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The KIT — Knowledge & Information Technology
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➡ 8 Years and Counting

Today marks the eighth anniversary of cébé IT & Knowledge Management, and of this information letter. Thanks for your fidelity!

We're still doing well, with consulting engagements in Mexico (in association with Cutter Services of Mexico) and the U.S., collaboration with the Object Management Group and the Industrial Internet Consortium, and participation in the Steering Committee of the Cloud Standards Customer Council.

On July 1, the company and its owners will be relocating from Austin, Texas to San Rafael, Calif. (just north of San Francisco). Nothing else will change, including contact information, and we will continue to serve our customers from a cooler place.

➡ ACM Blockchain Webinar

It's all the rage now, but it's still not obvious to (a) understand what blockchain is, (b) imagine all the areas to which it might apply. If you missed it live, you can watch the replay of "The Next Radical Internet Transformation: How Blockchain Technology is Transforming Business, Governments, Computing, and Security Models," presented by Mark Mueller-Eberstein, entrepreneur, investor, consultant and Professor at Rutgers University's Business School.

➡ IT Service Management

On June 15, research firm Enterprise Management Associates (EMA) will present a webinar on the evolution of IT Service Management toward "integrated capabilities to support asset management, operations, development and the IT executive and business community."

➡ Quitting While You're on Top

Playing games at or above human level has long been a way to measure the capability of expert systems and other artificial intelligence software. In the 1970s, computer programs could play checkers, and chess (with its much more complicated rules and moves) was the stretch goal. Even before a computer could play against a grand master, it was known that the Japanese game of Go was even tougher. That challenge has been met by AlphaGo, A.I. software from the DeepMind division of Google.

So where does one go (pun intended) from there? Interestingly, DeepMind announced on May 27 that it is retiring AlphaGo and will apply the lessons learned to the pursuit of challenges that are arguably more socially valuable -- such as "new cures for diseases, dramatically reducing energy consumption, or inventing revolutionary new materials." More details in this International Business Times article.

Smart Cities and Secure IoT Upgrades

This paper by Steven Miller, professor at Singapore Management University, is a summary of a panel he recently moderated, entitled "How Smart Systems Enable More Liveable Cities." The issues of secure upgrades to systems was mentioned -- something that's starting to be recognized as a big looming cybersecurity threat.

Seen Recently...

"Welcome to Planet of the APIs."

-- Rubrik Inc., in a promotional tweet