

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

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*Welcome to the end of May edition of What's Emerging. We were very excited to participate in The Zone this month. The Zone is a new multimedia project that has been launched by Fairfax Media as a market place of ideas, but not from the normal talking heads. For those who have not already seen the article on Paul and the on line video interview there is a link at the end of the newsletter. We also welcome the large number of people that signed up to our newsletter following the article. We are in the middle of a revamp of our website so by the time you get the next newsletter it should be done The new site should both look better but also be easier to navigate and have some new video content. We hope you continue to find the business tips and our links valuable and please feel free to forward them on to anyone who you think might be interested.*

**Cheers**

*Paul Higgins, Sandy Teagle, Kim Stewart, Anitha Mendonca, Syed Muqthar, and Samantha Kyle-Little*



## Business Tips

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### Five Firefox Add-ons for taking Web page screenshots

Taking Web page screenshots is a common task for IT professionals, developers, and even non-tech workers. Here are five Firefox Add-ons that let you take, edit, and even share screenshots of a Web page. [Read more...](#)

### Dropbox anywhere

*Paul Higgins: Those of you who read our newsletter for the business tips will know that we are fans of Drop Box the file sharing service. They also have a mobile application for smartphones so you can have access to those key documents you want anytime from anywhere. I am now using it on my new android smartphone and loving it.* [Read more...](#)

### Mozilla plugin check

If you are using Firefox then this page checks your plug ins and see if any need updating. This is an important security issue. Mozilla have also announced that other browsers can sue the check in page. See: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-1023\\_3-20004894-93.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-1023_3-20004894-93.html) for the details. [Read more...](#)

### Carbonite for BlackBerry keeps your computer's backed-up files handy

BlackBerry: If you're a customer of Carbonite, and you own a BlackBerry, the new Carbonite app gives you access to all your files anywhere you go, so you can browse, view, or email them. *Paul Higgins: We use Carbonite for on line back up and find it a very good service.* [Read more...](#)

### Four way video chat on Skype

Skype 5.0 Beta with four way video chat is now available. [Read more...](#)



# What's Emerging

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## Senate gets a climate and energy bill, modified by a gulf spill that still grows

After nearly eight months of negotiations with lawmakers and interest groups, John Kerry, and Joseph I. Lieberman produced a 987-page bill that tries to limit climate-altering emissions, reduce oil imports and create millions of new energy-related jobs. ***Paul Higgins: While I applaud the intent the fact that you might need a 987 page bill to try and achieve this is ridiculous. It supports the comments Clay Shirky has been making about some of Joseph Tainter's work: That complex societies exist and evolve as problem solving devices and layer more and more complications on top of systems in order to solve increasing intractable problem until they collapse under the weight of their own complications.*** [Read more...](#)

## China analyst sees beginnings of unfolding credit bust

China's economy is teetering on the edge of a major slowdown, though it's not a shakeout in the property market that's about to spark the distress, according to a noted China strategist. [Read more...](#)

## iPhone and Android fuelling worldwide Smartphone growth

Sales of smartphones grew 56.7 percent in the first quarter of this year, according to new figures from IDC, far outpacing the 21.7 percent growth of the overall mobile market. [Read more...](#)

## US debt clock

Great graphical representation of US debt in various areas. [Read more...](#)

## \$3 microscope plugs into cell phones

Inexpensive, lightweight device provides basic medical diagnostics and images. [Read more...](#)

## Nature-inspired 'skin' paves the way for smarter, more efficient buildings

In a new project recently proposed to the National Science Foundation, bioengineer Luke Lee and architect Maria-Paz Gutierrez suggest that a building's skin needs to become as smart as nature — that is, adaptable.. [Read more...](#)

## Patients' social network predicts drug outcomes

Startup PatientsLikeMe is harvesting and analysing patient information in a whole new way. The company's cofounder, James Heywood, believes the site will ultimately change the way drugs and other interventions are evaluated. [Read more...](#)

## The third billion

As growing numbers of women enter the economic mainstream, they will have a profound effect on global business. [Read more...](#)

## DNA robots on the move

Machines made of DNA could one day assemble complex--and tiny--electrical and mechanical devices. [Read more...](#)

## Too hot to live: Grim long-term prediction

HALF the Earth could become too hot for human habitation in less than 300 years, Australian scientists warn. [Read more...](#)

## New transistor allows humans, machines to merge

Scientists at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories in California have developed a tiny transistor powered by the biological compound ATP, which could lead to electronics integrated directly with the body, creating true cybernetic organisms. [Read more...](#)

### **48 hour magazine: Creating a crowd sourced print publication in two days**

New technology isn't just upending the publishing industry, it's also making fun experiments in old media possible. Case in point: 48 Hour Magazine, a project to write, edit, illustrate, design, and ship a magazine in two days. [Read more...](#)

### **'Artificial life' breakthrough announced by scientists**

Scientists in the US have succeeded in developing the first synthetic living cell. The researchers constructed a bacterium's "genetic software" and transplanted it into a host cell. The resulting microbe then looked and behaved like the species "dictated" by the synthetic DNA. [Read more...](#)

### **Dopamine system in highly creative people similar to that seen in Schizophrenics**

High creative skills have been shown to be somewhat more common in people who have mental illness in the family. And now the correlation between creativity and mental health has scientific backing. [Read more...](#)

### **IBM and McMaster University collaborate on "smarter transportation" research**

McMaster and IBM have launched a research project to investigate how the automotive industry can connect a vehicle's multiple microprocessors, which currently work in isolation, to create a "cognitive car" that can predict vehicle failures before they happen, redirect drivers to less congested routes and help reduce traffic accidents. [Read more...](#)

### **More links**

We have many more links than we can fit in the newsletter - this month's 'Additional Links' are available on our [website](#).



## What We Are Writing About

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Paul was part of The Zone on Monday. The Zone is a multimedia project being carried out by Fairfax media where individuals put forward ideas that are a little different from the norm or are for a new specific project. The format is for an article in the paper version of the newspaper, an edited video and online article which you can see [Here](#), and a full transcript of the longer interview which you can see [Here](#). Paul also did a live chat session on the day of publication. The comments and responses are at the end of the on line article. We encourage you all to support this venture as we believe it can become an important source of ideas and projects for the future.