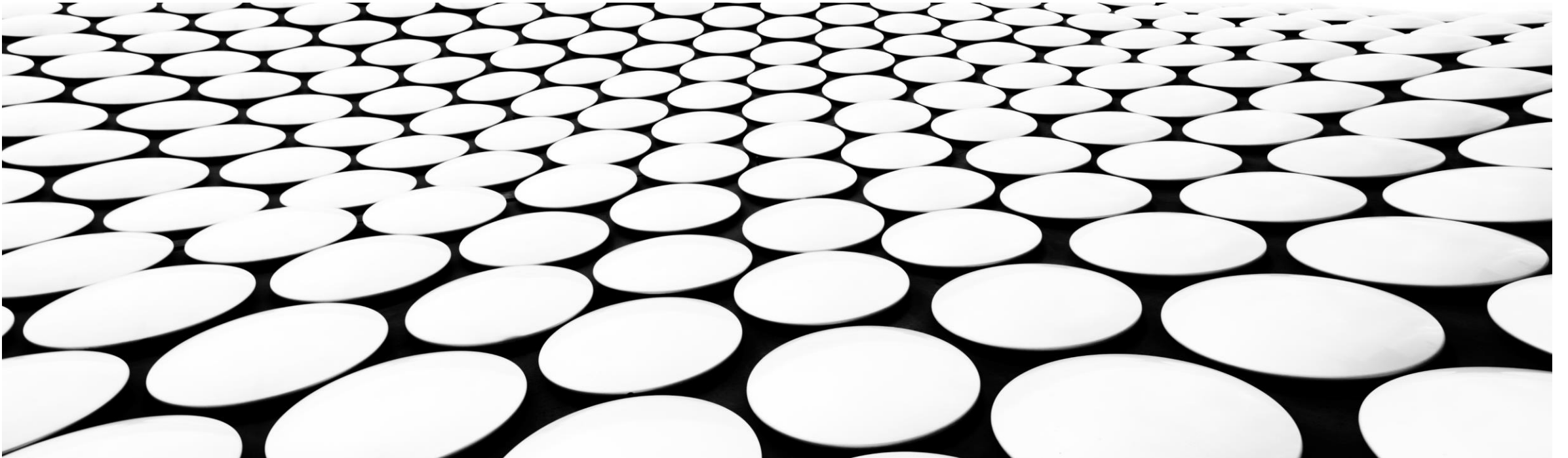


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# THE NEXT INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

## VERSION ~~4.0~~ 3.5

NOT ALL IT'S CRACKED UP TO BE, SO DON'T BE TOO WORRIED (YET)



# WHO IS THIS GUY SPEAKING?

- Earl Steyn
- Claim to “fame” founder of Draftworx [www.draftworx.com](http://www.draftworx.com)
  - Leader in technology
- One of many involved in the Cync project [www.cync.com](http://www.cync.com)
  - Making the business world talk to each other
- All round I.T. junkie
- E.x auditor/accountant
- Love talking business/financial software/shit/~~politics~~/religion.



## **BEWARE THE MARKETERS!**

- Sensational narrative to raise uncertainty and fear
- Skynet won't take over for many years

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## **ACCOUNTANTS WILL BE REPLACED BY AI?**

- No. Not really, because the AI that is needed for that doesn't exist yet (and unless there is some major breakthrough won't exist for a while)

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## SO WHAT IS THE 4<sup>TH</sup> INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION ABOUT?

- Giving a name to the increase in speed of innovation
- Some of that innovation has been around for over 40 years – constant improvements

# HOW DID WE GET HERE? 1, 2, 3 CAME BEFORE!

- Industrial Revolution I, II and III –  
Steam, Electricity and Digital
- Industrial Revolution IIII –  
Cyber-physical systems (phrase coined by World Economic Forum)

## Break down of Cyber-physical systems

- This is the era of artificial intelligence (began in the 1950's), genome editing (1989/1994 – CRISPR now affords availability), biometrics (1970's) , renewable energy (1970's), 3D printing (1980's), autonomous vehicles (1958) and the Internet of Things (1980's - Coca Cola machine, located at the Carnegie Mellon University – name first given in 1999).

# BUZZ WORDS ASSOCIATED WITH 4<sup>TH</sup> INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

- Cloud
  - Data has moved from under your desk, to computers owned by other people – great for business and developers alike.
  - Data accessibility improved
  - Accountants are going to love big data (if you don't already)
- Blockchain
  - 92% of blockchain projects have failed. Some stats going up to 98% failure.
  - From solving the world problems, not turning out well for everyone - has become very niche “revolutionary technology”
  - **\$24 million iced tea company says it's pivoting to the blockchain, and its stock jumps 200%**
  - Bitcoin – what are cryptocurrencies really? Let's look at an example

# BUZZ WORDS ASSOCIATED WITH 4<sup>TH</sup> INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

- Machine Learning
  - Algorithm. Result of applying rules to create outcomes. Mostly what you see in “AI” software
- Artificial Intelligence
  - Narrow AI (weak AI)
    - Google Home listening to key words and performing an action – Hey Google, turn off the kitchen lights
  - True AI (strong AI)
    - make decisions that are not programmatic in nature but rather the result of a reasoned analysis
  - Artificial General Intelligence is the hypothetical intelligence of a machine that has the capacity to understand or learn any intellectual task that a human being can.
    - This ^^^^ is when we are F%\$^d
- Robotics – deserves its own page



# BUZZ WORDS ASSOCIATED WITH 4<sup>TH</sup> INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION


My pet hate

- Robotics

Not these cool robots



but when automation software now gets called Robotics.  
#\$\$%\$% marketing



The image shows the AutoIt logo at the top, which consists of a blue circle with a white 'A' inside, followed by the word 'AUTOIT' in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the logo is a screenshot of a code editor window. The window title is 'E:\Documents and Settings\Brian\My Documents\example.au3 - SciTE4AutoIt3'. The code is written in AutoIt and includes comments in Italian. The code starts with '#include <File.au3>' and '#include <IE.au3>'. It then creates a browser window and navigates to 'google'. It checks the page text and logs the result. It then creates a file on the system drive and writes the page text to it. It then enters a 'while True' loop that checks if the internet link is down, Google, or up, and logs the results. It ends with 'Sleep(10000)' and 'Wend'.

Paradigm	Object-oriented, imperative, functional, procedural, reflective
Designed by	Jonathan Bennett
Developer	AutoIt Consulting Ltd.
First appeared	January 1999; 21 years ago



## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

- Not much really.

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## WHAT'S CHANGING

- Bookkeeping





## WHAT THEN?

- Bookkeeping role will diminish
- Accountants role becomes even more important
- That role is changing, a bit, nothing drastic



## WHY?

- COMPLIANCE is ever increasing!
- CIPC / XBRL / TAX / COVID

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## **ACCOUNTANTS OF THE FUTURE**

- Strong sense of business vision
- Understand the data / See through the BS
- More IT inclined
- Accounting + Programming = Future



## **LETS CHAT SOFTWARE**

- So much on the market!