

# I am sorry for *Droning* On, But Don't Forget The Human Factor

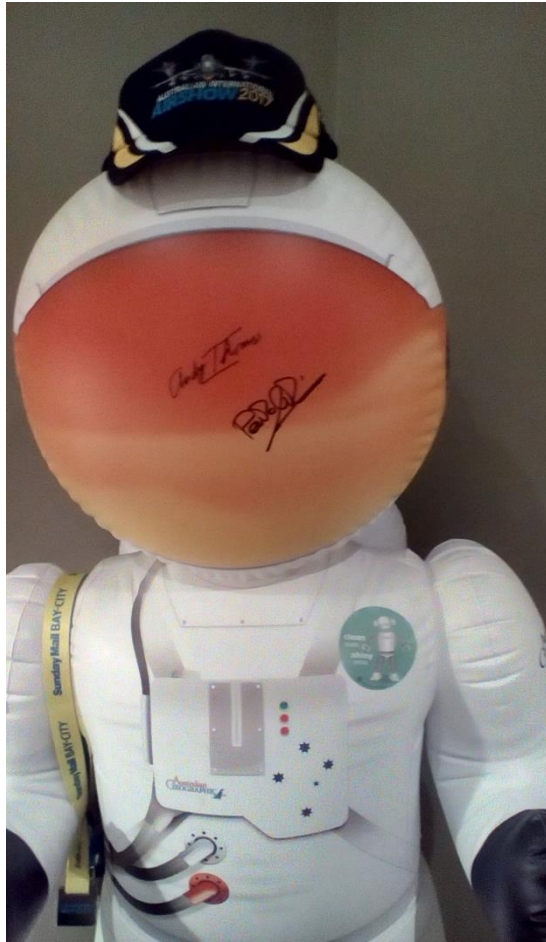
Jo Hamilton (SQNLDR SR)

8<sup>th</sup> August 2017



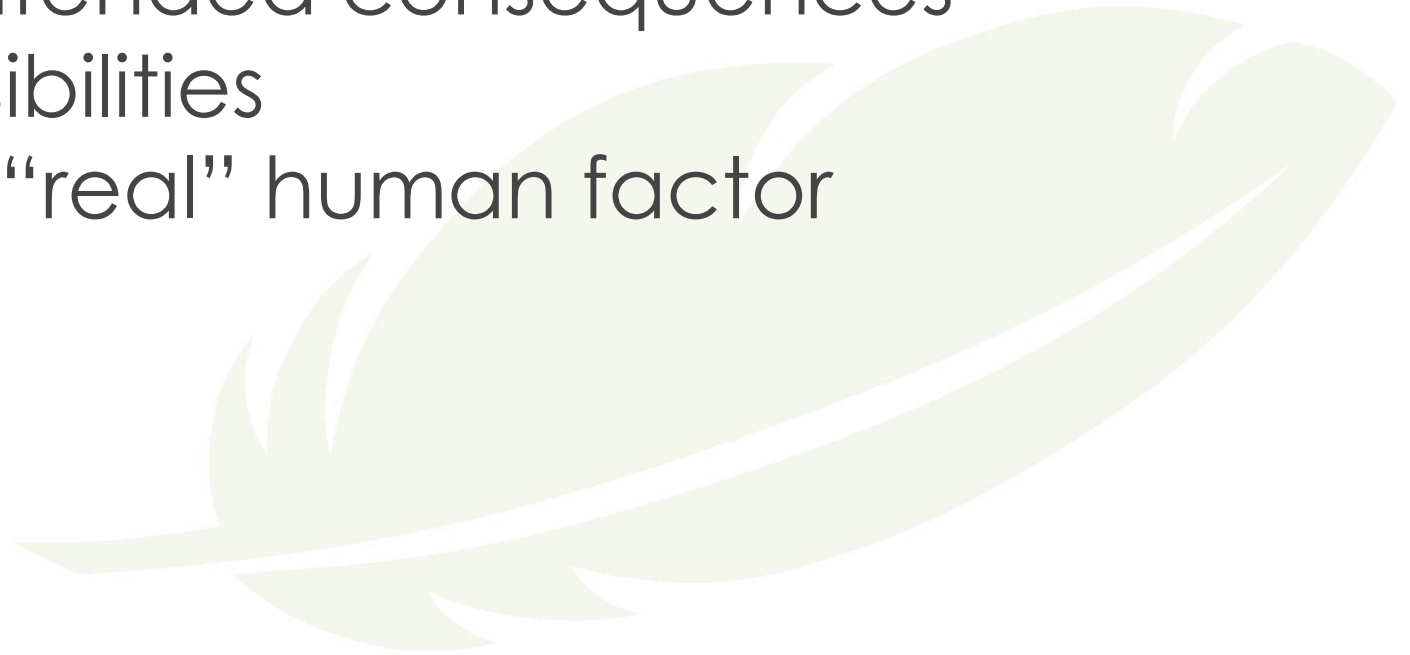
HumanFactors[SA]  
A U S T R A L I A

# Geek Credentials



# Overview

- The focus is on the *Human Factor*
- Drones 101
- Unintended consequences
- Possibilities
- The “real” human factor



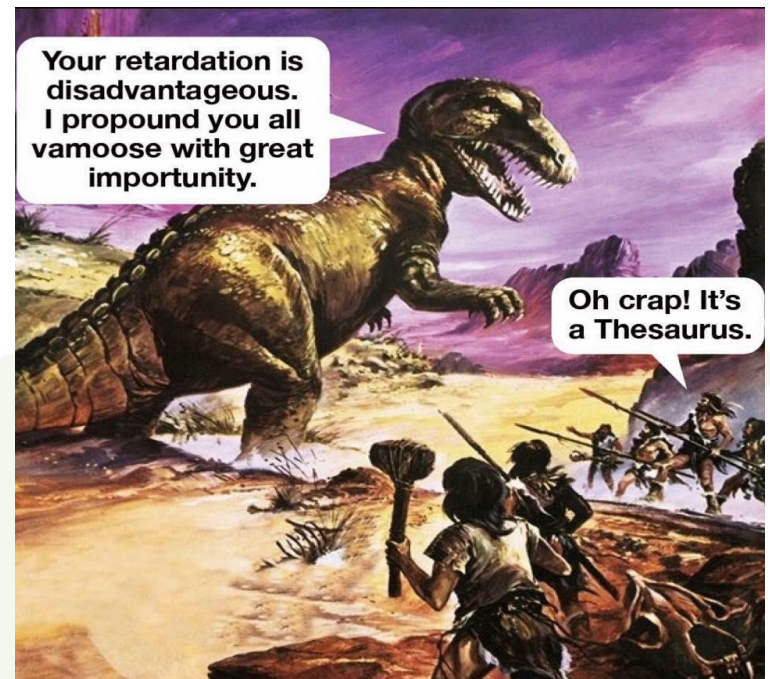
## The Focus is on the Human

How *humans* behave physically and psychologically in relation to particular environments, products, or services.



# What is a Drone?

- Unmanned Aircraft (UA)
- Remotely Operated Aircraft (ROA)
- Remotely Piloted Vehicle (RPV)
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV),
- Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA)





# What Are They Used For?

- Load-Delivery
- Passenger Transport
- Hobby and Entertainment Uses
- Journalism
- Voyeurnalism
- Law Enforcement
- Community Policing
- Voyeurism
- Hostile Load-Delivery



## Predicting the Future from the Past and Present

### Rule of Accuracy:

When working toward the solution of a problem, it always helps if you know the answer.

### Corollary:

Provided, of course, that you know there is a problem.

### Corollary Corollary:

Every solution breeds new problems.



# Human Behaviour is Unpredictable

*"Next Christmas the iPod will be dead, finished, gone, kaput."*

**(Alan Sugar, 2000)**

*"Using Twitter for literate communication is about as likely as firing up a CB radio and hearing some guy recite The Illiad."*

**(Bruce Sterling in The New York Times, 2007)**

*"There is no chance that the iPhone is going to get any significant market share. No chance."*

**(Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer, 2007)**

*"I think there is a world market for maybe five computers."*

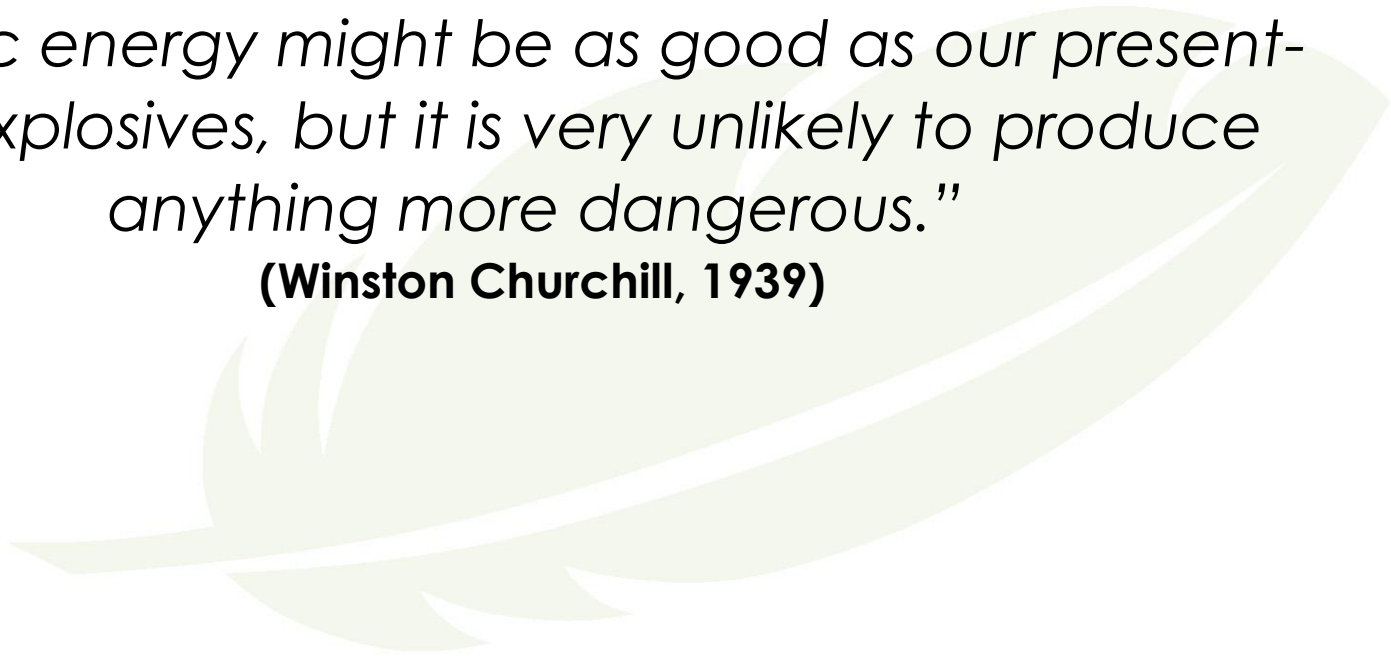
**(Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943)**



# Human Behaviour is Unpredictable

*"I predict the internet will soon go spectacularly supernova and in 1996 catastrophically collapse."*  
**(Robert Metcalfe, inventor of Ethernet, 1996)**

*"Atomic energy might be as good as our present-day explosives, but it is very unlikely to produce anything more dangerous."*  
**(Winston Churchill, 1939)**



# The Humans Factor



## It Probably Won't Be the Obvious Concern

- About half of the 180 occurrences from 2012 to 2016 involved near encounters with manned aircraft.
- To date, there have been no reported collisions between RPAS and manned aircraft in Australia.
- Collisions with terrain, accounting for 52 occurrences between 2012 and 2016
- Terrain collisions were most commonly associated with a loss of control (about 40 per cent), a bird striking the RPAS (about 10 per cent), or engine failure or malfunction (10 per cent).
- World-wide, there have been five known collisions. (*ATSB, 2016*)

## **It Probably Won't Be the Obvious Concern**

- Crash into White House gardens
- Dead cat made in drone named Orville
- Pokemon drone used to cheat
- Drone crash into hot springs –ecological damage
- Flame thrower drone
- Drug delivery into prisons
- Drone used to walk son to school
- Drone steals dog
- Drone operator fined for starting a bushfire in West Australian farmland

# Why Worry?

A high reliability organisation is chronically uneasy. It knows things will go wrong, and a safe culture is one that's constantly reminding you to be afraid, to be wary.

(Professionals) are the ones who recognise error-prone situations, detect their errors, have considered the possibility of going wrong in these circumstances, have contingencies in place, and can compensate for it.

*James Reason*

# Some Relevant Lessons from Automation?

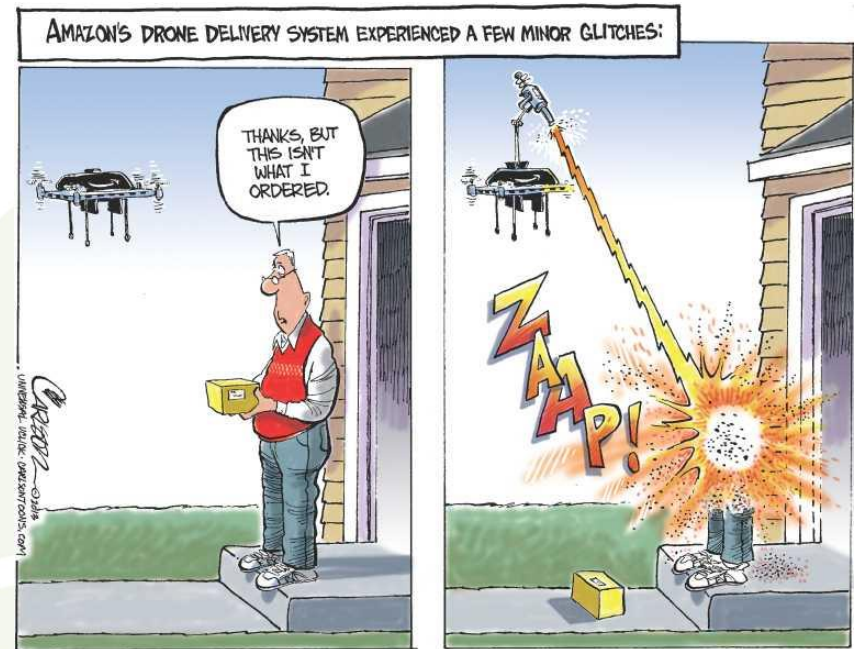
- Decision making – whose decisions – designer, the drone, the operator?
- Monitoring and display
- Overreliance / Complacency
- Adequacy of training
- Situational awareness / vigilance
- Inappropriate use of systems
- Loss of manual proficiency
- Design faults / automation surprises





# Some Relevant Lessons from Automation?

- How do you control for ethics? Whose ethics?



# Ethical Issues

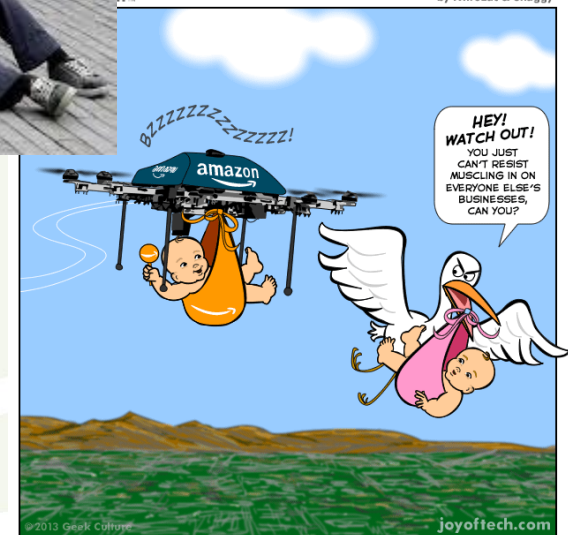
- Voyeurnalism
- Law enforcement - unconstrained surveillance
- Permanent drone enabled “neighbourhood watch”
- “Community protection” used to indulge in voyeurism
- Hostile load-delivery
- Drones malperformance arising from information overload on analysts

# Some Relevant Lessons from Automation?

- How do we consider cultural differences?
- The “Gulfs of Execution and Evaluation”



# The Future

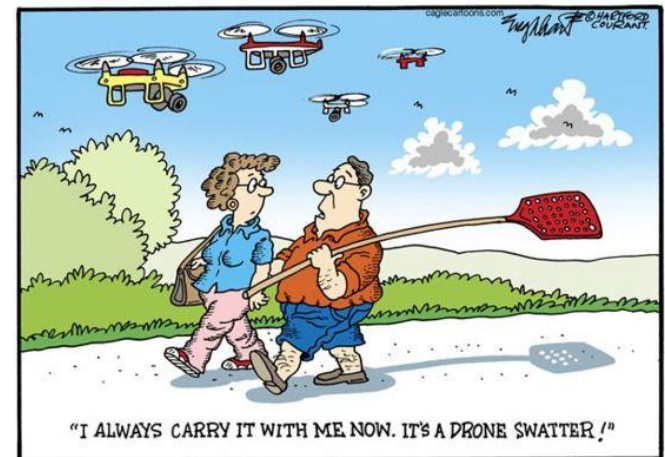


# Backyards of the Future





# The Fundamental Orifice Factor





# Things we never thought of, take on a life of their own



# The Human Factor

Practices do not  
follow rules rather  
rules follow  
evolving  
practices.

*Dekker, 2014*

Form follows  
Function

*Louis Sullivan*

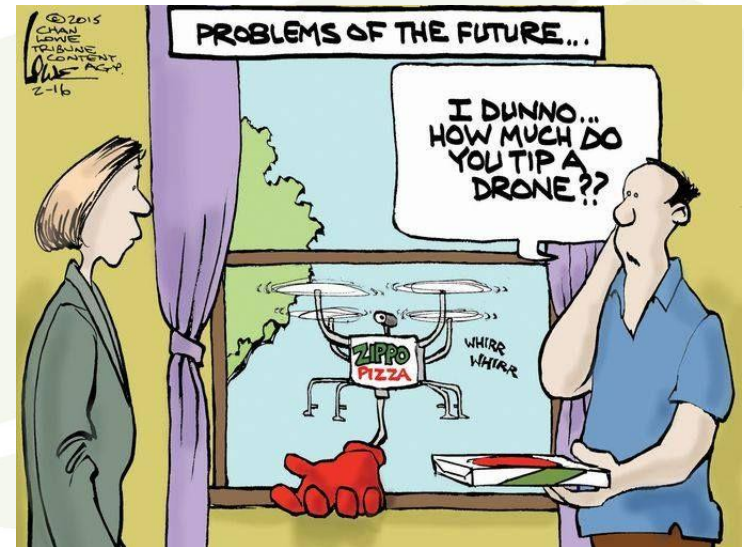


# Answers?

The problem is that we don't know if there will be a problem.

Will there be:

- Black Swan events
- Drift Into Failure
- Unintended consequences
- WT? moments
- Oh of courses!



# References

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