

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

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*Welcome to the mid-July edition of What's Emerging.*

**Help Charity – Make Us Pay!**

*You can help us raise funds for charity by getting friends and associates to sign up to our newsletter. Emergent Futures will donate \$2 to charity for every person who signs up and stays signed up for 6 months. Plus they get a chance to win one of five \$100 book vouchers. The charities we are donating to are:*

- [The Big Issue](#) (producers of the Big Issue Magazine and also the organisers of Street Soccer in Australia)
- [Fifteen Melbourne](#) (the Melbourne part of the Jamie Oliver Foundation)
- [Kids Under Cover](#) (who help kids at risk of becoming homeless to stay connected with their families and get an education)
- [Vic Deaf](#) (providers of services for over 16,000 deaf people in Victoria)
- [Melbourne Community Foundation](#) (who manage philanthropic trusts on behalf of donors)

*We are giving back to them because they have helped us trial some pilot workshops on strategic innovation.*

*Please forward this newsletter or copy the sign-up link below and email it to your friends and associates to enable them to sign up and support these great organisations.*

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=y3WDrUinZmFDIkz4q1CqFg\\_3d\\_3d](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=y3WDrUinZmFDIkz4q1CqFg_3d_3d)

**Cheers**

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



## Business Tips

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### LoopApps

LoopApps is an online Pdf document combiner and converter. [Read more...](#)

### Zdnet readers' choice: Top 25 free, lightweight apps

In February, ZDNet readers were asked for the free, lightweight applications they simply can't live without. After tallying the suggestions - here are the 25 most popular. [Read more...](#)

### Assessing productivity in a networked era – ROI (Return on Investment in Interaction)

Great post on thinking about returns on investment in a network era - how do you measure the return of increased network connections and its effects on intangible assets. Of course in the end tangible or intangible assets have to make actual money. [Read more...](#)

### Lifehacker pack 2009: Our list of essential free Windows downloads

Lifehacker is bundling all the best free downloads for new computer owners, re-installers, would-be geeks, or

anyone who wants to save time installing the best stuff out there. This is their 2009 Lifehacker Pack for Windows computers. [Read more...](#)



## What's Emerging

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### **Excess pounds, but not too many, may lead to longer life**

Being overweight won't kill you - it may even help you live longer. That's the latest from a study that analysed data on 11,326 Canadian adults, ages 25 and older, who were followed over a 12-year period. [Read more...](#)

### **One-sixth of humanity to go hungry: FAO**

New estimates by UN food agency suggest that this year the number of people going hungry everyday is going to reach 1.2 billion. It has warned that this silent hunger crisis is posing a serious threat to peace and security world over. [Read more...](#)

### **AcceleGlove open-source data glove**

SF fans can now have something like Tom Cruise's gloves from the 2002 movie Minority Report. His character makes use of special wired gloves; the lit fingertips (and thumb tip) are sensed by the display, which follows his commands. It's a different technology, but achieves similar results. [Read more...](#)

### **The science of economic bubbles and busts**

The worst economic crisis since the Great Depression has prompted a reassessment of how financial markets work and how people make decisions about money. [Read more...](#)

### **Star Trek-like universal translator a step closer**

A merger of two companies on Tuesday, Dial Directions in San Francisco and Sakhr Software Co. in Vienna, Va., brings together technologies that can turn an iPhone, BlackBerry or Windows Mobile device into a voice and text translator. [Read more...](#)

### **Microbe found two miles under Greenland ice is reawakened from a 120,000-year sleep**

A tiny purple bug that has been buried under nearly two miles of ice for 120,000 years has been revived in a lab. The unusual bacterium was found deep within a Greenland ice sheet and scientists believe it holds clues to how life might survive on other planets. [Read more...](#)

### **A magnetic machine plucks pathogens from blood**

A new treatment could save some of the hundreds of thousands dying of sepsis-related deaths every year. [Read more...](#)

### **Mind-enhancing drugs: Are they a no-brainer?**

Advocates say they are an irresistible way of improving students' performance. Critics argue they are a dangerous fad. Jeremy Laurance explores the debate. [Read more...](#)

### **Humans could regrow their own body parts like some amphibians**

Regenerating your own amputated arms and legs, broken spines and even damaged brains is the stuff of superheroes - but it could one day be a reality, claim scientists. [Read more...](#)

### **Why we don't like to think chance is the reason behind great stories**

This is a great article from the Wall St Journal about how chance and randomness plays a huge part in our lives but we all want to see patterns and believe success is due to hard work and talent rather than randomness because it makes us feel better. [Read more...](#)

### **Top CEOs leave social media to the plebs**

It's 'official'; big shot CEOs are social media slackers. [Read more...](#)

### **Nielsen debunks myths on teens and media - They still watch TV!**

With an ever-expanding media universe, social networks play an increasingly important roles in the lives of teens ... as they do in pretty much everyone else's, too. The 33 million or so teenagers (aged 12 to 17) in the U.S., against all odds, keep on consuming quite a lot of non-connected media, such as TV, radio and - get this - even dead-tree stuff like newspapers next to their online activities. [Read more...](#)

### **May 2009 mobile metrics report**

"It is general knowledge that the top free apps are downloaded millions of times. But with an incredibly crowded App Store, one important question is what happens to the rest of the apps. [Read more...](#)

### **Heart beat posting device lets your Twitter followers know you're alive**

A small group of those Japanese geeks, members of the so-called Koress Project, have announced the development of the Akiduki Pulse box, a device that automatically posts your heart rate to Twitter. [Read more...](#)

### **New light in old bulbs**

When Congress passed a new energy law two years ago, obituaries were written for the incandescent light bulb. The law set tough efficiency standards, due to take effect in 2012, that no traditional incandescent bulb on the market could meet, and a century-old technology that helped create the modern world seemed to be doomed. But as it turns out, the obituaries were premature. [Read more...](#)

### **Coffee 'could reverse Alzheimer's effects'**

US researchers suggest that an increased caffeine intake cannot only prevent Alzheimer's disease, but also reverse its effects, in mice at least. Scientists in Europe have been investigating the benefits of caffeine in preventing Alzheimer's disease for some years, but the latest study from Florida's Alzheimer's Research Centre has taken it further. [Read more...](#)

### **The future of... Boarding passes**

Fed up with long check-in lines before you fly? Tired of trying to remember where you tucked away your boarding pass? Watch this video. [Read more...](#)