

The Insider

November 28, 2016



Craneway Pavillion, Richmond, California

Digital thread links Meeting of the Minds 2016

November 11, 2016 by Mary Allen

This year's installment of thought leadership on urban sustainability held in Richmond, California this month, explored the ways digitization can address challenges in municipal operations, fiscal management, income inequality, diversity and inclusion, and even access to food for the one in six Americans who don't know where

their next meal will come from.

Conference co-founder Gordon Feller argued that "the technology is there," but that smart city deployment faces 'how-to?' roadblocks. To learn what programs and platforms innovative "civic technologists" are creating to address problems of scalability, funding and political will [Read more](#)



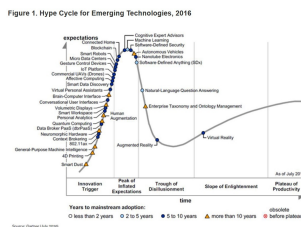
Is Blockchain the key to our IoT security future?

November 17, 2016 by Denise Deveau

Ever wonder how Blockchain works? Expert Mark Kovarski explained how Blockchain's essential service as a distributed database ensures the immutability and transparency of transactions: no one transaction can be changed independent of the rest. Expanding on this, author of *The Business Blockchain* William Mougayar described the "Byzantine General's problem" to explain how time stamping in Blockchain can identify the attacker in data processes.

According to Kovarski, Blockchain is gathering increasing attention as a means of securing information across a range of sectors beyond financial services. IoT brings a shift away from centralized databases and hierarchical structures, making Blockchain an ideal security platform for the Internet of Things. "There is no true security in IoT without Blockchain," argued Kovarski...

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Gartner Hype Cycle, 2016

2017: a year of living virtually

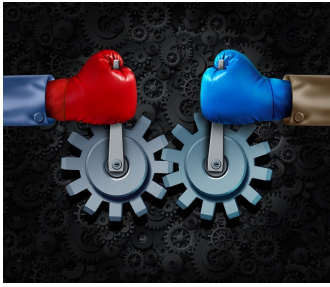
November 23, 2016 by Lynn Greiner

With the New Year approaching, Lynn Greiner has reviewed Gartner's list of ten technology predictions for 2017. They paint a picture for the future where cloud and mobile, important foci in the past, are now taken for granted. Gartner covers subjects ranging from AR and VR, to "chatbots" for screenless web browsing, to use of algorithms by "electronic overloads" to influence employee behaviours.

The changes in store don't stop there, with mobile app use declining, Blockchain technology infiltrating business, "digital giants" invading our kitchens, and IoT technologies leading to trillion dollar savings in maintenance costs.

In her review, Greiner assess Gartner's predictions and the implications of each of these trends. What would Big Brother think?

[Read more](#)



Vitamin Y: More on merger – Dell EMC culture, customers and competition

November 21, 2016 by Mary Allen

Dell EMC leaders Kevin Peesker, Michael Sharun and Howard Elias fielded questions on the progress and mechanics of company merger at a recent Toronto user conference. They covered the historic roots and recent results of the alliance, namely market leadership across 20 Gartner product categories, and the implications of merger for Canada, which currently ranks 13th in an international study of digital maturity.

What synergies have been created through the merger that can benefit customers? Elias argued that Dell EMC is producing savings in the range of 18-26 percent for the operation of IT infrastructure, which is allowing customers to invest in digital modernization. What changes are in store for company culture, go-to-market plans and competition going forward? [Read more](#)

About InsightaaS

The Insider is a bi-weekly e-newsletter that, like its parent website InsightaaS, is dedicated to exploring "the 'why' in enterprise technology."

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