

TOP STORIES #43

As the year draws to a close, "leaks" about what we can expect at CES are all over the internet, and you can read [about some expectations and predictions here](#). AI will be everywhere, and if you are actually there you can go and visit LG's stand to see their idea of a [Zero Labor Home!](#)

I would like to wish you all of the very best for 2024, which I think for us involved in technology in some way we will experience 2024 as an AI-infused one - I look forward to us experiencing and learning about this new world together - we are still only taking baby-steps!

If you would like colleagues to Join the maillist, they can click [here](#).

Hardware

Microsoft preparing new surface PC's for 2024

Microsoft is making major updates to it's product line for 2024 with a major emphasis on AI and ARM. That Microsoft is going to be releasing ARM-based AI-infused hardware that will work with Windows 12 (Codenamed Hudson Valley) is [especially interesting](#).

1 Trillion Transistors in a CPU by 2030

TMSC is predicting that we will see such incredible densities in little more than 5 years. Can you only imagine what processing capability these CPU's will have compared with the best we can get today? [Read more here](#). Remember, data transfer rate capabilities are increasing at the same pace with the [PCIe 6.0 interface probably seeing production in 2024](#).

Microsoft

Microsoft Office support end date Checklist

Microsoft support end dates for Office keep changing. In theory you have 10 years of support, but in practice, it is very different, with far less than 10 years along with some caveats to make you nervous about when support actually ends - Office 2016 and 2019 are a case in point. Woody's Office Watch - one of the best publications on the internet dedicated to following the Office Suite, has [published an up-to-date guide on the support dates](#).

End of support does not mean the product stops working, it just means Microsoft no longer issues updates.

Cloud & AI

Walmart CEO to Give CES Keynote

When it comes to a show like CES it is reasonable to conclude that a Keynote should be given by a CEO from Intel, AMD, Nvidia, Sony, Ford etc.... (they all have given keynotes), but it is a surprise to learn that the Walmart CEO is giving the keynote. Or, maybe it is not a surprise? Given the relevance of AI which is only 1 year old in the public's eye and how it will impact our lives in the future, maybe this keynote IS very relevant to hearing a compelling story of how Walmart is enabling the next generation of retail and how will reflect on their people culture, beyond the advances powered by artificial intelligence and machine learning. [Read more about the upcoming Keynote here](#).

New Tools, Old Mindset

[Here is Part 1](#) of a very interesting story that illustrates the importance of adapting your mindset to make the best use of new tools.

Though the story is about why meetings are still bad, I think it applies equally to AI.....

The effectiveness of AI depends largely on a shift in mindset and a re-evaluation of the processes into which it is integrated.

Just like with meetings, where the problem isn't the tools but the approach to the meetings themselves, the challenge with AI isn't the technology itself, but how it is used within the context of what already exists.

The last statement in the article is most insightful:

"If we don't first address what a modern meeting should look like, throwing new technology at an outdated mindset will never deliver the needed results."

Parts 2 & 3 get into a lot more detail around what we can do to improve our meetings based on studies from Barco and Microsoft. They are really worth reading.

The author makes some interesting statements (remembering these are opinions, not "the law") to consider:

"There are only three reasons to meet synchronously: to make a decision, forge a team or hold a forum." **Meetings should be about action, not information.**

"Come to meetings prepared, don't use meetings to prepare"

"Throwing new technology at our existing meetings won't make them any better. It just allows us to have even more bad meetings from anywhere and everywhere."

"Companies can embrace "Accountability Culture"

A culture of accountability sets expectations, extends trust and creates a mutually beneficial contract between the company and its team members in order to achieve amazing results."

[Part 2 is here](#)

[Part 3 is here](#)

Security

Moving beyond passwords

2024 may be a watershed year for many of us as we are forced to move on from using only passwords to secure our accounts and services. In future, we will need to ensure we activate 2FA, use biometrics where possible and use password managers (which have their own weaknesses). [Here is an article that suggests a varied approach.](#)

What's New at FTG

Taking a break for New Year!

Movies

Now Playing: [Anyone but you](#)

Now Playing: [The end we start from](#)

Now Playing: [Ferrari](#)

05 January: [One Life](#)

05 January: [Noah's Ark](#)

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