



Published by Emergent Futures Pty Ltd

Mid June 2011

Welcome to the middle of May edition of What's Emerging

For those of you that may have missed it because you were away when our special edition came out we have launched our Premium Environmental Scanning Service:

New Service- Free Trial of our Premium Scanning Service

In a world full of change and disruption are you worried that you will miss a threat or an opportunity that will have a major impact on your organisation? Well look no further!

Our premium environmental scanning service will give you access to our fully searchable database of all the future focused articles, blogs, and reports that we analyse and collect every week. These include trends, forecasts, scenarios, and changes that might disrupt your organisation's future. It's like having a futurist in your pocket. Click [HERE](#) for more details or Click [HERE](#) to register for your free trial.

We will only be opening up 100 places a week to start with to make sure that it scales up properly and we work through any teething problems. We will be having a larger push on marketing shortly so if you want to get in and not have to wait for a place then go to the site today.

We hope that you continue to find the newsletter useful and interesting.

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](#)

➔ [Visit our website](#)

 [Follow us on Twitter](#)

 [Visit our Tumblelog](#)

What we are writing about

Robots, not humans, retrieve your books at \$81 million "Library of the Future"
You enter the 8,000-square foot elliptical Grand Reading Room of the Joe and Rika Mansueto library, admiring the arched dome of glass panels overhead. You walk past the circulation desk, gaze at the stylish furniture and think: Where the heck are all the books? Read article and Paul's comment [here](#).

Computex 2011: Intel unveils ultrabook, talks Medfield tablets

In a keynote speech at the Computex trade show in Taiwan, Intel Executive Vice President Sean Maloney said the company would borrow some "new ideas" from tablets to reinvent the PC, carving out a new category of laptops dubbed ultrabooks. Read article and Paul's comment [here](#).

Traditional aboriginal owners in Western Australia's Pilbara have signed a massive native title deal with mining giant Rio Tinto

The agreement, between four Aboriginal groups, was seven years in the making and gives Rio

access to 70,000 square kilometres of traditional land to mine and explore for iron ore and other minerals. Read more detail and Paul's comment [here](#).

Stowe Boyd: In a liquid world, Twitter will own everything in the stream

Twitter throws another hand grenade in the swimming pool, and decides that photo-sharing is something it needs to control. The bigger question isn't just photo-sharing Read more detail and Paul's comment [here](#).

■ Business Tips

The ultimate guide to using iPads in the classroom

The DEECD located in Victoria Australia has some brilliant resources located at their iPads in the classroom trial website. [Read More...](#)

16 tips to take your iPhone to the next level

Dig a little deeper into the iPhone's latest operating system, iOS 4.3 — available for the iPhone 3GS and the AT&T iPhone 4 — and there's another layer to master.. [Read More...](#)

Why angry birds is so successful and popular: A cognitive teardown of the user experience

A must read for people involved in any business that has a software user interface, especially those considering gamification as a business strategy. [Read More...](#)

Tony Schwartz: Want excellence? 4 simple practices

Tony Schwartz, MIX Maverick and author of The Way We're Working isn't Working, shares four simple but powerful changes you can make today to ramp up your productivity, creativity, and well-being. [Read More...](#)

[↑ Top of the page](#)

■ What's Emerging

China used prisoners in lucrative internet gaming work

Labour camp detainees endure hard labour by day, online 'gold farming' by night. [Read More...](#)

What cloud based music looked like in 1892

Believe it or not, in the late 19th century people used to pay to listen to music over the phone. A French service called Theatrophone was basically a steampunk version of Pandora Radio that allowed subscribers to have live music pumped into their homes at a price of 50 centimes for five minutes -- roughly one or two Euros in today's money. [Read More...](#)

Indians now spend more time on social media sites than on personal email

Social Media has now become part of everyday life for a majority of online Indians. According to a study on social media usage by The Nielsen Company conducted in collaboration with AbsolutData, nearly 30 million Indians who are online are members of social networking sites and about two-thirds of them spend time on these social networking sites daily. [Read More...](#)

It's here: A science book that's always up-to-date

It's called the Principles of Biology, and for a \$49 lifetime access, students receive a constantly-updated biology textbook, for less cost. [Read More...](#)

Consumer complaints made easy. Maybe too easy

Gripe, a company that describes itself as a "better Better Business Bureau for the Twitter age," is devoted to spreading word of a problem quickly. It provides a mobile app for iPhone and Android that makes posting a complaint simultaneously to one's Facebook friends and Twitter followers effortless. [Read More...](#)

Human brain limits Twitter friends to 150

The number of people we can truly be friends with is constant, regardless of social networking services like Twitter, according to a new study of the network. [Read More...](#)

Hunger crisis worsens, food system broken - Oxfam

LONDON, May 31 (Reuters) - Food prices could double in the next 20 years and demand in

2050 will be 70 percent higher than now, UK charity Oxfam said on Tuesday, warning of worsening hunger as the global food economy stumbles close to breakdown. [Read More...](#)

Private prisons found to offer little in savings

The conviction that private prisons save money helped drive more than 30 states to turn to them for housing inmates. But Arizona shows that popular wisdom might be wrong: Data there suggest that privately operated prisons can cost more to operate than state-run prisons — even though they often steer clear of the sickest, costliest inmates. [Read More...](#)

Nokia: 2011 going from bad to worse; windows phone 7 devices in Q4

Nokia on Tuesday cut its second quarter and 2011 outlook as it struggles to fend off competition and is watching average selling prices for its devices tank. Conditions have unraveled for Nokia so quickly that the company said it can't give 2011 forecasts. [Read More...](#)

One brain, hundreds of eyes: Darpa plots manhunt master controller

Thought military tracking technology couldn't get any creepier? Hold onto your tinfoil hats and hide behind the nearest curtain because the next generation of manhunting gear just took another step closer to reality. [Read More...](#)

NASA wants snowboarding display tech in space helmets

Recon Instruments has been working on heads-up displays in snowboard goggles for awhile now, and beginning in September, NASA will head out to the deserts of Arizona for a mission simulation and begin testing that technology in space helmets. According to Recon Instruments, the majority of real-time info transmission to astronauts has still been carried out via voice technologies. [Read More...](#)

Newspaper sales crisis enters sixth year

Following an unexpectedly sharp decline in advertising demand in the first three months of this year, newspapers now appear to be entering the sixth year of an unprecedented collapse that has vaporized half of their principal revenues since 2006. [Read More...](#)

Money-shredding alarm clock is completely unforgiving [PICS]

This design concept might be more sight gag than real product, but it's clever nonetheless. Bringing new meaning to the phrase "you snooze, you lose," when you place this unforgiving clock across the room from your bed, if you don't get up when the alarm sounds, it's going to cost you. [Read More...](#)

Ford's building its tiniest engine yet

Ford is developing its smallest engine ever, a wee little three-cylinder mill with the displacement of a soda bottle. [Read More...](#)

A gas power plant to make renewables more practical

General Electric announced on Thursday that it's designed a gas-fired combined-cycle power plant that can start up rapidly. The goal is to help electricity grids adapt to the variability of renewable energy. [Read More...](#)

European airlines fear trade war over carbon emissions trading

From January airlines flying through the EU will have to acquire credits to account for carbon emissions generated by their flights. [Read More...](#)

Which technology do you think will have the biggest impact on human life in the next 30 years?

The clear winner with 3,097 votes – 35 per cent of the total – is Catherine McTeigue's prediction of nanorobots that will repair cancerous cells. For the others see the full story. [Read More...](#)

How will China's food supply weather the year of drought?

Parts of central China, including the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River, are experiencing the lowest levels of rainfall in 50 years. The area in red is affected by serious drought, and the brown indicates extreme drought. The parched areas also happen to include much of China's main rice producing regions, which are in the early stages of their growing season. So for the second time in a year, a major grain crop in China is now at risk due to a shortage of water. So far no warnings of the seriousness of the FAO's February declaration on winter wheat have been issued. But anecdotal reports indicate some worries. [Read More...](#)

Address: Level 27 | 101 Collins Street | Melbourne | VIC 3000
Phone: +61 3 9018 7917 | Fax: +61 3 9012 3580 | emergentfutures.com

[Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Modify My Profile](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Contact Us](#)
© Copyright 2010 Emergent Futures Pty Ltd. All rights reserved. ABN 39 105 730 407