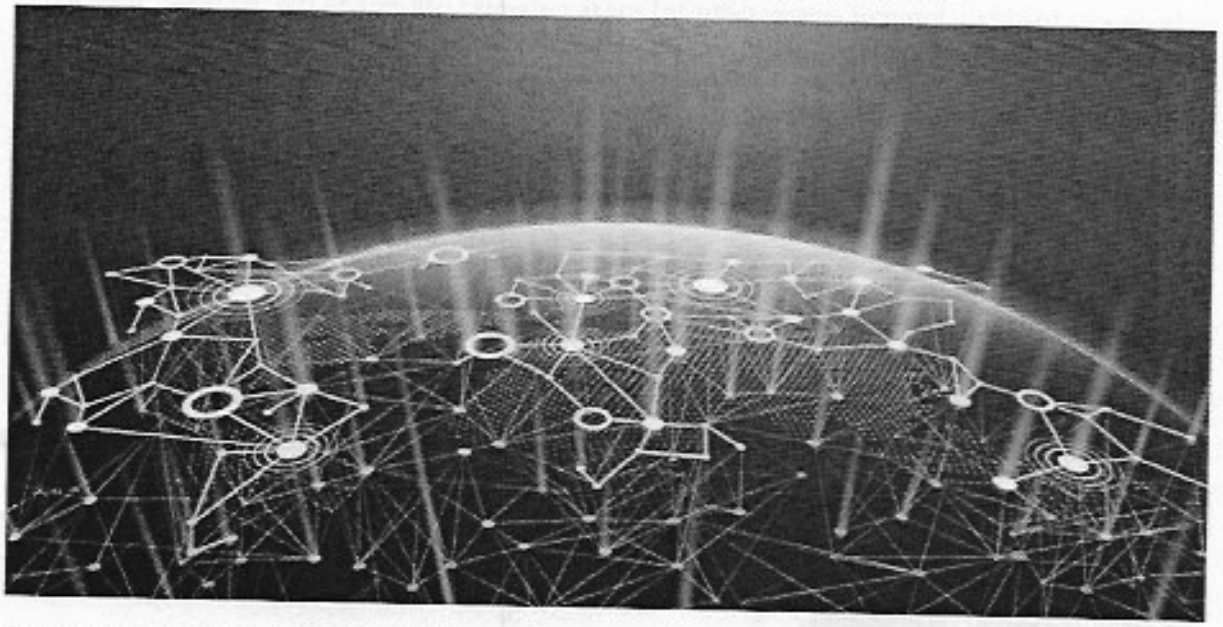
CERT: These emerging technologies bring new risks

CERT updates its list of potentially worrisome innovations.



By Bob Violino | October 18, 2017 -- 15:06 GMT (16:06 BST) | Topic: Innovation



Emerging technologies are finding their way into everyday life as they mature and gain acceptance. But that doesn't mean they're without risk.

The CERT Division of the Software Engineering Institute at Carnegie Mellon University once again has updated its list of technologies that might present challenges from an information security and safety perspective.

In its Emerging Technology Domains Risk Survey, CERT examines a variety of trends that can provide a lot of benefits to people and businesses, but also pose risks that need to be addressed.

Some of these areas are moving ahead so quickly in adoption that companies have not had a chance to completely evaluate their implications. For example, "machine learning and robotics are advancing more quickly than expected, and may have as-yet-undiscovered risks," said Dan Klinedinst, senior threat and vulnerability researcher at CERT and one of the authors of the report.

Here are the technologies that CERT, a group that researches various issues related to cybersecurity, will be watching especially closely in the coming months:

Blockchain: A blockchain is a highly distributed data structure that underlies technologies such as the Bitcoin digital currency. It's designed to provide a high level of data integrity without the need for centralized management. Blockchain technology has unique security challenges, CERT said. Since it's a tool for securing data, any programming bugs or security vulnerabilities in the technology itself would undermine its usability.

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS): Future ITSs will provide communications and data between connected and autonomous cars and trucks, road infrastructure, and other types of vehicles. The impact of security compromises is similar to that for individual autonomous or connected vehicles,