

“A vote is like a rifle: its usefulness depends upon the character of the user.”

— Theodore Roosevelt

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Will AI kill developing world growth?

Artificial intelligence (AI) could displace millions of jobs in the future, damaging growth in developing regions such as Africa, says Ian Goldin, professor of globalisation and development at Oxford University.

I have spent my career in international development, and in recent years have established a research group at Oxford University looking at the impact of disruptive technologies on developing economies.

Perhaps the most important question we have looked at is whether AI will pose a threat - or provide new opportunities - for developing regions such as Africa. Optimists say that such places could use rapidly advancing AI systems to boost productivity and leapfrog ahead.

But I am becoming increasingly concerned that AI will, in fact, block the traditional growth path by replacing low-wage jobs with robots.

As Kai-Fu Lee, a Beijing-based venture capitalist who invests in artificial intelligence, tells us, AI is potentially the most revolutionary technology to emerge this century. It is also, along with the associated technologies of machine learning and robotics, advancing at breakneck speed.

Already AI has the capacity to replace many work tasks that are rules-based and repetitive, and which do not require great dexterity or empathy. In developed economies, for instance, robots have replaced well over half of the jobs in the car and related industries in recent decades.

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Brown Stink Bug Season has finished — Phew!

Brown Stink Bug season has finally come to an end with effect 30 April 2019.

It's been a tough season with a number of vessels turned away from Australian ports due to infestations onboard the vessel.

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR), in consultation with industry, have recently released 2019-2020 measures.

Major Points are:

- Risk countries have been increased from 9 to 32 on the “risk” list.
- Mandatory treatment offshore for all breakbulk cargo that includes flat racks and open top containers
- Heightened vessel surveillance on all roll-on/roll-off (ro-ro) and general cargo vessels will be applied through additional pre-arrival reporting with a BMSB questionnaire
- All ro-ro vessels that berth or load cargo from the target risk countries, will be required to undergo a mandatory seasonal pest inspection on arrival in Australia

As information is released to industry we will pass on to all clients immediately.

Should you have any questions, please contact our Customs/Quarantine section

PLEASE NOTE :

Sea Freight Shipments departing after 30 April will not be subject to Brown Stink Bug Measures.

DAWR — 2019–20 BUDGET STATEMENTS

The 2019–20 Budget was handed down on 2 April 2019. The Budget includes a number of new initiatives in the Agriculture and Water Resources Portfolio including:

- A new Agricultural Stewardship Package comprising an agricultural biodiversity policy, an agricultural biodiversity stewardship pilot program and a farm biodiversity certification scheme.
- Further measures to promote trade and market access and boost international competitiveness including programs to minimise the impact of non-tariff measures and accelerate horticulture market access.
- National leadership for the agricultural innovation system and the development of an agricultural education and workforce strategy.



AUSTRALIA AND HONG KONG PEN HISTORIC TRADE DEAL

Australia and Hong Kong have recently signed the Australia-Hong Kong Free Trade Agreement (A-HKFTA) and associated Investment Agreement, securing more certainty and opportunities for Australian farmers, businesses and investors.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison said the agreements marked a new chapter in Australia's close and mutually beneficial relationship with Hong Kong.

"Australian farmers, businesses, service suppliers and investors are the big winners from the certainty this agreement will bring," the Prime Minister said.

"Hong Kong is our *fifth largest source of investment*, and a platform market to showcase our premium goods and services to Asia and the world.

"Our complementary economies share the same underlying principles of openness to trade and investment, and this will provide new opportunities for Australian businesses."

Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Simon Birmingham said the agreements would cement a number of important outcomes for Australian businesses and investors.

"Under this agreement zero tariffs will be locked-in on goods, market access will be guaranteed for services suppliers, and conditions for two-way investment will be significantly improved," Minister Birmingham said.

"We also agreed to a series of cutting-edge rules – particularly on data flows and data storage – to facilitate trade and investment and provide certainty and confidence to Australian investors.

"Modern trading rules on e-commerce including data flows and data storage, financial services, telecommunications, and intellectual property will provide regulatory certainty for Australian businesses and the confidence to make long-term investment decisions."

Australia now has free *trade agreements with seven of its top eight export markets* for goods and services, *covering close to 70 per cent of Australia's total trade*.

HONG KONG MARKET SNAPSHOT

- **GDP** USD 360.3 billion (2018)
- **Real GDP growth:** 3.8% (2018)
- **Population:** 7.4 million (2016)
- **Two-way trade:** \$18.8 billion (2017-8)



NYK Posts Red Ink...

Japanese shipping company Nippon Yusen Kabushiki Kaisha (NYK Line) closed the fiscal year 2018 with a net loss of JPY 44.5 billion (USD 398.3 million).

In the year ended March 31, 2019, revenues fell to JPY 1.8 trillion from JPY 2.2 trillion seen in the year ended March 31, 2018, down by 16.2 percent.

Operating income saw a larger decrease of 60.1 percent. It stood at JPY 11 billion in the year ended March 31, 2019, compared to JPY 27.8 billion posted a year earlier.

AIE Gets Green Light for NSW's First LNG Terminal

Australian Industrial Energy (AIE) has received a planning approval from the New South Wales Government for the construction of NSW's first liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal.

The Port Kembla Gas Terminal (PKGT) would accommodate LNG carriers, a floating LNG handling facility, wharf infrastructure and a pipeline to connect to the existing NSW east coast gas network nearby.

Once operational, the terminal could supply more than 70% of NSW's natural gas needs and, with the approval, the project is on track to deliver first gas to customers in late 2020, according to AIE.

Maersk, IBM Unveil Blockchain Shipping Solution

A.P. Moller – Maersk and IBM have created TradeLens, a solution jointly developed by the two companies to apply blockchain to the world's global supply chain.

This follows [the January announcement](#) when the duo unveiled the collaboration aimed at offering a global trade digitization platform by using blockchain technology.

As explained, the new blockchain-enabled shipping [solution](#) is designed to promote more efficient and secure global trade, bringing together various parties to support information sharing and transparency, and spur industry-wide innovation.

TradeLens uses IBM Blockchain technology as the foundation for digital supply chains, empowering multiple trading partners to collaborate by establishing a single shared view of a transaction without compromising details, privacy or confidentiality. Shippers, shipping lines, freight forwarders, port and terminal operators, inland transportation and customs authorities can interact more efficiently through real-time access to shipping data and shipping documents, including IoT and sensor data ranging from temperature control to container weight, according to Maersk and IBM.



Australian Border Force Newsroom ...

A man has been charged after a joint investigation by the Australian Border Force (ABF) and New South Wales Police Force (NSWPF) into the alleged importation of nearly 70kg of cocaine, concealed in furniture.

On 8 April 2019, a consignment carrying wooden furniture arrived in Sydney from South Africa. The container was taken to the ABF's Sydney Container Examination Facility for x-ray and officers noted anomalies in the shipping crates.

During a subsequent deconstruction of the consignment, 61 packages containing a white powder were located concealed within the base of the crate.

Forensic analysis determined the packages contained a total of 68kg of cocaine, which has an estimated potential street value of \$34 million.



A 27-year-old Japanese national has been arrested by Australian Border Force (ABF) officers at Melbourne International Airport allegedly attempting to smuggle 19 native reptiles out of Australia in her suitcase.

The woman was targeted by ABF Officers as she attempted to depart for Japan, after the ABF and Department of the Environment and Energy acted on information from ABF's international presence in Hong Kong.

It will be alleged an x-ray of her suitcase and subsequent examination revealed 17 Shingle Back lizards and two Blue Tongue lizards tightly packed inside two mesh packages.



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When was the last time you had a check up—(for the business operations)?

Cargo Network has qualified staff that will provide a comprehensive Customs (ABF) and Quarantine (DAWR) Audit/Review.

This can be in the form of a complete Audit/Review process or a simply to review a specific product and/or procedure. Take advantage of a complimentary “free” visit to discuss the nature of the issue and CNI

Consulting Division will provide a brief report with projected costing—And time lines.

On a “No Obligation To Proceed” basis. What’s it cost you?

Nothing in the first instance, but what could it cost you, not to consider the possibilities.



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