



Professor Kevin Warwick, The cybernetic pioneer who is upgrading the human body - starting with himself.

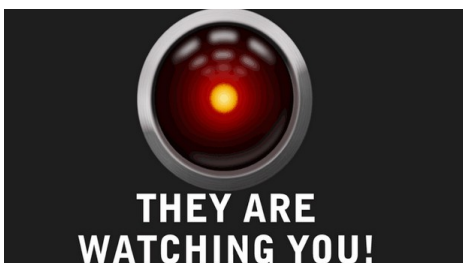
In the years ahead, we will witness machines with an intelligence more powerful than that of humans. This will mean that robots, not humans, make all the important decisions. It will be a robot-dominated world with dire consequences for humankind. Is there an alternative way ahead? Humans have limited capabilities. Humans sense the world in a restricted way, vision being the best of the senses. Humans understand the world in only three dimensions and communicate in a very slow, serial fashion called speech. But can this be improved on? Can we use technology to upgrade humans? The possibility exists to enhance human capabilities. To harness the ever-increasing abilities of machine intelligence. Kevin Warwick has taken the first steps on this path, using himself as a guinea pig test subject receiving, by surgical operation, technological implants connected to his central nervous system. A Cyborg is a Cybernetic Organism, part human, part machine. The story seriously questions human morals, values and ethics.



Learn How Biometric Security Devices Work!

You may be wondering how these devices actually work. Basically, they take a physical characteristic and they use them to identify a particular human. Before the devices can be used, the biological information has to be stored in the device so it can be verified or identified when someone uses the devices. Just a few of the traits or characteristics used for identification include fingerprints, DNA characteristics, hand written signatures, retinal scans, hand geometry, facial characteristics, or even iris scans. Since biological information is used for these types of new security devices, they are regarded as identification

methods that are more reliable than older methods that rely on just a key, padlock or keypad. Today, the primary application of biometrics is in physical security: to control access to secure locations (rooms or buildings). There are several promising prototype biometric applications. One of them, EyeTicket, links a passenger's frequent-flyer number to an iris scan. Some of the US airports use a sort of hand geometry biometric technology for performing citizen-verification functions. The last interesting application is for covert surveillance. Using facial and body recognition technologies, researchers hope to use biometrics to automatically identify known suspects entering buildings or traversing crowded security areas such as airports.



The TV box that can detect when you're cuddling on the sofa and show you an advert for condoms.

The cable boxes of the future could be able to detect when viewers are cuddling on the sofa and automatically serve adverts for contraceptives. U.S. cable provider Verizon has applied to patent a set-top box technology that can observe what's going on in the room and show viewers adverts based on what it detects. The company suggests it could detect when people are 'cuddling' then show 'a commercial for a romantic getaway vacation, a commercial for a contraceptive, a commercial for flowers [...] etc.'. The technology would integrate a range of sensors into their products, including thermal imaging cameras, microphones and motion sensors, to detect the mood their audience and tailor media content to suit. Privacy campaigners called the new technology a 'privacy nightmare waiting around the corner' and called for it to be reined in 'before consumers lose control for good'. The company mentions that 'If detection facility detects one or more words spoken by a user (e.g., while talking to another user within the same room or on the telephone), advertising facility may utilise the one or more words spoken by the user to search for and/or select an advertisement associated with the one or more words.' The application says the sensors would be able to determine whether viewers were 'eating, exercising, laughing, reading, sleeping, talking, singing, humming, cleaning, playing a musical instrument, performing any other suitable action, and/or engaging in any other physical activity.'