the person that you are trying to call and connects them both over the internet at internet telephone costs. You don't need to be on broadband service to use the service and you have the convenience of using your normal telephone system. They also provide business services such as conference calls for up to 10 people and a button for your website to provide a 1800 number for people to call at internet telephone rates.

Emerging issues from around the world

Click on the titles to read the full stories

[Plug in hybrid study](#)

The Argonne National Laboratory and the Electric Power Research Institute have announced a three year project assessing the commercial feasibility for plug in hybrid vehicles, which are hybrid vehicles that you can recharge by plugging them in to a power point at home.

[Free the wiki](#)

Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales has announced that he is going to give away the software, computing, storage, and network access that web builders need to build community collaboration sites. In addition the people who create the sites can keep 100% of their advertising revenue. This will have interesting effects on the social networking site business.

[The heat is on](#)

The CSIRO Energy Futures Forum has released a report entitled The Heat is On. The report looks at possible energy scenarios for the future of Australia in the context of

global warming and its implications for Australia.

Micro projectors

Microvision plans to unveil a mini projector at the Consumer Electronics Show in 2007 using lasers that are small enough to be included in a mobile phone. If the technology works it has all sorts of implications for portable devices. Imagine a laptop that does not need a screen for you to carry around.

Ethanol breakthrough

Researchers at MIT have created a new yeast strain that can tolerate up to twice the concentration of ethanol of normal yeasts used in ethanol production, as well as increasing efficiency and yield of the process. The breakthrough has significant potential to reduce the cost of making ethanol.

Jumpcut

Moving on from uploading and sharing videos through social networking sites such as YouTube, startups like Jumpcut are offering online tools for creating movies, even if you do not have any content.

Warming animals

What produces more greenhouse gases than motor vehicles? The answer is agriculture. This link is to a report by the FAO on the impacts of a growing livestock sector and suggests possible remedies. If a true international greenhouse gas trading regime occurs, agriculture will play a big part in how it works.

YouTube rivals

The major networks in the USA are looking to form a single website for their video output to rival YouTube. The question will be is it the content which is important, or the social networking part of the sites? If the social networking is the key, can it be easily replicated?

Tomorrow's consumers

The National Centre for Social and Economic Modeling (NATSEM) and AMP have released their latest report entitled Tomorrow's Consumers. It is an attempt to look forward at what might be the spending habits of people as the baby boomers age.

VOIP Grows

Voice Over Internet Phone technology (VOIP) uptake is growing strongly in the USA with revenues now up to US\$732 million.

Energy Outlook

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) in the United States has done an early release of its energy outlook for 2007, with the full release out next year.

What we are writing about

This month's article from Paul, **Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Transport Sector**, explores the increasing contribution to greenhouse gas emissions by the transport sector and looks at specific options for reducing emissions from vehicles. The transport sector is a growing contributor to greenhouse gas emissions with its CO₂ emissions projected to be 56 percent above 1990 levels and accounting for 16 percent of all CO₂ emissions by 2010.

The article is available for download from our website: www.emergentfutures.com