

## **Stephen Hawking warns artificial intelligence could end mankind**

Professor Stephen Hawking is one of Britain's star scientists. He said that thinking machines menace our existence.

He told the BBC: "The development of full artificial intelligence could be the end of the human race."

The theoretical physicist has the motor neurone disease amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). He uses a new system developed by Intel to speak. This technology is a basic form of AI.

Machine learning experts from Swiftkey were involved in its creation. Their technology is also already employed as a smartphone keyboard app. It learns how the professor thinks and suggests the words he might want to use.

Professor Hawking says the primitive forms of artificial intelligence are very useful. But, he thinks it's dangerous to create something as intelligent as humans.

"It might take off on its own, and re-design itself at an ever increasing rate," he said.

"Humans, who are limited by slow biological evolution, couldn't compete, and might be superseded."

But others are less pessimistic.

"I believe we will control technology for a long time. It might solve many of the world problems," said Rollo Carpenter, creator of Cleverbot.

Cleverbot learns from past conversations. It has gained high scores in the Turing test and people believe they are talking to a human.

Mr Carpenter says we do not have the computing power to create full artificial intelligence. But believes it will come in the next few decades.

"We cannot quite know what will happen if a machine exceeds our intelligence, so we can't know if we'll be helped by it or destroyed by it," he says.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/technology-30290540>