

What's Emerging?

The latest news and information ...

We help you think about the future so you can act today ...

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Mid September 2010

Welcome to the Mid - September edition of What's Emerging.

Welcome to the end of mid September edition of What's Emerging. Please remember that we are giving out a book voucher for comments on the revamp of our website, our Tumblr blog and our Twitter site so please visit them and give us some feedback. Paul has done a number of conference and workshop presentations in the last few weeks. If you want to have a look at them go to our presentation download section [here](#). We hope you continue to find the newsletter both entertaining and useful and please feel free to forward it to anyone you think might find it useful.

Cheers

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

SECTIONS

[What we are writing about](#)

[Business Tips](#)

[What's Emerging](#)

[More Links](#)

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What we are writing about

Book Review: At Home – A Short History of Private Life by Bill Bryson

Bill Bryson is one of those authors whose books that I automatically read as they come out because I love the fact that he can write in a way that makes any subject interesting. He also has the ability to find out surprising details of history and science. However there is another reason why we have reviewed this book. This story is basically about the history of the world and it is important when we think about the future that we have as thorough an understanding of the past as possible. It is even more important that we understand the past from different perspectives than seen in the standard history texts. [Read here.](#)

↑ [Top of the page](#)

Business Tips

Is the multiple-monitor productivity boost a myth?

For those that have followed our newsletter and business tips for a while you will know that we are big fans of the multiple monitor set up for productivity and miss the set up when on the road. This post at Lifehacker goes through some of the issues and quite rightfully points out that it is pixels that make the difference not the number of screens. [Read More...](#)

Extending the battery life of your [Android] smartphone

If your satisfied with the ROM you have and your device is basically new or if you have a new

battery, the following will be important to you. There's a simple process that will allow you to get the most from your device. Simply follow these steps, and you'll be on your way to Smartphone bliss. [Read More...](#)

10 ways to customize Word 2010

Depending on what you like to do in Word, you may have cosmetic preferences or functional preferences. Whatever your preferences may be, Word 2010 enables you to tweak some basic settings so it works the way you want it to. [Read More...](#)

The top 10 Windows 7 desktop gadgets

Windows 7 gadgets offer added functionality and convenience in a variety of ways. Here are a few you may want to add to your desktop. [Read More...](#)

How to stay safe on public Wi-Fi networks

Whether you're clicking connect on Starbucks' Wi-Fi or some other unsecured, public Wi-Fi network, here's how to stay safe and secure while surfing a public hotspot. [Read More...](#)

 [Top of the page](#)

What's Emerging

Climate change poses big risks to China's crops and economy, study finds

Publishing in the journal Nature, a team of Chinese scientists say China's climate "has clearly warmed" over the past half century, gaining 2.2 degrees F since 1960. [Read More...](#)

'Mind-reading machine' can convert thoughts into speech

A mind reading machine is a step closer to reality after scientists discovered a way of translating people's thoughts into words. [Read More...](#)

Mining the truth on coal supplies

A view that the world's leading electricity fuel—and major contributor to climate change—is running out. [Read More...](#)

A purple, smog-eating skyscraper

Minimal environmental impact is all the rage, but two Hong Kong-based designers say that even no-impact structures are insufficient. Skyscrapers could and should actively clean up the air, they say. [Read More...](#)

Miniature auto differential helps tiny aerial robots stay aloft

Engineers at Harvard University have created a millionth-scale automobile differential to govern the flight of minuscule aerial robots that could someday be used to probe environmental hazards, forest fires, and other places too perilous for people. [Read More...](#)

Melting rate of icecaps in Greenland and Western Antarctica lower than expected

The finding is the result of research by a joint US/Dutch team from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Delft University of Technology (TU Delft, The Netherlands) and SRON Netherlands Institute for Space Research. The scientists have published their work in the September issue of Nature Geoscience. [Read More...](#)

Top 5 mobile advertising trends to watch

Mobile advertising is increasingly important, as cell phone adoption rates, especially smartphone adoption rates, soar. [Read More...](#)

Oxford English Dictionary 'will not be printed again'

The next edition of the Oxford English Dictionary, the world's most definitive work on the language, will never be printed because of the impact of the internet on book sales. [Read More...](#)

Mass extinction threat: Earth on verge of huge reset button?

Mass extinctions have served as huge reset buttons that dramatically changed the diversity of species found in oceans all over the world, according to a comprehensive study of fossil records. The findings suggest humans will live in a very different future if they drive animals to extinction, because the loss of each species can alter entire ecosystems. [Read More...](#)

The future of mail: World's first 'intelligent' stamp issued in Britain

Britain's Royal Mail issued this week what it calls the "world's first intelligent stamp," which links to online content using mobile image recognition technology. The new stamp, which is part of the Royal Mail's latest Great British Railways series, acts as a digital launch pad when used with an Apple iPhone or Google Android-based smartphone. [Read More...](#)

Doctors seek way to treat muscle loss

Bears emerge from months of hibernation with their muscles largely intact. Not so for people, who, if bedridden that long, would lose so much muscle they would have trouble standing. Why muscles wither with age is captivating a growing number of scientists, drug and food companies. [Read More...](#)

Next generation surgical robots: Where's the Doctor?

As physician-guided robots routinely operate on patients at most major hospitals, the next generation robot could eliminate a surprising element from that scenario -- the doctor. [Read More...](#)

Gartner says the world of work will witness 10 changes during the next 10 years

The world of today is dramatically different from 20 years ago and with the lines between work and non-work already badly frayed, Gartner, Inc predicts that the nature of work will witness 10 key changes through 2020. [Read More...](#)

Netflix lets its staff take as much holiday as they want, whenever they want – and it works

Silicon Valley success story, Netflix, shows how a non-policy on holidays can provide the break you need. [Read More...](#)

8 must-see TED talks for IT pros

If you're pressed for time, here are eight amazing talks that every IT pro should watch for their insight into the future of computing. [Read More...](#)



[Top of the page](#)



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



[Top of the page](#)

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