

F&S October 2023

SAMI Fellow Jonathan Blanchard Smith will be running a series of workshops for Cyberevolution November 14-16. [Cyberevolution](#) is a cybersecurity conference run by KuppingerCole in Frankfurt, where “revolutionary concepts meet futuristic visions” bringing together cybersecurity, digitalisation and AI.

Cyberevolution has three themes: Anticipate, Innovate, and Together. Jonathan will be setting the scene for the “Anticipate” strand in a set of immersive workshops, where he will take participants through the intricacies of future scenario analysis using the SAFIRE scenarios developed by SAMI for the EC Research and Innovation Directorate. Using a range of cutting edge futures tools, he will take participants into the scenarios to understand what digital life may look like in the near- to mid-term future, and what that means for the future of cybersecurity. Panel discussions, as well as a special meeting of the Cybersecurity Council, will bring together the lessons learned from the workshops and identify key areas of change, risk and opportunity.

To find out more, have a look at the [Cyberevolution site](#) or view the [Agenda](#). You can contact Jonathan direct at jbs@samiconsulting.co.uk

SAMI Cohort

Our “postgraduate” action learning set, the SAMI Cohort, will be re-starting in November. If you are interested in joining and benefitting from this unique approach to sharing practical futures expertise, then please contact Jane.Dowsett@samiconsulting.co.uk

Executive Education

We will be running our online course “**Understanding the Future**” again on 15th and 16th November. The course fee is £490 + VAT - discounts may be available for self-funded individuals. We also organise bespoke courses to suit specific clients’ needs.

We are developing new training modules in the areas of turning scenarios into action, Adaptive Plans (contingency planning) and risk and uncertainty. If you interested in any of these, please do get in touch.

For more information, please email training@samiconsulting.co.uk.

Futures Issues

[Green hydrogen](#) is produced through water electrolysis using electricity, without emitting carbon dioxide. But currently this uses expensive precious metal catalysts, such as iridium oxide. A new approach can now significantly reduce the cost with excellent performance and durability by introducing a “carbon support”. [Another approach](#) relies on solar cells enabling a decentralised network.

In another example of how [looking at the past doesn't help forecasting](#), economists have reached the startling conclusion that extreme climate change (>3C) only hits the economy by around 7%.

Patient with a [pig heart transplant](#) is doing well. The pig’s heart was genetically modified to avoid rejection by the patient’s system.

Patients with traumatic brain injuries may soon benefit from [3D printed cortical structures](#) supporting tissue regenerative therapies.

[AI drones](#) accurately analyse individual crops to assess their likely growth characteristics and determine the optimal time to harvest.

Whilst niche services like the one above clearly have benefits, we have long been sceptical of large scale applications that require major system change. So, we will watch two stories closely:

- Amazon to expand [drone delivery](#) in UK
- GM plan [driverless taxis](#) in Tokyo in 2026.

Our Blogs

Our recent blogs have covered a wide range of topics, from issues for China to national infrastructure:

- An examination of [possible issues for China](#) as it continues to develop
- A look at how some [megatrends may affect supply chains](#)
- An exploration of how [modelling may not always be perfect](#)
- How [adaptive planning may help](#) when thinking about resilience and risk

An overview of whether [flying taxis can ever become reality](#)