

@ Emergent Futures | New Around the World | What Are We Writing About

www.emergentfutures.com

Extra links that we couldn't fit in this month's newsletter...



What's Emerging

The role(s) of teachers and learners in 2025

The role of the teacher as the central figure and authority in education is likely to have changed fundamentally by 2025. [Read more...](#)

Movies on your iPhone? Apple buys several projector-related patents

The latest projector-related patent seems to describe a few different types of projection systems, including one in which a projector could be shared simultaneously by several devices over a wireless network. [Read more...](#)

Google's computing power refines translation tool

"What you see on Google Translate is state of the art" in computer translations that are not limited to a particular subject area, said Alon Lavie, an associate research professor in the Language Technologies Institute at Carnegie Mellon University. [Read more...](#)

Water-scraper: Underwater architecture

The hO2+ scraper is an autonomous floating unit of livable, functional and self sustaining space which will function, in a collective manner, as a floating city. It is self sufficient as it generates its own power through wave, wind, current, solar, bio etc. and it generates its own food through farming, aquaculture, hydroponics etc. [Read more...](#)

Britain faces 'oil crunch' within five years

An oil crunch more serious than the financial crisis threatens to strike Britain within five years, Sir Richard Branson and other business leaders have warned. [Read more...](#)

Popmoney

POPmoney is a person-to-person (P2P) electronic payments service offered by banks that allows their customers to easily send secure email and mobile payments to anyone. [Read more...](#)

Researchers develop nanofiber-based technology to make energy-efficient lighting

RTI International has developed a revolutionary lighting technology that is more energy efficient than the common incandescent light bulb and does not contain mercury, making it environmentally safer than the compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb. [Read more...](#)

Effort to map human brain faces complex challenges

Mapping the connections among brain cells could someday prove as revolutionary as mapping the human genome. But tracing each synaptic connection between neurons — essentially a manual effort so far — has proven painstakingly slow. To approach a thorough mapping, researchers will have to develop a computer-

automated process. [Read more...](#)

Google's chief economist: "Newspapers have never made much money from news"

Paul Higgins: Here are some of his points which is also embedded on the page at TechCrunch which you can see if you read more.

- About 40% of internet users say read news on the Web every day.
- Time spent on online news sites is only about 70 seconds per day, compared to 25 minutes spent reading a print edition.

[Read more...](#)

'Minority report' digital billboard 'watches consumers shop'

A "Minority Report" styled digital billboard that targets consumers using customised advertising based on their demographics is being developed by Japanese researchers. [Read more...](#)

Tailored diet may slow down DNA damage

Mounting evidence on the effect of micronutrients on DNA damage calls for a re-evaluation of recommended dietary intake values, say researchers. [Read more...](#)

Farm aid from space

Satellite data of climate activity enable remote herders to obtain drought insurance. [Read more...](#)

As China and US plan to exploit "burning ice" for fuel, the ice race is on

When methane and freezing cold water fuse under tremendous pressure, they create a substance as paradoxical as it coveted: burning ice. Earlier in the year, a report from the National Research Council identified the combustible water, also known as methane hydrate, as a potential source of natural gas. Now, according to the Chinese news organization Xinhau, China is joining the US, Japan, and South Korea in the hunt for this weird mineral. [Read more...](#)

Obesity: Food kills, flab protects

It seems getting fatter may be part of your body's defence against the worst effects of unhealthy eating, rather than their direct cause. This curious insight comes at the same time as several studies distancing obesity itself from a host of diseases it has long been blamed for, including heart disease and diabetes. **Paul Higgins: If this is correct another lesson in the problem of making assumptions.** [Read more...](#)

Has Twitter reached its peak?

Micro-blogging service Twitter's user growth has almost levelled off since September 2009, according to a study. [Read more...](#)

Accenture survey: Vehicle buyers won't sacrifice comfort, convenience just to buy green car

Based on an online poll of more than 1,850 consumers from Canada, France, Germany, Italy and the United States. Roughly 60 percent of the survey respondent said they are more likely to buy a hybrid or electric vehicle only if it is superior to gasoline-models in every way. [Read more...](#)

iRes Technology debuts wearable, hands-free uCorder; records 7 hours video on internal storage

iRes Technology has released the uCorder, a 3.5-inch digital camcorder that fits comfortably in almost any pocket size or around the neck on a string - and it can record hands-free. [Read more...](#)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology's technology review names nanosphere one of world's most innovative companies

Nanosphere develops, manufactures, and markets an advanced molecular diagnostics platform, the Verigene(R) System, for direct genomic and ultra-sensitive protein detection. This easy to use and cost effective platform enables simple, low cost and highly sensitive genomic and protein testing on a single platform. [Read more...](#)

The Manhattan Beach Project to end aging by 2029

Just as the Manhattan Project was conceived in 1942 to beat the Germans to the atomic bomb during World

War II, the "Manhattan Beach Project" was founded as an "all-out assault on the world's biggest killer – aging," according to project organizer David A. Kekich. [Read more...](#)

Artificial skin will use quantum tunnelling

Peratech makes an electrically conductive material called quantum tunnelling composite (QTC). When the material is compressed electrons jump between two conductors separated by polymer insulating layer covered with metallic nanoparticles. [Read more...](#)

Quest aims to create bigger atoms and new kinds of matter

A quest is underway to create larger and larger atoms with more protons and neutrons than ever before. By building these super-heavy elements, scientists are not just creating new kinds of matter – they are probing the subatomic world and learning about the mysterious forces that hold atoms together. [Read more...](#)

Facebook reaches top ranking in US

Facebook reached an important milestone for the week ending March 13, 2010 and surpassed Google in the US to become the most visited website for the week. [Read more...](#)

PayPal launches revamped iPhone App, teams with Bump for phone-tapping money transfers

PayPal has just launched an upgraded iPhone application that adds new features and includes a facelift that's meant to help instill a greater sense of security. And it also brings with it big news for Bump Technologies, the startup that lets you exchange information simply by tapping smartphones together. [Read more...](#)

Vaccines that can beat the heat

Mixing virus-based vaccines with sugars and allowing them to dry on a simple filter can keep them stable for four months, even at tropical temperatures. [Read more...](#)

Moody's says U.S. debt could test triple-a rating

The gold-plated credit rating of the United States — an article of faith across America and, indeed, around the world — may be at risk in coming years as the nation copes with its growing debts. [Read more...](#)

Flurry: More Droid devices than iPhones sold in first 74 days on the market

Mobile app analytics company Flurry estimates that while Apple sold 1 million iPhone devices in its first 74 days of availability on the market, the Motorola Droid actually shipped more devices during that time span. Sales of Google's Nexus One, by comparison, kinda stunk: the company only sold an estimated 135k phones in 74 days. **Paul Higgins - not sure of this estimation method and it would be great if there were some ways of knowing the actual numbers.** [Read more...](#)

Drug production gets aquatic

Algae could provide a cheaper, easier method for manufacturing drugs. [Read more...](#)

Neuroimaging: The future of marketing?

With the interest in neuromarketing – the study of consumers' cognitive response to stimuli – growing in the media and the scientific community, two researchers sought to uncover whether the trend was worth the hype. [Read more...](#)

Iceberg forensics: Predicting the planet's future with Antarctic ice

In the last million years, the North American ice sheet has formed and completely melted about 10 times. Ice is melting once again—simultaneously, across the globe—and the science research vessel and drilling ship JOIDES Resolution has been seeking out clues to how ice sheets may respond to a warming climate. [Read more...](#)

Would you implant a microchip to improve your life?

One in four Germans would be happy to have a microchip implanted in their body if they derived concrete benefits from it, according to a new survey. On the other hand, 72 percent said they would not "under any circumstances" allow microchips to be implanted in their body. [Read more...](#)

How UAVs will replace the air force's current fleet

In its latest plans for the future, the Air Force envisions swapping its pilots for a fleet of versatile—and affordable—unmanned airplanes. A single UAV with interchangeable payloads could replace several legacy airplanes. Here's a look at some possible trades. [Read more...](#)

Plumbing the depths

Inside story: A recent wave of advances is enabling oil companies to detect and recover offshore oil in ever more difficult places. [Read more...](#)

Soon, there'll be more mobile web users in China than people in the United States

The report also says the number of mobile Internet users in China will grow fast to reach a staggering 957 million, and that the country will count approximately 1.3 billion mobile subscribers by 2014. [Read more...](#)

GM augmented reality enhanced vision system

The Enhanced Vision System has infrared and visible cameras mounted on the front of the car that feed information back to a user. Three cameras mounted in the car monitor the driver and can accurately detect where the driver is looking so that the images augmented on the screen are placed in the correct location. [Read more...](#)

Labels that devour \$5.2b in food

FAMILIES are throwing out record amounts of edible food because of confusion over "use-by" and "best-before" labels, say environmental groups. ***Paul Higgins - some of this is deliberately misleading because it includes \$1 billion in takeaway food thrown out but the issue is real and serious. How crazy that so much food is thrown away.*** [Read more...](#)

Generation I

At no other time in history, and perhaps never in the future, will there be a group of people whose own growth and maturation is so perfectly reflected in the principal technological and cultural advancement of the age. ***Paul Higgins: An interesting post on generations and the effect of technology, especially information technology.*** [Read more...](#)

Hacker disables more than 100 cars remotely

More than 100 drivers in Austin, Texas found their cars disabled or the horns honking out of control, after an intruder ran amok in a web-based vehicle-immobilization system normally used to get the attention of consumers delinquent in their auto payments. ***Paul Higgins: A sign of things to come as cars become more integrated into computer and internet technology?*** [Read more...](#)

Who wants to live forever? A scientific breakthrough could mean humans live for hundreds of years

A genetically engineered organism that lives 10 times longer than normal has been created by scientists in California. It is the greatest extension of longevity yet achieved by researchers investigating the scientific nature of ageing. [Read more...](#)

Spy in the sky that sees round corners

The US Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency is developing a radar system which sees around corners and down into "urban canyons". DARPA hopes to be able to track vehicles across an entire city using just a few uncrewed aircraft. [Read more...](#)

Formula for fighting crime hot spots

A new mathematical model reveals how urban crime hot spots form and spread, and suggests that two distinct types of high-crime areas respond differently to suppression tactics. [Read more...](#)

What is slow money?

The Slow Food movement revolutionized the way many people think about food with its mantra: "good, clean, and fair." Entrepreneur Woody Tasch wants to introduce the Slow Food ethos into the world of finance. [Read more...](#)

Are you a farmer at heart? Start a 'Crop Mob'

The Mob is essentially a group of young people of all ages who alight upon an area farm once a month and do a whole bunch of work together: weeding, moving compost, digging up fresh beds, harvesting ready-at-once crops like sweet potatoes. In short, the kind of work that seems crushing when one or two people set out to do it, but that's downright fun with a crowd. [Read more...](#)
