

Best in Tech 2015



Cover art by Viktor Hachmang

10 Breakthrough Technologies

Some breakthroughs arrive ready to use, some set the stage for innovations to emerge later. Either way, the milestones on this list will be worth watching for years to come.

- 8 **Magic Leap**.....by Rachel Metz
- 14 **Nano-Architecture**.....by Katherine Bourzac
- 18 **Car-to-Car Communication**.....by Will Knight
- 20 **Project Loon**.....by Tom Simonite
- 26 **The Liquid Biopsy**.....by Michael Standaert
- 28 **Megascale Desalination**.....by David Talbot
- 30 **Apple Pay**.....by Robert D. Hof
- 34 **Brain Organoids**.....by Russ Juskalian
- 38 **Supercharged Photosynthesis**.....by Kevin Bullis
- 40 **Internet of DNA**.....by Antonio Regalado

50 Smartest Companies

Too many apps, not enough big ideas: the standard complaint about modern enterprises. Wondering where the audacious, innovative, visionary companies are? Just see our list.

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- 50 **Rebooting the Automobile**.....by Will Knight
- 56 **Slowing the Biological Clock**.....by Amanda Schaffer

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Who Will Own the Robots?.....by David Rotman

Innovators Under 35

Our stories on these young innovators offer a window into the challenges and rewards of creating technologies to address the world's greatest needs.

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- 76 **Entrepreneurs**
- 81 **Visionaries**
- 86 **Pioneers**
- 93 **Humanitarians**

- 96 **82 Years Ago** From our archives, a 1933 essay on the effects of automation.