

**The Internet of Things & Wearable Technology:
Addressing Privacy & Security Concerns without Derailing Innovation**

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I. INTRODUCTION

The next great wave of Internet-enabled innovation has arrived and it is poised to revolutionize the way humans interact with the world around them. This paper highlights some of the opportunities presented by the rise of the so-called “Internet of Things” and wearable technology in particular, and encourages policymakers to allow these technologies to develop in a relatively unabated fashion.

Wearable technologies are networked devices that can collect data, track activities, and customize experiences to users’ needs and desires. These technologies are a subset of the Internet of Things, which refers to networked “smart devices” equipped with microchips, sensors, and wireless communications capabilities.¹ Wearable technologies are among the fastest growing segment of the Internet of Things (IoT) and promise to have widespread societal impacts in coming years.²

As with other new and highly disruptive digital technologies, however, the Internet of Things and wearable tech will challenge existing social, economic, and legal norms. In particular, these technologies raise a variety of privacy and safety concerns. Other barriers exist that could hold back IoT and wearable tech—including disputes over technical standards, system interoperability, and access to adequate spectrum to facilitate wireless networking—but those issues are not dealt with here.³ Some IoT technologies will raise safety issues, but those are only

¹ Charles McLellan, *M2M and the Internet of Things: A guide*, ZD NET, Jan. 10, 2013, <http://www.zdnet.com/m2m-and-the-internet-of-things-7000008219>.

² David Evans, *The Future of Wearable Technology: Smaller, Cheaper, Faster, and Truly Personal Computing*, LINKEDIN, Oct. 24, 2013, <http://www.linkedin.com/today/post/article/20131024145405-122323-the-future-of-wearable-technology-smaller-cheaper-faster-and-truly-personal-computing>.

³ Bob Violino, *The Internet of Things Gets Real*, NETWORK WORLD, June 2, 2014, <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2014/060214-internet-of-things-281935.html?hpg1=bn>; (quoting Daniel Castro, director of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation’s Center for Data Innovation in Washington, saying: “A big issue is standards and interoperability. ... Building the IoT will require massive amounts of cooperation and coordination between firms.”)

briefly addressed here. The focus of this article will be on the privacy and security concerns that are already prompting calls for policy interventions.⁴

Some of the privacy and security concerns about IoT and wearable technologies are legitimate and deserve responses. But those responses should not be “top-down” or command-and-control in nature. Privacy and security are important values worthy of attention, but so too are innovation, entrepreneurialism, economic growth, price competition, and consumer choice. Regulation—especially regulation of fast-moving, rapidly-evolving technologies—is likely to be premature, overly-rigid, and unlikely to allow the many beneficial uses of these technologies.⁵ This would be highly unfortunate since these technologies “will have profound implications for addressing important social and economic issues.”⁶

Generally speaking, therefore, barring clear evidence of direct risk to health or property—not merely hypothetical or ephemeral fears—policymakers should not impose prophylactic restrictions on the use of new wearable technologies and the Internet of Things. The default position toward these technologies should be “innovation allowed” or “permissionless innovation.”⁷ The burden of proof rests on those who favor precautionary regulation to explain why ongoing experimentation with Internet of Things technologies should be prevented preemptively by force of law.

The better alternative to top-down regulation is to deal with concerns creatively as they develop using a combination of educational efforts, technological empowerment tools, social norms, public and watchdog pressure, industry best practices and self-regulation, transparency, and targeted enforcement of existing legal standards (especially torts) as needed. This “bottom-up” and “layered” approach to dealing with problems will not preemptively suffocate experimentation and innovation in this space. This paper concludes by outlining these solutions.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we should not overlook the role societal and individual adaptation will play here, just as it has with so many other turbulent technological transformations. Even though formidable privacy and security challenges await, individuals and institutions will adjust in an evolutionary, resilient fashion, just as they have to earlier disruptive technologies.

⁴ Scott R. Peppet, *Regulating the Internet of Things: First Steps Toward Managing Discrimination, Privacy, Security & Consent*, TEXAS L. REV. (forthcoming, 2014), http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2409074.

⁵ Daniel F. Spulber, *Unlocking Technology: Antitrust and Innovation*, 4 JOURNAL OF COMPETITION LAW & ECONOMICS 965 (2008) (“Governments are notoriously inept at picking technology winners. Understanding technology requires extensive scientific and technical knowledge. Government agencies cannot expect to replicate or improve upon private sector knowledge. Technological innovation is uncertain by its very nature because it is based on scientific discoveries. The benefits of new technologies and the returns to commercial development also are uncertain.”)

⁶ Daniel Castro, *Internet of Things Meets Holiday Wish Lists*, INFORMATION WEEK, Dec. 4, 2013, <http://www.informationweek.com/strategic-cio/executive-insights-and-innovation/internet-of-things-meets-holiday-wish-lists/d/d-id/1112901>.

⁷ Adam Thierer, PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION: THE CONTINUING CASE FOR COMPREHENSIVE TECHNOLOGICAL FREEDOM (2014).

II. THE GROWTH OF THE INTERNET OF THINGS & WEARABLE TECH: APPLICATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

A. The Internet of Things Arrives

Many of the underlying drivers of the Internet and Information Age revolution—massive increases in processing power,⁸ exploding storage capacity,⁹ the steady miniaturization of computing and cameras,¹⁰ ubiquitous wireless communications and networking capabilities,¹¹ the digitization of all data,¹² massive data sets (or “big data”¹³)—are beginning to have a profound impact beyond the confines of cyberspace.¹⁴ For example, it is cheaper than ever to integrate a microchip, a sensor, a camera, and even an accelerometer into devices today.¹⁵ “Thanks to advances in circuits and software,” observe Neil Gershenfeld and J.P. Vasseur, “it is now possible to make a Web server that fits on (or in) a fingertip for \$1.”¹⁶ As costs continue to fall¹⁷ and these technologies are increasingly embedded into almost all devices we own and come into contact with, a truly “seamless web” of connectivity and “pervasive computing” will exist.¹⁸

⁸ Hal Abelson, Ken Ledeen, and Harry Lewis, *BLOWN TO BITS: YOUR LIFE, LIBERTY, AND HAPPINESS AFTER THE DIGITAL EXPLOSION 8-9* (2008) (“The rapid increase in processing power means that inventions move out of labs and into consumer goods very quickly.”).

⁹⁹ Sebastian Anthony, *How big is the cloud?* EXTREME TECH, May 23, 2012, <http://www.extremetech.com/computing/129183-how-big-is-the-cloud>; Steve Lohr, *Data Explosion Lifts the Storage Market*, NEW YORK TIMES BITS, Sept. 9, 2011, <http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/09/09/data-explosion-lifts-the-storage-market>.

¹⁰ David G. Stork & Patrick R. Gill, *Lensless Ultra-Miniature CMOS Computational Imagers and Sensors*, undated manuscript (last accessed June 24, 2014), <http://www.rambus.com/assets/documents/papers/StorkGillSensorComm.pdf>.

¹¹ Darrell M. West, Brookings Institution, *The State of the Mobile Economy, 2014: Its Impact and Future*, Sept. 2014, <http://www.brookings.edu/research/papers/2014/09/10-state-mobile-economy-2014-west>; Christopher S. Yoo, *THE DYNAMIC INTERNET: HOW TECHNOLOGY, USERS, AND BUSINESS ARE TRANSFORMING THE NETWORK 48-54* (2012).

¹² Nicholas Negroponte, *BEING DIGITAL 14-20* (1995); Abelson, et. al., at 5-6.

¹³ Daniel Castro, *The Public Policy Implications of ‘Big Data,’* Center for Data Innovation, March 31, 2014, <http://www2.datainnovation.org/2014-ostp-big-data-cdi.pdf>.

¹⁴ Luke Dormehl, *Internet of Things: It's all coming together for a tech revolution*, THE GUARDIAN, June 7, 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2014/jun/08/internet-of-things-coming-together-tech-revolution>.

¹⁵ Bill Wasik, *Why Wearable Tech Will Be as Big as the Smartphone*, WIRED, Dec. 17, 2013, <http://www.wired.com/gadgetlab/2013/12/wearable-computers>, (“Thanks to what former *Wired* editor in chief Chris Anderson has called the ‘peace dividend of the smartphone wars,’ sensors and chip sets are cheaper now than ever, making it easier for small companies to incorporate sophisticated hardware into wearable devices.” This means, Wasik explains, that “it has become possible for tiny companies to dream up, build, and sell wearable devices in competition with big companies, a feat that was never possible with smartphones.”)

¹⁶ Neil Gershenfeld & J.P. Vasseur, *As Objects Go Online*, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, March/April 2014, <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/140745/neil-gershenfeld-and-jp-vasseur/as-objects-go-online>.

¹⁷ David Rose, *ENCHANTED OBJECTS: DESIGN, HUMAN DESIRE, AND THE INTERNET OF THINGS 11* (2014) (“now it seems as if we’re getting closer to the Internet of Things, primarily because the price of computation and connectivity has been reduced to almost nothing.”)

¹⁸ Dave Evans, *The Internet of Things: How the Next Evolution of the Internet Is Changing Everything*, CISCO WHITE PAPER 2 (April 2011), http://www.cisco.com/web/about/ac79/docs/innov/IoT_IBSG_0411FINAL.pdf.

As a result of these factors, even mundane appliances and other machines and devices that we have long taken for granted—cars, refrigerators, cooking devices, lights, weight scales, watches, jewelry, eyeglasses, and even our clothing—will all soon be networked, sensing, automated, and communicating.¹⁹ This so-called “Internet of Things” (IoT), or “machine-to-machine” connectivity and communications²⁰—promises to usher in “a third computing revolution”²¹ and bring about profound changes that will rival the first wave of Internet innovation.²²

The first use of the term “Internet of Things” is attributed to Kevin Ashton, who used it in the title of a 1999 presentation.²³ A decade later, he reflected on the term and its meaning:

If we had computers that knew everything there was to know about things—using data they gathered without any help from us—we would be able to track and count everything, and greatly reduce waste, loss and cost. We would know when things needed replacing, repairing or recalling, and whether they were fresh or past their best.

We need to empower computers with their own means of gathering information, so they can see, hear and smell the world for themselves, in all its random glory. RFID and sensor technology enable computers to observe, identify and understand the world—without the limitations of human-entered data.²⁴

More recently, analysts with Morrison Foerster have defined the IoT as “the network of everyday physical objects which surround us and that are increasingly being embedded with technology to enable those objects to collect and transmit data about their use and surroundings.”²⁵ These low-power devices typically rely on sensor technologies²⁶ as well as

¹⁹ Glen Martin, *Wearable intelligence*, O'REILLY RADAR, Apr. 1, 2014, <http://radar.oreilly.com/2014/04/wearable-intelligence.html> (noting that “Intelligent devices other than phones and screens — smart headsets, glasses, watches, bracelets — are insinuating themselves into our daily lives. The technology for even less intrusive mechanisms, such as jewelry, buttons, and implants, exists and will ultimately find commercial applications.”) A database of many current wearable technologies can be found at: <http://vandrico.com/database>. Also see: Abigail Tracy, “How the Internet of Things Actually Works [Infographic],” *Inc.*, March 25, 2014, <http://www.inc.com/abigail-tracy/infographic-understand-the-internet-of-things.html>.

²⁰ John Naughton, *The Internet of Things: it's a really big deal*, THE GUARDIAN, June 14, 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2014/jun/15/networker-internet-of-things-john-naughton-hacking>.

²¹ Timothy B. Lee, *Everything's connected: How tiny computers could change the way we live*, Vox, Aug. 13, 2014, <http://www.vox.com/2014/5/8/5590228/how-tiny-computers-could-change-the-way-we-live>.

²² Michael Mandel, *Can the Internet of Everything Bring Back the High-Growth Economy?* Progressive Policy Institute POLICY MEMO 9 (Sept. 2013), <http://www.progressivepolicy.org/2013/09/can-the-internet-of-everything-bring-back-the-high-growth-economy>, (“No one can predict the ultimate course of innovative technologies, but it appears that the Internet of Everything has the potential to help revive the high-growth economy.”)

²³ Kevin Ashton, *That 'Internet of Things' Thing*, RFID JOURNAL, June 22, 2009, <http://www.rfidjournal.com/articles/view?4986>.

²⁴ Id.

²⁵ Amy Collins, Adam J. Fleisher, D. Reed Freeman, Jr. & Alistair Maughan, *The Internet of Things Part 1: Brave New World*, Morrison Foerster CLIENT ALERT 1 (March 18, 2014), <http://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/the-internet-of-things-part-1-brave-new-23154>.

²⁶ Shawn G. DuBravac, *A Hundred Billion Nodes*, in TECHNOLOGY TRENDS TO WATCH 2014 6, 7 (2014) (“The ‘sensor’ization of technology creates a deluge of connected devices digitizing information in near real-time and

existing wireless networking systems and protocols (Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, near field communication, and GPS) to facilitate those objectives.²⁷ This will, in turn, fuel the creation of even more “big data.”²⁸ Many of these technologies and capabilities will eventually operate in the background of our lives and be almost invisible to us.²⁹

The Internet of Things is also sometimes viewed as being synonymous with “smart” systems, such as “smart homes,”³⁰ “smart buildings,”³¹ “smart appliances,”³² “smart health,”³³ “smart mobility,” “smart cities,”³⁴ and so on.³⁵ “Smart car” technology is also expanding rapidly.³⁶ Some experts even predict that “the automobile could be the first great wearable computer” and that “your car might be the second most-used computing device you own before too long.”³⁷ (Intelligent vehicle technology was the subject of another recent Mercatus Center working

providing this data in troves to anything they can. . . . There are already hundreds of ways sensors and computing partner with connectivity to create an Internet of Things. All of these systems can become a function of a series of data points captured from a wide swath of sensors. These systems become contextually aware and continuously updated as new information becomes available.”

²⁷ Rahul Patel, *Where Is Wearable Tech Headed?* GIGAOM, Sept. 28, 2013, <http://gigaom.com/2013/09/28/where-is-wearable-tech-headed>.

²⁸ Gil Allouche, *Big Data and the Internet of Things: A Powerful Combination*, SMART DATA COLLECTIVE, June 4, 2014, <http://smartdatacollective.com/gilallouche/202371/big-data-and-internet-things-powerful-combination> (“What happens, then, when you combine these two seemingly up and coming enigmas? You have an extremely powerful combination. Working together, big data and IoT have the potential to drastically change how things are done.”).

²⁹ DuBravac, *A Hundred Billion Nodes*, at 8, (“For the foreseeable future, the Internet of Things will toggle between the visible and invisible world and eventually, a large portion of the Internet of Things will slip into invisibility. Using sensors to collect information digitally, and employing algorithms and computing to utilize this information, a device’s ability to self-regulate will increasingly take place in the background.”)

³⁰ Mike Robuck, *Smart home survey: ‘Internet of Things’ will take flight in five years*, CED MAGAZINE, May 14, 2014, <http://www.cedmagazine.com/news/2014/05/smart-home-survey-%E2%80%98internet-of-things%E2%80%99-will-take-flight-in-five-years>; Sarah Susanka, *Sarah Susanka Says the Home of the Future Will Be a Portal*, WALL ST. J., July 8, 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/sarah-susanka-says-the-home-of-the-future-will-be-a-portal-1404764842> (“We’re hearing a lot of late about “smart homes,” but like the Internet in 1995, it hasn’t quite caught on yet. Watch out, though. This is one of the big shifts headed our way.”).

³¹ Mellisa Tolentino, *Smart building projects to boom in 2018*, SILICON ANGLE, Apr. 16, 2014, <http://siliconangle.com/blog/2014/04/16/smart-building-projects-to-boom-in-2018>.

³² Yohana Desta, *Why You’re Not Seeing More Smart Home Appliances*, Mashable, Apr. 26, 2014, <http://mashable.com/2014/04/26/smart-home-appliances>.

³³ James Temple, *The Race to Dominate Digital Health Heats Up*, RECODE, June 23, 2014, <http://recode.net/2014/06/23/the-race-to-dominate-digital-health-heats-up>.

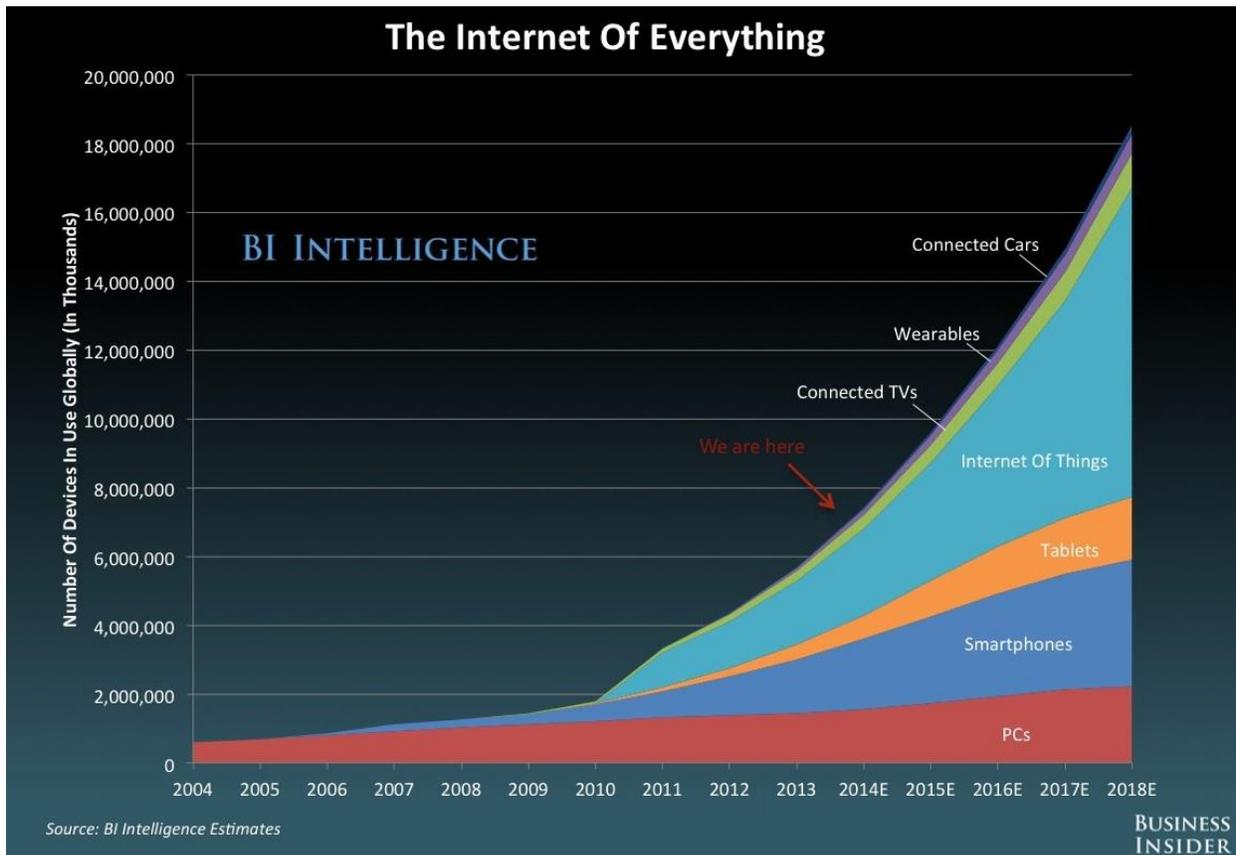
³⁴ Anthony Townsend, *SMART CITIES: BIG DATA, CIVIC HACKERS, AND THE QUEST FOR A NEW UTOPIA* (2013).

³⁵ Ian G. Smith (ed.), Internet of Things European Research Cluster, *The Internet of Things 2012—New Horizons* 29-31 (2012).

³⁶ Jonathan M. Gitlin, *The past, present, and future of in-car infotainment*, ARS TECHNICA, June 3, 2014, <http://arstechnica.com/gadgets/2014/06/the-past-present-and-future-of-in-car-infotainment>.

³⁷ Jonathan M. Gitlin, *Industries collide: How automakers are adapting to consumer tech life cycles*, ARS TECHNICA, June 3, 2014, <http://arstechnica.com/cars/2014/06/industries-collide-how-automakers-are-adapting-to-consumer-tech-life-cycles>.

paper.)³⁸ The systems undergirding IoT are still evolving rapidly with a variety of wireless technologies and protocols being used to connect these devices together and let them communicate.³⁹ “In blending the physical and digital worlds we essentially extend the original concept of hyperlinking to include physical objects,” notes Shawn G. DuBravac, Chief Economist and Sr. Director of Research for the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA).⁴⁰ “The power of these devices, in essence, is their ability to sample information millions of times more often than we as people can,” he says.⁴¹



The promise of the IoT, as described by *New York Times* reporter Steve Lohr, is that, “billions of digital devices, from smartphones to sensors in homes, cars and machines of all kinds, will communicate with each other to automate tasks and make life better.”⁴² “Consumers and public officials can use the connected world to improve energy conservation, efficiency,

³⁸ Adam Thierer & Ryan Hagemann, *Removing Roadblocks to Intelligent Vehicles and Driverless Cars*, Mercatus Center at George Mason University, WORKING PAPER, September 2014, _____.

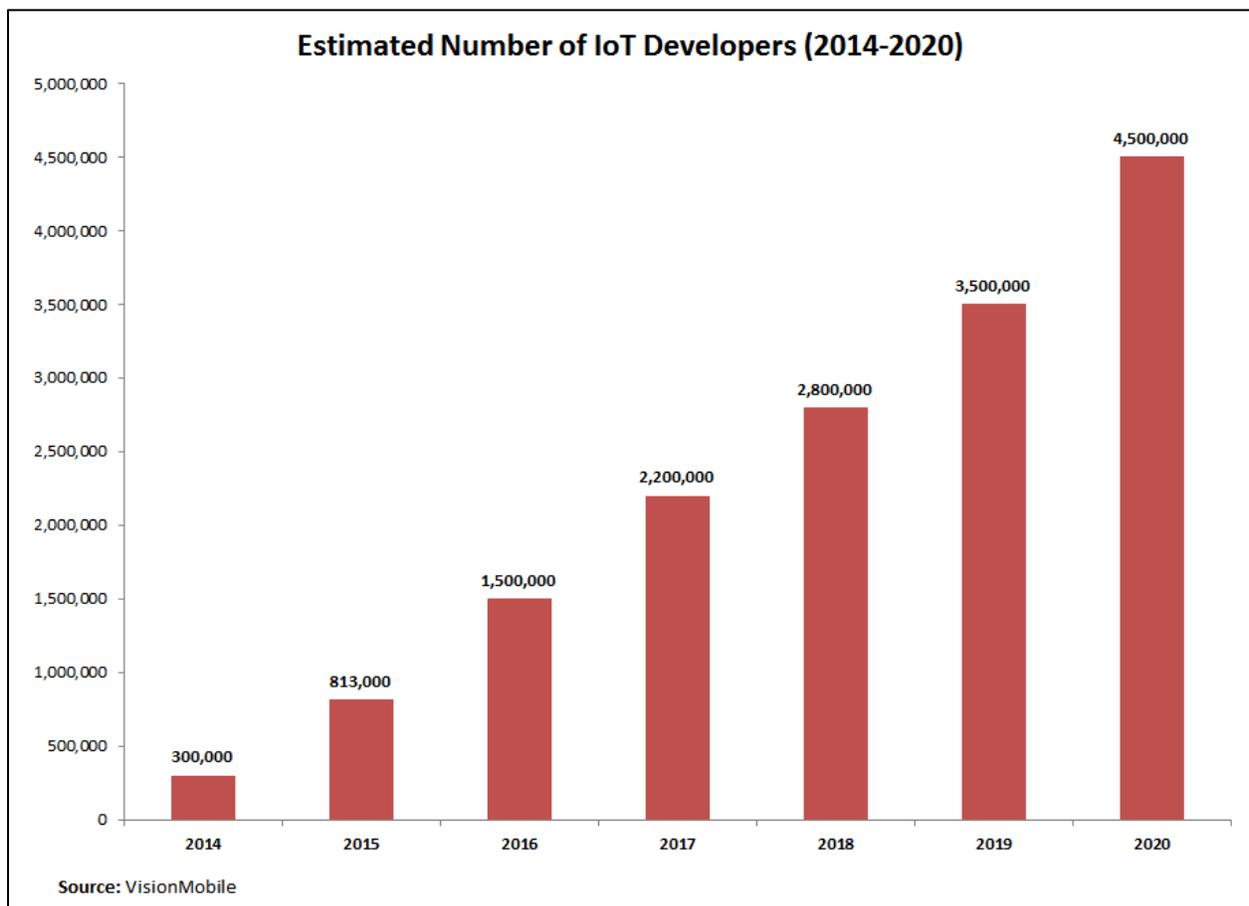
³⁹ See Patrick Thibodeau, *Explained: The ABCs of the Internet of Things*, COMPUTERWORLD, May 6, 2014, http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9248058/Explained_The_ABCs_of_the_Internet_of_Things_.

⁴⁰ DuBravac, *A Hundred Billion Nodes*, at 4.

⁴¹ *Id.*, at 6.

⁴² Steve Lohr, *A Messenger for the Internet of Things*, N.Y. Times, Apr. 25, 2013, <http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/04/25/a-messenger-for-the-internet-of-things>.

productivity, public safety, health, education, and more,” predicts CEA.⁴³ “The connected devices and applications that consumers choose to adopt will make their lives easier, safer, healthier, less expensive, and more productive.”⁴⁴ In addition to giving us more control over our lives, these technologies can also help us free up time by automating routine tasks and chores.⁴⁵ In a new book on these technologies and their promise, David Rose of the MIT Media Lab describes an emerging world of “enchanted objects,” which are objects that “start as ordinary things,” but then are “augmented and enhanced through the use of emerging technologies—sensors, actuators, wireless connection, and embedded processing—so that it becomes extraordinary.”⁴⁶ Through this transformation from ordinary to extraordinary, the newly enchanted object “evokes an emotional response from you and enhances your life,” he argues.⁴⁷



⁴³ Consumer Electronics Association, *Comments to the Federal Trade Commission on Internet of Things, Project No. P135405*, June 10, 2013, at 7.

⁴⁴ *Id.*

⁴⁵ Daniel Castro, *Algorithms and Automation Will Give Us More Freedom and Control*, IDEAS LAB, July 8, 2014, <http://www.ideaslaboratory.com/2014/07/08/algorithms-and-automation-will-give-us-more-freedom-and-control> (“Because as more processes are put on autopilot, we will unyoke ourselves from routine tasks and enjoy the freedom to help those on the margins.”)

⁴⁶ Rose, *ENCHANTED OBJECTS*, *supra* note __, at 47.

⁴⁷ *Id.*

This technological “enchantment” is already occurring at a breakneck pace. According to Dave Evans of Cisco, by 2020, thirty-seven billion intelligent things will be connected and communicating.⁴⁸ Thus, we are rapidly approaching the point where “everyone and everything will be connected to the network.”⁴⁹ ABI Research estimates that there are more than 10 billion wirelessly connected devices in the market today and more than 30 billion devices expected by 2020.⁵⁰ The consultancy IDC predicts far greater penetration of 212 billion installed devices by that year.⁵¹ VisionMobile projects that the number of IoT developers will grow from roughly 300,000 in 2014 to over 4.5 million by 2020.⁵²

The benefits associated with these developments could be enormous.⁵³ McKinsey Global Institute estimates the potential economic impact of the IoT to be \$2.7 trillion to \$6.2 trillion per year by 2025⁵⁴ and IDC estimates that this market will grow at a compound annual growth rate of 7.9 percent between now and 2020, to reach \$8.9 trillion.⁵⁵ Cisco analysts estimate that the Internet of Things will create \$14.4 trillion in value between 2013 and 2022.⁵⁶ Many other analysts and consultancies have predicted similar growth and economic impacts,⁵⁷ and agree with the Progressive Policy Institute’s chief economic strategist Michael Mandel, who argues

⁴⁸ Dave Evans, *Thanks to IoE, the Next Decade Looks Positively ‘Nutty,’* CISCO BLOG, Feb. 12, 2013, <http://blogs.cisco.com/ioe/thanks-to-ioe-the-next-decade-looks-positively-nutty>.

⁴⁹ RFID Working Group of the European Technology Platform on Smart Systems Integration, *INTERNET OF THINGS IN 2020: A ROADMAP FOR THE FUTURE*, 21 (Sept. 5, 2008), http://www.smart-systems-integration.org/public/documents/publications/Internet-of-Things_in_2020_EC-EPoSS_Workshop_Report_2008_v3.pdf.

⁵⁰ ABI Research, *More Than 30 Billion Devices Will Wirelessly Connect to the Internet of Everything in 2020*, May 9, 2013, <https://www.abiresearch.com/press/more-than-30-billion-devices-will-wirelessly-conne>.

⁵¹ Jaikumar Vijayan, *The Internet of Things likely to drive an upheaval for security*, COMPUTERWORLD, May 2, 2014, http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9248069/The_Internet_of_Things_likely_to_drive_an_upheaval_for_security.

⁵² Matt Asay, *The Internet Of Things Will Need Millions Of Developers By 2020*, READWRITE, June 27, 2014, <http://readwrite.com/2014/06/27/internet-of-things-developers-jobs-opportunity>.

⁵³ Emily Adler, *The ‘Internet Of Things’ Will Soon Be A Truly Huge Market, Dwarfing All Other Consumer Electronics Categories*, BUSINESS INSIDER, July 10, 2014, <http://www.businessinsider.com/internet-of-things-will-soon-be-a-truly-huge-market-dwarfing-all-other-consumer-electronics-categories-2014-7>.

⁵⁴ James Manyika, Michael Chui, Jacques Bughin, Richard Dobbs, Peter Bisson & Alex Marrs, McKinsey & Company, *Disruptive Technologies: Advances That Will Transform Life, Business, and the Global Economy*, INSIGHTS & PUBLICATIONS, (May 2013), http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/business_technology/disruptive_technologies.

⁵⁵ Antony Savvas, *Internet of Things Market Will Be Worth Almost \$9 Trillion*, CNME, Oct. 6, 2013, <http://www.cnmeonline.com/news/internet-of-things-market-will-be-worth-almost-9-trillion>.

⁵⁶ Joseph Bradley, Joel Barbier & Doug Handler, *Embracing the Internet of Everything To Capture Your Share of \$14.4 Trillion*, (2013), http://www.cisco.com/web/about/ac79/docs/innov/IoE_Economy.pdf.

⁵⁷ Gil Press, *Internet of Things By The Numbers: Market Estimates And Forecasts*, FORBES, Aug. 22, 2014, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/gilpress/2014/08/22/internet-of-things-by-the-numbers-market-estimates-and-forecasts>.

that the positive effects could reverberate throughout the economy.⁵⁸ Mandel believes that “we are at the next stage of the Internet Revolution,” and “that the Internet of Everything has the potential to help revive the high-growth economy.”⁵⁹

The biggest impacts will likely be in health care, energy, transportation, and retail services. But governments will benefit, too. “Governments are deploying sensors to alert them to failed street lights, leaks in water systems and full trash cans. Sensors will likely have a major role in traffic control, fighting forest fires, and landslide detection.”⁶⁰

But that just scratches the surface in terms of potential money-saving and life-saving applications for IoT technologies.⁶¹ IoT technologies will produce benefits for firms and consumers, many of which will come about only after data is collected and used for entirely new purposes.

For firms, “the IoT has great potential to generate new sources of revenue, improve efficiencies and allow businesses to both increase profits and cut costs.”⁶² There will be many important IoT applications for traditional manufacturing industries as well.⁶³ General Electric coined the term “Industrial Internet” to explain how “the advent of networked machines with embedded sensors and advanced analytics tools” could revolutionize industrial machinery in coming years.⁶⁴ This could result in improved efficiencies and significant cost savings.⁶⁵

For consumers, IoT technologies will offer a staggering array of new devices and services options that will make their lives and jobs easier.⁶⁶ That is especially the case with the subset of IoT technologies known as “wearables,” which will be discussed extensively throughout this paper.

⁵⁸ Michael Mandel, *Can the Internet of Everything Bring Back the High-Growth Economy?* Progressive Policy Institute, POLICY MEMO 9 (Sept. 2013), <http://www.progressivepolicy.org/2013/09/can-the-internet-of-everything-bring-back-the-high-growth-economy>.

⁵⁹ *Id.*

⁶⁰ Patrick Thibodeau, *Explained: The ABCs of the Internet of Things*, COMPUTERWORLD, May 6, 2014, http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9248058/Explained_The_ABCs_of_the_Internet_of_Things_.

⁶¹ Daniel Castro & Travis Korte, Center for Data Innovation, *Data Innovation 101: An Introduction to the Technologies and Policies Supporting Data-Driven Innovation* (Nov. 4, 2013), <http://www.datainnovation.org/2013/11/data-innovation-101>.

⁶² Amy Collins, Adam J. Fleisher, D. Reed Freeman, Jr. & Alistair Maughan, *The Internet of Things Part 1: Brave New World*, Morrison Foerster CLIENT ALERT 3 (March 18, 2014), <http://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/the-internet-of-things-part-1-brave-new-23154>.

⁶³ Steve Lohr, *The Internet Gets Physical*, N.Y. TIMES, Dec. 17 2011, <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/18/sunday-review/the-internet-gets-physical.html>.

⁶⁴ General Electric, *What Is the Industrial Internet?* <https://www.gesoftware.com/industrial-internet>, (last accessed Sept. 9, 2014).

⁶⁵ Jon Bruner, *Defining the industrial Internet*, O'REILLY RADAR, Jan. 11, 2013, <http://radar.oreilly.com/2013/01/defining-the-industrial-internet.html>.

⁶⁶ See generally Daniel Castro & Jordan Misra, Center for Data Innovation, *The Internet of Things* (Nov. 2013), <http://www2.datainnovation.org/2013-internet-of-things.pdf>.

B. The Expanding World of Wearables

In its massive 2002 report on *Converging Technologies for Improving Human Performance*, the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) predicted that, within the next two decades, “Comfortable, wearable sensors and computers will enhance every person’s awareness of his or her health condition, environment, chemical pollutants, potential hazards, and information of interest about local businesses, natural resources, and the like.”⁶⁷ Twelve years later, the future that the NSF predicted is starting to emerge.

While rudimentary “wearable” technologies have been on the market for many years—such as calculator wristwatches, hearing aids, and Bluetooth-enabled communications headsets—this market is now expanding quite rapidly.⁶⁸ Even though “wearables are still looking for their killer app,”⁶⁹ health and fitness wearables are already widely utilized today.⁷⁰ Popular examples of fitness wearables include the FitBit and Jawbone wearable fitness bracelets, which have been on the market several years and command the bulk of market share.⁷¹ The so-called “quantified self” movement refers to individuals who use such digital logging tools to continuously track their daily activity and well-being.⁷² Many users share their data with others to compare results and provide “instant feedback”⁷³ by, for example, notifying individuals about how many steps they have taken or buzzing or even shocking them⁷⁴ to remind them to be more active.

⁶⁷ U.S. National Science Foundation, *CONVERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR IMPROVING HUMAN PERFORMANCE 5* (2002), http://www.wtec.org/ConvergingTechnologies/Report/NBIC_report.pdf.

⁶⁸ Max Knoblach, *The History of Wearable Tech, From the Casino to the Consumer*, MASHABLE, May 13, 2014, <http://mashable.com/2014/05/13/wearable-technology-history>.

⁶⁹ Rachel Metz, *The Internet of You*, MIT TECHNOLOGY REVIEW, May 20, 2014, <http://www.technologyreview.com/news/527386/the-internet-of-you>.

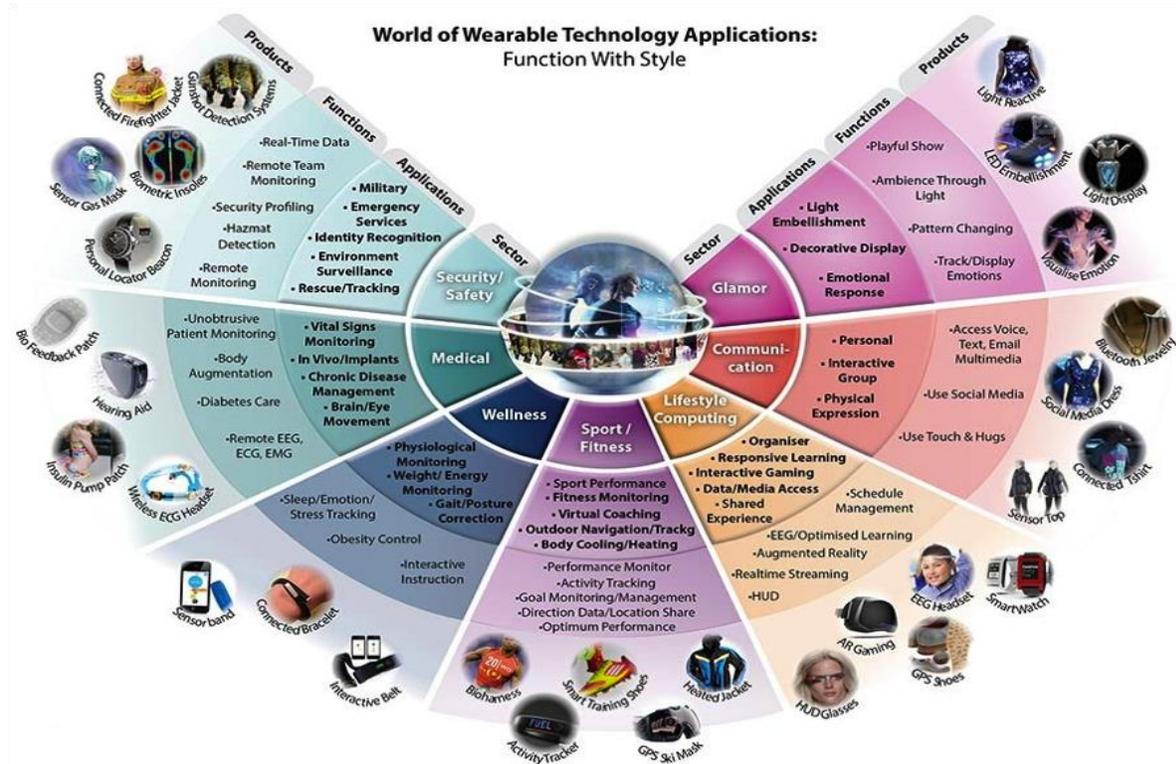
⁷⁰ *Health and appiness*, The Economist, Feb. 1, 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/business/21595461-those-pouring-money-health-related-mobile-gadgets-and-apps-believe-they-can-work>; Brian Bennett, *Wearable Tech Multiplies and Goes Mainstream at MWC 2014*, CNET, Feb. 27, 2014, http://reviews.cnet.com/8301-13970_7-57619658-78/wearable-tech-multiplies-and-goes-mainstream-at-mwc-2014.

⁷¹ Dara Kerr, *Fitbit rules 50 percent of the world’s wearable market*, CNet, May 21, 2014, <http://www.cnet.com/news/fitbit-rules-50-percent-of-the-worlds-wearable-market>.

⁷² *The Quantified Self: Counting Every Moment*, THE ECONOMIST, March 3, 2012, <http://www.economist.com/node/21548493>; Deborah Lupton, *Understanding the human machine*, IEEE TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY MAGAZINE (Winter 2013), https://www.academia.edu/5392119/Understanding_the_human_machine.

⁷³ Katrina Plyler, *What Is Everybody Wearing? Fitness Tech Gadgets!*, U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, Apr. 11, 2014, <http://health.usnews.com/health-news/blogs/eat-run/2014/04/11/what-is-everybody-wearing-fitness-tech-gadgets?int=9a5208>.

⁷⁴ James Trew, *Pavlok is a habit-forming wearable that will shock you*, ENGADGET, July 5, 2014, <http://www.engadget.com/2014/07/04/pavlok-wearable>.



Source: Beecham Research and Wearable Technologies Group

As they grow more sophisticated, wearable health devices will help users track and even diagnose various conditions and potentially advise a course of action or, more simply, just remind users to take medications or contact medical professionals as necessary.⁷⁵ In the process, these health and fitness devices and applications could eventually become “lifestyle remotes” that help us control or automate many other systems around us, whether in our homes, offices, cars, etc.⁷⁶ As a result, wearables will have even more uniquely personal properties and capabilities than the broader Internet of Things, which will raise special privacy concerns discussed later in this paper.

These wearable technologies are gaining more widespread public visibility and now even have their own product section on Amazon.com.⁷⁷ According to research firm Canalys, there was a 700 percent growth in the market for wearable smart bands in the second half of 2013 over the

⁷⁵ Nathan Olivarez-Giles, *WebMD Relaunches iPhone App as a Hub for Fitness Data*, WALL ST. JOUR., June 16, 2014, <http://blogs.wsj.com/personal-technology/2014/06/16/webmd-relaunches-iphone-app-as-a-hub-for-fitness-data>.

⁷⁶ See Rachel Metz, *The Internet of You*, MIT TECHNOLOGY REVIEW, May 20, 2014, <http://www.technologyreview.com/news/527386/the-internet-of-you>; DuBravac, “A Hundred Billion Nodes,” at 7-8.

⁷⁷ Hayley Tsukayama, *Wearable tech grows enough to get its own section on Amazon*, WASH. POST, April 29, 2014, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/the-switch/wp/2014/04/29/wearable-tech-grows-enough-to-get-its-own-section-on-amazon>.

first half.⁷⁸ IDC reports that “wearables took a huge step forward over the past year and shipment volumes will exceed 19 million units in 2014, more than tripling last year’s sales. From there, the global market will swell to 111.9 million units in 2018, resulting in a CAGR [compound annual growth rate] of 78.4%,” they predict.⁷⁹ “Hearables,” or small devices worn in the ear to provide users with relevant real-time information, are also expected to become a major part of the wearable market in coming years.⁸⁰ One wireless analyst estimates that such “smart earbuds” could constitute a \$5 billion market by 2018.⁸¹

Major smartphone and tablet developers such as Apple⁸² and Samsung⁸³ are also getting more active in this space, which will likely give these applications and services even greater visibility. Beyond their touch screens and wireless networking capabilities, modern smartphones include sensors, accelerometers, cameras, microphones, and other capabilities that can be used to collect and transmit various types of user information. At a summer 2014 conference for developers, Apple “unveiled plans to let people use their iPhones and iPads to control an array of Internet-connected devices in their homes, from door locks to lightbulbs.⁸⁴ Apple simultaneously launched “HealthKit,” which will “help apps, third party devices and healthcare services collect, quantify and share your health data... [and] could change the way you track and manage your well-being.”⁸⁵ Google promptly responded with a competing service called “Google Fit.”⁸⁶

Flurry Analytics has found that usage of health and fitness apps is up 62 percent in the last six months compared to 33 percent growth for the entire market of other applications, an 87

⁷⁸ Matt Clinch, *Wearable smart bands set for 350% growth in 2014*, CNBC, Feb. 12, 2014, <http://www.cnn.com/id/101410507>.

⁷⁹ IDC, *Worldwide Wearable Computing Market Gains Momentum with Shipments Reaching 19.2 Million in 2014 and Climbing to Nearly 112 Million in 2018*, Says IDC, PRESS RELEASE, Apr. 10, 2014, <http://www.idc.com/getdoc.jsp?containerId=prUS24794914>.

⁸⁰ Jessica Glazer, *Psst! Wearable Devices Could Make Big Tech Leaps, Into Your Ear*, NPR ALL TECH CONSIDERED, Apr. 29, 2014, <http://www.npr.org/blogs/alltechconsidered/2014/04/23/306171641/psst-wearable-devices-could-make-big-tech-leaps-into-your-ear>.

⁸¹ Rachel Feltman, *The next big thing in wearable tech may be ear computers*, QUARTZ, Apr. 10, 2014, <http://qz.com/196886/the-next-big-thing-in-wearable-tech-may-be-ear-computers/#/h/60425,2/>.

⁸² Hannah Ishmael, *Apple’s HealthKit Platform – Revolutionizing The Healthcare Industry*, BIDNESSETC, July 3, 2014, <http://www.bidnesstec.com/business/apples-healthkit-platform-revolutionizing-the-healthcare-industry>.

⁸³ Stacey Higginbotham, *Samsung launches a wearable wristband and cloud platform for tracking your health*, GIGAOM, May 28, 2014, <https://gigaom.com/2014/05/28/samsung-launches-a-wearable-and-cloud-platform-for-tracking-your-health>; *Samsung unwraps Tizen for ‘Internet of Things,’* TAIPEI TIMES, June 5, 2014, <http://www.taipetimes.com/News/biz/archives/2014/06/05/2003592005>.

⁸⁴ Erin Mershon, *Apple dives into ‘Internet of Things,’* POLITICO, June 2, 2014, <http://www.politico.com/story/2014/06/apple-wwdc-2014-internet-of-things-107336.html#ixzz33hMxZTIN>.

⁸⁵ Lance Ulanoff, *Inside HealthKit: Apple’s Answer to the Quantified You*, MASHABLE, June 3, 2014, <http://mashable.com/2014/06/03/inside-apple-healthkit>.

⁸⁶ Ben Gilbert, *Google Fit is Android’s answer to exercise and health tracking*, ENGADGET, June 26, 2014, <http://www.engadget.com/2014/06/25/google-fit>.

percent faster pace.⁸⁷ The firm reports that there are more than 6,800 apps in the health and fitness category on the iPhone and iPad today.⁸⁸ Meanwhile, Samsung's newest phones can measure a user's heart rate and also feature extensive integration with fitness tracking applications made by Samsung as well as other developers.⁸⁹

Microsoft also recently announced it would be "making home automation even easier for everyone, from the ultra-techie to the average homeowner" by integrating IoT technologies into tablets running Windows 8.1 as well as Windows Phone.⁹⁰ Microsoft is also developing a wearable band that will help blind people navigate their surroundings.⁹¹ And Google, which earlier made a major splash in this space by developing Google Glass, recently announced it would develop a wearable-specific variant of its Android mobile operating system to optimize the developer and user experience of devices of that size.⁹² Google also recently patented "smart contact lenses" (otherwise known as "ophthalmic electrochemical sensors") that will help diabetics more easily monitor their blood sugar levels, and which could also lead to other wearable medical applications in the future.⁹³

Many current generation wearables are clunky and unsightly, which probably has limited adoption to some degree.⁹⁴ But "sensor-rich fabric"⁹⁵ and "conductive fiber" technologies are now proliferating, meaning that "fabric itself can now become an electronic device, allowing

⁸⁷ Kyle Russell, *Fitness App Usage Is Growing 87% Faster Than the Overall App Market*, TECH CRUNCH, June 19, 2014, <http://techcrunch.com/2014/06/19/fitness-app-usage-is-growing-87-faster-than-the-overall-app-market>.

⁸⁸ *Id.*

⁸⁹ Tom Warren, *Samsung's free Galaxy S5 'gifts' focus on fitness*, THE VERGE, Mar. 10, 2014, <http://www.theverge.com/2014/3/10/5490078/free-samsung-galaxy-s5-apps-health-fitness>.

⁹⁰ Daniel Kline, *How Microsoft Will Incorporate the Internet of Things Into Windows 8.1*, THE MOTLEY FOOL, May 20, 2014, <http://www.fool.com/investing/general/2014/05/20/how-microsoft-will-incorporate-the-internet-of-thi.aspx>.

⁹¹ Jack Schofield, *Microsoft's wearable Alice band is not a rival to Google Glass*, ZDNET, July 14, 2014, <http://www.zdnet.com/microsofts-wearable-alice-band-is-not-a-rival-to-google-glass-7000031563>.

⁹² Hayley Tsukayama, *Google develops Android for wearables you may actually want to wear*, WASH. POST THE SWITCH, Mar. 18, 2014, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/the-switch/wp/2014/03/18/google-develops-android-for-wearables-you-may-actually-want-to-wear>.

⁹³ Kia Makarechi, *Move Over, Google Glass; Here Come Google Contact Lenses*, VANITY FAIR, Apr. 22, 2014, <http://www.vanityfair.com/online/daily/2014/04/google-contact-lenses>; Lance Ulanoff, "Google Smart Contact Lenses Move Closer to Reality," *Mashable*, April 21, 2014, <http://mashable.com/2014/04/21/google-smart-contact-lenses-patents/#:eyJzljoidClslmkiOijfbXBtazRkemRvdWttcXQ4byJ9>.

⁹⁴ Connie Guglielmo, *The Case against Wearables, Or Why We Won't All Look Like The Borg This Year*, FORBES, Feb. 12, 2014, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/connieguglielmo/2014/02/12/the-case-against-wearables>; Nick Warnock, "Wearable Tech: Fashion Will Rule," *Information Week*, June 18, 2014, http://www.informationweek.com/strategic-cio/digital-business/wearable-tech-fashion-will-rule/a/d-id/1278629?_mc=sm_iwk_edit.

⁹⁵ Stacey Higginbotham, *You Call Google Glass Wearable Tech? Heapsylon Makes Sensor-Rich Fabric*, GIGAOM, May 16, 2013, <http://gigaom.com/2013/05/16/you-call-google-glass-wearable-tech-heapsylon-makes-sensor-rich-fabric>.

wearables to be incorporated into the most stylish clothing,” as *The Economist* recently noted.⁹⁶ These conductive fibers are flexible and resilient, which “means they can be fed into a loom or embroidered directly onto cloth that can be worn and washed as normal. With costs falling and use increasing, the threads are a rapidly growing business.”⁹⁷ Meanwhile, technology developers are working actively to make these wearable devices more fashionable.⁹⁸

The medical monitoring capabilities associated with wearable technologies are particularly compelling. Dr. Eric Topol, author of, *The Creative Destruction of Medicine: How the Digital Revolution Will Create Better Health Care*, predicts that, “in the coming years, we’ll see apps and adds for measuring blood glucose, sleep brain waves, and all vital signs, stress and mood quantified. Measuring vitals will eventually be as common as counting calories or the number of steps you’ve walked.”⁹⁹

Wearable technologies are already being used by many elderly individuals to ensure they can report medical emergencies to caregivers and family members.¹⁰⁰ Medical Body Area Network (MBAN) sensors in professional health care are also set to take off and “will enable patient monitoring information such as temperature to be collected automatically from a wearable thermometer sensor.”¹⁰¹ South Korean scientists have already developed a flexible electronic skin patch “that’s thinner than a sheet of paper and can detect subtle tremors, release drugs stored inside nanoparticles on-demand, and record all of this activity for review later.”¹⁰² And health technology provider MC10 has created “Biostamp,” a thin bandage-like sensor patch that can be worn anywhere on the body to “monitor temperature, movement, heart rate and more, and transmit this data wirelessly back to patients and their clinicians.”¹⁰³

Many other medical and health-related wearable applications are already on the market that take advantage of the smartphone and tablet capabilities mentioned above. Nathan Cortez of

⁹⁶ *Woven Electronics: An Uncommon Thread*, THE ECONOMIST, Mar. 8, 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/technology-quarterly/21598328-conductive-fibres-lighter-aircraft-electric-knickers-flexible-filaments>.

⁹⁷ *Id.*

⁹⁸ Nick Bilton, *Tech, Meet Fashion*, N.Y. TIMES, Sept. 3, 2014, http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/04/fashion/intel-and-opening-ceremony-collaborate-on-mica-a-stylish-tech-bracelet.html?_r=0; Elizabeth Holmes, *Tech Companies and Fashion Designers Try to Put the ‘Wear’ in ‘Wearables,’* WALL ST. J., Sept. 9, 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/tech-companies-and-fashion-designers-try-to-put-the-wear-in-wearables-1410305929>.

⁹⁹ Eric Topol, M.D., *THE CREATIVE DESTRUCTION OF MEDICINE: HOW THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION WILL CREATE BETTER HEALTH CARE* 260 (2012).

¹⁰⁰ Susan Young, *An Activity Tracker for Seniors*, MIT TECHNOLOGY REVIEW, Feb. 27, 2014, <http://www.technologyreview.com/news/525016/an-activity-tracker-for-seniors>.

¹⁰¹ ABI Research, *Disposable Wireless Sensor Market Shows Signs of Life—Healthcare Shipments to Reach 5 Million in 2018*, May 3, 2013, <http://www.abiresearch.com/press/disposable-wireless-sensor-market-shows-signs-of-l>.

¹⁰² David Talbot, *A Bandage That Senses Tremors, Delivers Drugs, and Keeps a Record*, MIT TECHNOLOGY REVIEW, Apr. 1, 2014, <http://www.technologyreview.com/news/525976/a-bandage-that-senses-tremors-delivers-drugs-and-keeps-a-record>.

¹⁰³ Sindya N. Bhanoo, “When Wearable Tech Saves Your Life, You Won’t Take It Off,” *Fast Company*, July 23, 2014, <http://www.fastcompany.com/3033417/when-wearable-tech-saves-your-life-you-wont-take-it-off>.

the SMU School of Law has developed a 6-part typology of mobile health applications, some of which potentially butt up against existing Food & Drug Administration (FDA) regulatory authority.¹⁰⁴ In September 2013, the FDA issued draft guidance for mobile medical applications, which attempted to explain which mobile health apps qualified as regulated “medical devices,” and which do not.¹⁰⁵ The agency noted that it “intends to apply its regulatory oversight to only those mobile apps that are medical devices and whose functionality could pose a risk to a patient’s safety if the mobile app were to not function as intended.”¹⁰⁶ Legislation has also been floated that would clarify the FDA’s regulatory authority in this area.¹⁰⁷ Meanwhile, health insurance providers are starting to experiment with wearables to offer customers more tailored plans and premiums, which will likely drive greater regulatory interest.¹⁰⁸

Typology of Mobile Health Technologies

Connectors: applications that connect smartphones and tablets to FDA-regulated devices, thus amplifying the devices’ functionalities.

Replicators: applications that turn a smartphone or tablet itself into a medical device by replicating the functionality of an FDA-regulated device.

Automators & Customizers: apps which use questionnaires, algorithms, formulae, medical calculators, or other software parameters to aid clinical decisions.

Informers & Educators: medical reference texts and educational apps that primarily aim to inform and educate.

Administrators: apps that automate office functions, like identifying appropriate insurance billing codes or scheduling patient appointments.

Loggers & Trackers: apps that allows users to log, record, and make decisions about their general health and wellness.

Source: Nathan Cortez, SMU School of Law

Beyond health and fitness applications, wearables can be used to enhance personal convenience. For example, wearables could be used in homes to tailor environmental experiences, such as automatically adjusting lighting, temperature, or entertainment options as users move from one space to another. Even if these technologies do not catch on as mass market consumer products, wearable tech may come to be more widely utilized in a wide

¹⁰⁴ Nathan Cortez, *The Mobile Health Revolution?* 47 U.C. DAVIS L. REV. 1181 (2014), http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2284448.

¹⁰⁵ Food and Drug Administration, *Mobile Medical Applications: Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff*, Sept. 25, 2013, <http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/ProductsandMedicalProcedures/ConnectedHealth/MobileMedicalApplications/default.htm>.

¹⁰⁶ *Id.*, at 4.

¹⁰⁷ Ferdous Al-Faruque, *Are smartphones the best medicine?* THE HILL, June 17, 2014, <http://thehill.com/policy/technology/209534-are-smartphones-the-best-medicine>.

¹⁰⁸ Parmy Olson, *Wearable Tech Is Plugging Into Health Insurance*, FORBES, June 19, 2014, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/parmyolson/2014/06/19/wearable-tech-health-insurance>.

variety of business and organizations.¹⁰⁹ Some of the more exciting potential professional uses of wearable tech include:

- **Surgery:** Surgeons are already using wearable tech to better perform complex procedures and in the future wearable tech might be able to help them do this remotely.¹¹⁰
- **Emergency care:** Ambulances can be equipped with various IoT devices to more quickly diagnose what ails patients and then provide immediate treatment in the precious minutes after accidents or other health emergencies.¹¹¹
- **Firefighting:** In coming years, firefighters might use wearable tech to respond to fires and other emergencies more rapidly using heads-up displays to obtain instant read-outs of building schematics or environmental conditions.¹¹²
- **Law enforcement:** Wearables could transform the field of law enforcement, but also raise some surveillance concerns in the process. Importantly, however, average citizens will also be able to use wearable technologies to monitor the activities of those same law enforcement officials.¹¹³ They will have the First Amendment right to do so.¹¹⁴ This could provide a powerful check on abusive behavior by law enforcement officers, while

¹⁰⁹ H. James Wilson, *Wearables in the Workplace*, HARVARD BUSINESS REVIEW, Sept. 2013, <http://hbr.org/2013/09/wearables-in-the-workplace/ar/1>; Claire Cain Miller, *At Google, Bid to Put Its Glasses to Work*, N.Y. TIMES, Apr. 7, 2014, <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/08/technology/google-begins-a-push-to-take-glass-to-work.html>.

¹¹⁰ Derek Mead, *Google Glass is already being used in the operating room*, MOTHERBOARD, June 24, 2013, <http://motherboard.vice.com/blog/google-glass-is-already-being-used-in-the-operating-room>; Liz Gannes, *A Google Glass App That Would Be Hard for Even the Haters to Hate*, RE/CODE, Apr. 8, 2014, <http://recode.net/2014/04/08/a-google-glass-app-that-would-be-hard-for-even-the-haters-to-hate>; Susan Young Rojahn, *Why Some Doctors Like Google Glass So Much*, MIT TECHNOLOGY REVIEW, May 6, 2014, <http://www.technologyreview.com/news/526836/why-some-doctors-like-google-glass-so-much>.

¹¹¹ Maria K. Regan, "Saving Lives: Ambulances Get Connected to the IoT," Product Lifecycle Stories, <http://blogs.ptc.com/2014/07/25/saving-lives-ambulances-get-connected-to-the-iot>.

¹¹² Joanie Ferguson, *Firefighter creates Google Glass app to help save lives*, THE DAILY DOT, March 5, 2013, <http://www.dailydot.com/technology/firefighter-google-glass-app>.

¹¹³ Steve Mann, *Eye Am a Camera: Surveillance and Sousveillance in the Glassage*, TIME, Nov. 2, 2012, <http://techland.time.com/2012/11/02/eye-am-a-camera-surveillance-and-sousveillance-in-the-glassage>; Alex Howard, *The 'right to record' is not a question of technology, but rather power and policy*, TECH REPUBLIC, May 22, 2014, <http://www.techrepublic.com/article/the-right-to-record-is-not-a-question-of-technology-but-rather-power-and-policy/#>.

¹¹⁴ Digital Media Law Project, *Recording Police Officers and Public Officials*, (last accessed May 26, 2014), <http://www.dmlp.org/legal-guide/recording-police-officers-and-public-officials%20>. ("A number of U.S. Courts of Appeals have held that, in such circumstances, the First Amendment protects the right to record audio and video regardless of whether the police/officials consent. This constitutional right would override any state or federal laws that would otherwise prohibit such recording.") *Also see:* Marianne F. Kies, *Policing the Police: Freedom of the Press, the Right to Privacy, and Civilian Recordings of Police Activity*, 80 GEO. WASH. L. REV. 274 (2011-2012); Steven A. Lutt, *Sunlight Is Still the Best Disinfectant: The Case for a First Amendment Right to Record the Police*, 51 WASHBURN L.J. 349 (2011-2012); Michael Potere, *Who Will Watch the Watchmen: Citizens Recording Police Conduct*; 106 Nw. U. L. Rev. 273 (2012).

simultaneously giving those officers the ability to corroborate their accounts of incidents and altercations.¹¹⁵

- **Retailing:** Retailers will be able to target shoppers with personalized services and promotions either inside their stores or before the customer even arrives.¹¹⁶ “As wearable technology gains popularity and becomes integrated into everyday life,” says Giovanni DeMeo, vice president of Global Marketing and Analytics at Interactions, it will help retailers “establish a strong connection with shoppers” and also “provide a unique and improved shopping experience.”¹¹⁷
- **Entertainment services:** Like retailers, entertainment companies, amusement parks, and vacation providers will also be able to use wearables to tailor services to users who visit their establishments or use their services. Disney has already created a “Magic Band” that can help visitors to their entertainment parks personalize their experiences before they even get to the facilities.¹¹⁸
- **Airlines:** Some airlines are experimenting with wearable technologies “in a quest to provide an ever more personal service” and to “allow them to compile valuable information about passenger behaviors and preferences.”¹¹⁹
- **Financial services:** Providers of personal finance and investment services are considering how wearable technologies might be adapted to better inform consumers of superior spending and investment opportunities.¹²⁰
- **Political campaigning:** Politicians and “political professionals are eagerly exploring how [Google Glass] could become a powerful campaign tool” and how wearable technologies could help engage potential voters.¹²¹

¹¹⁵ Tim Cushing, *After Two Officers Are Indicted For Shooting Citizens, Dallas Police Dept. Decides Body Cameras Might Be A Good Idea*, TECHDIRT, May 20, 2014, <http://www.techdirt.com/articles/20140507/10325727152/after-two-officers-are-indicted-shooting-citizens-dallas-police-dept-decides-body-cameras-might-be-good-idea.shtml>.

¹¹⁶ Angela Benton, *Angela Benton on the Future of Entrepreneurship*, WALL ST. J., July 7, 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/angela-benton-on-the-future-of-entrepreneurship-1404762819> (noting that the Internet of Things presents “the opportunity for budding entrepreneurs of the future to access an individual's data and get a 360-degree view of that person. If you think the recommendation engines of today are good, wait until you see what the future holds. Every business and startup will compete to get to a customer at the perfect moment and with the perfect product that is so ‘uniquely’ them.”)

¹¹⁷ Giovanni DeMeo, *Wearable tech: If it benefits you, it benefits retailers*, VENTURE BEAT, Dec. 24, 2013, <http://venturebeat.com/2013/12/24/wearable-tech-if-it-benefits-you-it-benefits-retailers>.

¹¹⁸ Matthew Panzarino, *Disney Gets into Wearable Tech with the MagicBand*, NEXT WEB, May 29, 2013, <http://thenextweb.com/insider/2013/05/29/disney-goes-into-wearable-tech-with-the-magic-band>.

¹¹⁹ *Airlines Use Wearables to Get More Personal*, NEW YORK TIMES BITS, March 18, 2014, <http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/03/18/daily-report-airlines-use-wearables-to-get-more-personal>.

¹²⁰ Daniel Nader, *The Quantified Self Movement Reaches Personal Finance*, INSTITUTIONAL INVESTOR, Mar. 4, 2014, <http://www.institutionalinvestor.com/Article/3315313/Banking-and-Capital-Markets-Trading-and-Technology/The-Quantified-Self-Movement-Reaches-Personal-Finance.html>.

¹²¹ Don Gonyea, *Google Glass: Coming Soon To A Campaign Trail Near You*, NPR, Mar. 17, 2014, <http://www.npr.org/blogs/itsallpolitics/2014/03/17/290714189/google-glass-coming-soon-to-a-campaign-trail-near-you>.

- **Sports:** Teams and athletes may use wearables not only to improve their own abilities but also to potentially give fans an additional ways to see how they practice or even play their games.¹²²

C. The Sci-Fi Future of Wearables: Implantables, Ingestibles & “Biohacking”

Wearable technologies will continue to evolve and eventually could soon offer applications that almost seem to have been ripped from the pages of science fiction novels.¹²³ For example, “implantables,” “embeddables,” and even “ingestibles” are already emerging as the next wave of wearable tech.¹²⁴ These are technologies that are worn somewhere on the body but that could be swallowed or implanted within the body in the future, potentially even in our brains.¹²⁵ Some current examples include:

- SetPoint Medical, which was recently profiled by *The New York Times*, “began the world’s first clinical trial to treat rheumatoid-arthritis patients with an implantable nerve stimulator.”¹²⁶ The implant is roughly the size of a dime. “To recharge the device’s batteries and update its software, patients and physicians will use an iPad app to control a wearable collar that transmits power and data wirelessly through the skin,” the story noted.¹²⁷ The firm’s goal is to use “bioelectronics” to “get the nervous system to tell the body to heal itself.”¹²⁸ Meanwhile, a variety of firms and university research centers are

¹²² Claire Cain Miller, *At Google, Bid to Put Its Glasses to Work*, N.Y. TIMES, Apr. 7, 2014, <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/08/technology/google-begins-a-push-to-take-glass-to-work.html> (noting that “Basketball players for the Sacramento Kings and Indiana Pacers have worn [Google] Glass with software from CrowdOptic to broadcast video streams to fans from their points of view, as well as during practice. It gives coaches a different view and a better understanding of court spacing and ball rotation, said Chris Granger, the Kings’ chief operating officer.”)

¹²³ Daxton ‘Chip’ Stewart, *Do Androids Dream of Electric Free Speech? Visions of the Future of Copyright, Privacy, and the First Amendment in Science Fiction* forthcoming, COMM. L. & POL’Y, May 20, 2014, http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2439423.

¹²⁴ Cadie Thompson, *Wearable Tech Is Getting a Lot More Intimate*, ENTREPRENEUR, Dec. 26, 2013, <http://www.entrepreneur.com/article/230555>; George Skidmore, *Ingestible, Implantable, or Intimate Contact; How Will You Take Your Micro-scale Body Sensors*, FORBES, Apr. 17, 2013, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/singularity/2013/04/17/ingestible-implantable-or-intimate-contact-how-will-you-take-your-micro-scale-body-sensors>; Martyn Landi, *Wearable tech to evolve inside the human body*, IRISH EXAMINER, Mar. 20, 2014, <http://www.irishexaminer.com/world/wearable-tech-to-evolve-inside-the-human-body-262624.html>; Tom Abate, *Stanford engineer invents safe way to transfer energy to medical chips in the body*, STANFORD NEWS, May 19, 2014, <http://news.stanford.edu/news/2014/may/electronic-wireless-transfer-051914.html>.

¹²⁵ Gary Marcus & Christof Koch, *The Future of Brain Implants*, Wall St. Jour., Mar. 14, 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304914904579435592981780528>.

¹²⁶ Michael Behar, *Can the Nervous System Be Hacked?* N.Y. TIMES MAG., May 23, 2014, <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/25/magazine/can-the-nervous-system-be-hacked.html?partner=rssnyt&emc=rss>.

¹²⁷ *Id.*

¹²⁸ *Id.*

experimenting with neural interfaces and bionic prosthetics to help individuals overcome various physical disabilities or simply enhance other human functions.¹²⁹

- PillCam Colon, recently featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, has created “a capsule the size of a large vitamin [that] travels through a patient’s digestive system over the course of several hours, wirelessly transmitting video images to an external data recorder.”¹³⁰ This means, as the *Journal* noted, that “colon-cancer screening may soon become less invasive, more accurate—and more prevalent.”¹³¹ The FDA approved the device in February for patients who have received incomplete colonoscopies.¹³²
- MicroCHIPS has created a contraceptive implant that can be wirelessly controlled by women without having to make a trip to a clinic, but doctors would be able to adjust dosages remotely if the patient requested it.¹³³
- CardioMEMS HF System uses a wireless sensor, implanted in the pulmonary artery, to transmit health information to an external device and “then forwards the data to the patient’s medical team.”¹³⁴ It “is designed to reduce hospitalizations among patients with moderate heart failure by enabling physicians to identify problems and modify treatment before patients end up in the ER.”¹³⁵
- Proteus Digital Health has created an ingestible sensor no bigger than a grain of sand that “it hopes will increase the effectiveness of existing medications by helping to ensure they’re taken as prescribed.”¹³⁶ Users would swallow the pill while administering other medications and then, after it is activated by stomach fluids, the pill transmits relevant information to a small disposable body patch as well as the patient’s computing devices via a Bluetooth connection. That information can then be shared with medical professionals “to better understand how patients are responding to their treatments.”¹³⁷

Importantly, many of these implantable and ingestible innovations will be driven not just by commercial vendors, but also by average citizens working together to enhance various human capabilities.¹³⁸ Amateur “body hacking” or “biohacking” efforts will likely grow more prevalent

¹²⁹ Eliza Strickland, *We Will End Disability by Becoming Cyborgs*, IEEE SPECTRUM, May 27, 2014, <http://spectrum.ieee.org/biomedical/bionics/we-will-end-disability-by-becoming-cyborgs>.

¹³⁰ Joseph Walker, *New Ways to Screen for Colon Cancer*, WALL ST. JOUR., June 8, 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/new-ways-to-screen-for-colon-cancer-1402063124>.

¹³¹ *Id.*

¹³² *Id.*

¹³³ Gwen Kinkead, *A Contraceptive Implant with Remote Control*, MIT TECHNOLOGY REVIEW, July 4, 2014, <http://www.technologyreview.com/news/528121/a-contraceptive-implant-with-remote-control>.

¹³⁴ Maria K. Rega, *Implantable Med Devices – 3 Smart Technologies to Watch*, PRODUCT LIFECYCLE STORIES, June 2, 2014, <http://blogs.ptc.com/2014/06/02/implantable-med-devices-3-smart-technologies-to-watch>.

¹³⁵ *Id.*

¹³⁶ *Id.*

¹³⁷ *Id.*

¹³⁸ Glen Martin, *‘Biohackers’ mining their own bodies’ data*, SF GATE, June 28, 2012, <http://www.sfgate.com/health/article/Biohackers-mining-their-own-bodies-data-3668230.php>; Jim McLauchlin, *The Future of Bionic Humans: What’s Next in Bio-Hacking?* LIVESCIENCE, June 18, 2013, <http://www.livescience.com/37507-biohacking-james-rollins.html>.

in coming years.¹³⁹ Collaborative forums such as “Biohack.Me”¹⁴⁰ already exist where individuals can share information and collaborate on various projects of this sort.¹⁴¹ Advocates of such amateur biohacking sometimes refer to themselves as “grinders,” which Ben Popper of *The Verge* defines as “homebrew biohackers obsessed with the idea of human enhancement [and] who are looking for new ways to put machines into their bodies.”¹⁴²

As these technologies and capabilities advance they will raise thorny ethical and legal issues. Ethically, they will raise questions of what it means to be human and the limits of what people should be allowed to do to their own bodies.¹⁴³ Legally, they will challenge existing health and safety regulations imposed by the FDA and other government agencies.

Efforts to restrict such activities could be complicated by both practical and legal factors, however. Practically speaking, if enough people are attempting to modify their bodies or enhance various human capabilities, it may become very difficult for the law to keep up. And, legally-speaking, because many of these activities will be of a voluntary, non-commercial nature, those producing and sharing information about biohacking activities will likely have First Amendment protection to produce and share information about these topics, making regulatory efforts even more challenging. That might force regulators to focus on limiting the supply of materials and devices used by biohackers to achieve these goals. But those materials will likely fall in cost and expand in availability over time, especially with the rise of 3D printing.¹⁴⁴ The FDA has scheduled a public workshop on these issues, which will be held in early October.¹⁴⁵

A more robust discussion of biohacking—and the various policy issues it might raise—is beyond the scope of this paper. The debate over wearable technologies, however, could foreshadow many of the same concerns and policy issues that will arise in these future debates. Moreover, some of the solutions that might emerge to deal with concerns about wearables might be useful when the debate over biohacking intensifies, which is why the issue has been discussed here.

¹³⁹ Carolyn Y. Johnson, *As Synthetic Biology Becomes Affordable, Amateur Labs Thrive*, BOSTON GLOBE, Sept. 16, 2008, <http://tech.mit.edu/V128/N39/biohack.html>.

¹⁴⁰ <http://discuss.biohack.me> (last accessed on July 9, 2014).

¹⁴¹ Keiron Monks, *Forget wearable tech, embeddable implants are already here*, CNN, Apr. 8, 2014, <http://www.cnn.com/2014/04/08/tech/forget-wearable-tech-embeddable-implants/index.html>.

¹⁴² Ben Popper, *Cyborg America: inside the strange new world of basement body hackers*, THE VERGE, Aug. 8, 2012, <http://www.theverge.com/2012/8/8/3177438/cyborg-america-biohackers-grinders-body-hackers>.

¹⁴³ For an overview of the differing opinions about how these technologies may affect our humanity, see: Joel Garreau, *RADICAL EVOLUTION: THE PROMISE AND PERIL OF ENHANCING OUR MINDS, OUR BODIES—AND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE HUMAN* (2005).

¹⁴⁴ Dan Carsen, *With 3-D Printing, Affordable Prosthetics Are In Reach*, NPR, Mar. 13, 2014, <http://www.npr.org/2014/03/13/289836980/with-3-d-printing-affordable-prosthetics-are-in-reach>.

¹⁴⁵ Food and Drug Administration, *Additive Manufacturing of Medical Devices: An Interactive Discussion on the Technical Considerations of 3-D Printing; Public Workshop; Request for Comments*, FEDERAL REGISTER, May 19, 2014, <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2014/05/19/2014-11513/additive-manufacturing-of-medical-devices-an-interactive-discussion-on-the-technical-considerations>.

At a minimum, these technologies will force a conversation about how much control people have over their bodies or at least information about their bodies. “Studies show that more-engaged patients have lower costs and better health outcomes,” a recent *Wall Street Journal* report noted.¹⁴⁶ “Becoming familiar with one’s own health records can help patients better understand their own condition and have more informed conversations with doctor.”¹⁴⁷ The question is, will such innovations be allowed?

III. WHICH POLICY VISION WILL GOVERN THE INTERNET OF THINGS & WEARABLE TECH?

Many Internet of Things technologies will be over-hyped and could eventually fail.¹⁴⁸ For example, Internet-enabled refrigerators get plenty of attention today, but “the reality is that the average consumer will replace his or her fridge no more than once per decade—and, most likely, not for improved functionality, just to keep the milk cold.”¹⁴⁹

On the other hand, as they become more commonplace and fashionable,¹⁵⁰ many other IoT technologies will succeed, including technologies and applications that we cannot even imagine today—albeit in a sporadic, unpredictable fashion.¹⁵¹ Whether they succeed or fail should be left to the interaction of inventors and consumers. The question is: What sort of policy regime will govern this fast-moving, constantly-evolving space and help incentivize constantly expanding innovation and consumer choice? We turn to that question next.

Wearable technology, like the Internet of Things more generally, raises a wide variety of potential concerns, many of which relate to privacy and security.¹⁵² These social and cultural

¹⁴⁶ Laura Landro, *The Health-Care Industry Is Pushing Patients to Help Themselves*, WALL ST. J., June 8, 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/the-health-care-industry-is-pushing-patients-to-help-themselves-1402065145>.

¹⁴⁷ *Id.*

¹⁴⁸ Charles Arthur, *Wearables: one-third of consumers abandoning devices*, THE GUARDIAN, Apr. 1, 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2014/apr/01/wearables-consumers-abandoning-devices-galaxy-gear>; Pascal-Emmanuel Gobry, *Today's wearables are an overhyped fad, but wait a few years*, CITEWORLD, March 20, 2014, <http://www.citeworld.com/consumerization/23142/wearables-overhyped-fad>; Zoë Corbyn, *Google Glass – Wearable tech but would you wear it?*, THE OBSERVER, Apr. 5, 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2014/apr/06/google-glass-technology-smart-eyewear-camera-privacy>; Duncan McKean, *Wearisome wearables – lessons learned from a BMX experiment, and why some sections of media are still taking the easy option*, CCGROUP, March 5, 2014, <http://www.ccgrouppr.com/insights/blog/mobile/wearisome-wearables-lessons-learned-bmx-experiment-sections-media-still-taking-easy-option>.

¹⁴⁹ Morrison Foerster, *The Internet of Things Part 1: Brave New World*, *supra* note at 3.

¹⁵⁰ Rose, ENCHANTED OBJECTS, *supra* note __, at 28 (“The adoption of wearable devices will be accelerated at technology blends with fashion.”)

¹⁵¹ DuBravac, *A Hundred Billion Nodes*, *supra* note, at 8. (“While some of these things might seem far off, their foundations are already unfolding before us. We tend to think about linearly moving from point A to point B, but that is not the process through which tech adoption and innovation diffusion typically occur. These advancements—the little steps for man and the big steps for mankind—tend to occur through a series of hybrid periods.”)

¹⁵² John Brandon, *Wearable devices pose threats to privacy and security*, FOX NEWS, June 18, 2014, <http://www.foxnews.com/tech/2014/06/18/wearable-devices-pose-threats-to-privacy-and-security>; Raj Samani, *The IoT Is Already Here – Will You Be Secure?* INFORMATION SECURITY BUZZ, Feb. 27, 2014,

concerns will be the primary focus of this paper. Economic concerns—including worries about job dislocations due to increasing automation¹⁵³—also come up in discussions about some of these technologies, but they are not the primary focus here.

Such concerns are leading to a replay of a debate that has already occurred many times over in the modern information economy: the clash between the “permissionless innovation” and “the precautionary principle” mindsets. A recent Mercatus Center book discussed the interplay between these two worldviews and the implications of this policy battle for the future of various emerging technologies.¹⁵⁴ Each of these policy visions is briefly summarized below and then their applicability to the debate over wearables and the Internet of Things is discussed.

A. Permissionless Innovation vs. the Precautionary Principle

Should the creators of new technologies seek the blessing of public officials before they develop and deploy their innovations? How one answers this question—which we might think of as “the permission question”—depends on the disposition they adopt toward new inventions.

One policy disposition is known as the “precautionary principle.” Generally speaking, it refers to the belief that new innovations should be curtailed or disallowed until their developers can prove that they will not cause any harms to individuals, groups, specific entities, cultural norms, or various existing laws, norms, or traditions.¹⁵⁵

The other policy vision can be labeled “permissionless innovation.” It refers to the notion that experimentation with new technologies and business models should generally be permitted by default. Unless a compelling case can be made that a new invention will bring serious harm to individuals, innovation should be allowed to continue unabated and problems, if they develop at all, can be addressed later.¹⁵⁶ “Permissionless innovation” is not an absolutist position that denies any role for government, rather, it is an aspirational goal that stresses the benefit of pushing “innovation allowed” as the best default position to begin debates about technology policy. The burden of proof is on those who favor preemptive, precautionary controls to explain why ongoing trial-and-error experimentation with new technologies or business models should be disallowed.

The clash between these two visions is already evident in policy discussions today regarding wearable and IoT technologies. Again, some already worry about the security¹⁵⁷ and privacy

<http://mcaf.ee/h2xom>; Kashmir Hill, *The Half-Baked Security of Our ‘Internet of Things,’* FORBES, May 27, 2014, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/kashmirhill/2014/05/27/article-may-scare-you-away-from-internet-of-things>.

¹⁵³ Nicholas Carr, *THE GLASS CAGE: AUTOMATION AND US* (2014); Michael Sacasas, *It’s Alive, It’s Alive!* THE FRAILEST THING, June 6, 2014, <http://thefrailestthing.com/2014/06/06/its-alive-its-alive>.

¹⁵⁴ Thierer, PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION, *supra* note __.

¹⁵⁵ Thierer, PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION, *supra* note __, at vii.

¹⁵⁶ *Id.*

¹⁵⁷ *Home, hacked home*, THE ECONOMIST, July 12, 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21606420-perils-connected-devices-home-hacked-home>.

implications of a world of wearable tech.¹⁵⁸ Others worry about the over-quantification of our lives¹⁵⁹ or, more profoundly, that these technologies will turn us into robots¹⁶⁰ or “cyborgs.”¹⁶¹

Some of these fears are likely driven by the rapid evolution of technologies in this space.¹⁶² The most notable wearable technology on the market today—and among the most controversial—is Google Glass.¹⁶³ The peer-to-peer surveillance capabilities of Google Glass and other wearables like the “Narrative” clip-on camera, which allows users to automatically take snapshots of their daily activities every 30 seconds, have already spawned a variety of privacy fears.¹⁶⁴ Other forms of wearable microphotography are coming to market just now (see, e.g., Butterfleye,¹⁶⁵ Autographer,¹⁶⁶ and CA7CH Lightbox¹⁶⁷) that will eventually allow users to snap pictures at regular intervals, but soon will likely also enable real-time audio and video

¹⁵⁸ Hayley Tsukayama, *Wearable Tech Such as Google Glass, Galaxy Gear Raises Alarms for Privacy Advocates*, WASH. POST, Sept. 30, 2013, http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/technology/wearable-technology-raise-privacy-concerns/2013/09/30/0a81a960-2493-11e3-ad0d-b7c8d2a594b9_story.html.

¹⁵⁹ Brendan O’Connor, *When quantified-self apps leave you with more questions than answers*, THE DAILY DOT, Feb. 27, 2014, <http://www.dailydot.com/technology/reporter-quantified-self-app>; Ben Williamson, *Calculating the Child Through Technologies of the ‘Quantified Self,’* DML CENTRAL, May 26, 2014, <http://dmlcentral.net/blog/ben-williamson/calculating-child-through-technologies-%E2%80%98quantified-self%E2%80%99>.

¹⁶⁰ Evan Sellinger, *Google vs. our humanity: How the emerging ‘Internet of Things’ is turning us into robots*, SALON, May 22, 2014, http://www.salon.com/2014/05/22/google_vs_our_humanity_how_the_emerging_internet_of_things_is_turning_us_into_robots.

¹⁶¹ Cyrus Farivar, *‘Stop the Cyborgs’ launches public campaign against Google Glass*, ARS TECHNICA, Mar. 22, 2013, <http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2013/03/stop-the-cyborgs-launches-public-campaign-against-google-glass>; Dann Berg, *Will Google Glasses Make Us Cyborgs?* LAPTOP, Nov. 19, 2012, <http://blog.laptopmag.com/will-google-glasses-make-us-cyborgs>; John Danaher, *Is Modern Technology Creating a Borg-Like Society?* REAL CLEAR TECHNOLOGY, June 11, 2014, http://www.realcleartechology.com/articles/2014/06/11/is_modern_technology_creating_a_borg-like_society_1184.html.

¹⁶² See Amy Collins, Adam J. Fleisher, D. Reed Freeman, Jr. & Alistair Maughan, *The Internet of Things Part 2: The Old Problem Squared*, Morrison Foerster CLIENT ALERT 6 (Mar. 20, 2014), <http://media.mofo.com/files/Uploads/Images/140320-The-Internet-of-Things-Part-2.pdf> (raising the question “whether the regulators can work fast enough to keep up with what the technology is capable of doing...”)

¹⁶³ Clive Thompson, *Googling Yourself Takes on a Whole New Meaning*, N.Y. TIMES, Aug. 30, 2013, <http://mobile.nytimes.com/2013/09/01/magazine/googling-yourself-takes-on-a-whole-new-meaning.html?pagewanted=5&r=0&hpw=&>.

¹⁶⁴ Liz Gannes, *Narrative—Formerly Known as Memoto—Launches Life-Logging Camera, Raises \$3M*, ALL THINGS D, Oct. 3, 2013, <http://allthingsd.com/20131003/narrative-formerly-known-as-memoto-launches-life-logging-camera-raises-3m>.

¹⁶⁵ *An intelligent, sneaky, wireless camera for the ultra-connected home*, CNET, May 21, 2014, <http://www.cnet.com/products/butterfleye>.

¹⁶⁶ Hugh Langley, *Autographer boss: Google Glass privacy fears have been exaggerated by the media*, TECH RADAR, June 18, 2014, <http://www.techradar.com/news/photography-video-capture/google-glass-privacy-fears-have-been-exaggerated-by-the-media-says-autographer-creator-1253837>.

¹⁶⁷ Edgar Cervantes, *CA7CH Lightbox: the next wearable camera to compete against the GoPro*, ANDROID AUTHORITY, June 18, 2014, <http://www.androidauthority.com/ca7ch-lightbox-wearable-camera-394812>.

streaming.¹⁶⁸ Of course, many other wearable cameras (example: GoPro) have been on the market for years, but the quality of these technologies is now rising as rapidly as their size and cost are falling.¹⁶⁹

Such real-time “life-logging” tools and activities raise a variety of privacy concerns.¹⁷⁰ In particular: How much data will these devices collect about us or others, how long will it be retained, and who else might have access to that information?¹⁷¹ The answers to these questions remain unclear at this point, but it is equally unclear what sort of beneficial uses and applications might flow from such technologies.¹⁷² Those beneficial uses are often only discovered after a great deal of experimentation.

Nonetheless, some policymakers, academics, and regulatory activists are calling for policy action on the potential privacy and security vulnerabilities associated with IoT and wearable technologies.¹⁷³ In a new article on “Regulating the Internet of Things,” University of Colorado Law School professor Scott R. Peppet says that mere potential for certain harms, “suggests a need for urgency” on this front.¹⁷⁴ He continues:

Not only are consumers currently vulnerable to the discrimination, privacy, security and consent problems outlined here, but it may become harder over time to address such issues. In technological and political circles it may be convenient to prescribe a “wait and see—let the market evolve” stance, but the reality is that as time passes it will likely become harder, not easier, for consumer advocates, regulators, and legislators to act. The Internet of Things is here. It would be wise to respond as quickly as possible to its inherent challenges.¹⁷⁵

In other words, Peppet is suggesting that new innovation in this space should be preemptively curtailed, or at least tightly regulated, to ensure that none of these potential risks or harms develop. Again, this is precautionary principle thinking.

¹⁶⁸ E. J. Dickson, *Google Glass livestream brings your privacy nightmares to life*, THE DAILY DOT, Apr. 8, 2014, <http://www.dailydot.com/technology/google-glass-livestream>.

¹⁶⁹ Alyssa Berezna, *Panasonic’s New Head-Mounted 4K Camera Will Capture Your Adventures More Clearly Than Ever*, YAHOO TECH, Mar. 24, 2014, <https://www.yahoo.com/tech/panasonics-new-head-mounted-4k-camera-will-capture-80589689809.html>.

¹⁷⁰ Heather Kelly, *Google Glass users fight privacy fears*, CNN, Dec. 12, 2013, <http://www.cnn.com/2013/12/10/tech/mobile/negative-google-glass-reactions>.

¹⁷¹ Jamie Carter, *Wearable cameras are all the rage but should we all become lifeloggers?* TECH RADAR, June 4, 2014, <http://www.techradar.com/us/news/world-of-tech/life-through-a-lens-trials-and-tribulations-of-a-lifelogger-1251717?src=rss&attr=all>.

¹⁷² *Every Step You Take*, ECONOMIST, Nov. 16, 2013, <http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21589862-cameras-become-ubiquitous-and-able-identify-people-more-safeguards-privacy-will-be>.

¹⁷³ Bruce Schneier, *Will Giving the Internet Eyes and Ears Mean the End of Privacy?* THE GUARDIAN, May 16, 2013, <http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2013/may/16/internet-of-things-privacy-google>; Mike Wheatley, *Big Brother’s Big Data: Why We Must Fear the Internet of Things*, SILICON ANGLE, Jan. 10, 2013, <http://siliconangle.com/blog/2013/01/10/big-brothers-big-data-why-we-must-fear-the-internet-of-things>.

¹⁷⁴ Peppet, *supra* note __, at 72.

¹⁷⁵ *Id.*

Some lawmakers and regulators have endorsed that sort of precautionary approach as the basis of public policy toward the Internet of Things and wearable technologies. Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Chairwoman Edith Ramirez addressed these issues in a 2013 speech on “The Privacy Challenges of Big Data: A View from the Lifeguard’s Chair.”¹⁷⁶ Ramirez worried about the privacy and security concerns associated with “big data,” or the massive datasets of information made available through various modern digital sites and services. Ramirez claimed that:

The indiscriminate collection of data violates the First Commandment of data hygiene: Thou shall not collect and hold onto personal information unnecessary to an identified purpose. Keeping data on the offchance that it might prove useful is not consistent with privacy best practices. And remember, not all data is created equally. Just as there is low quality iron ore and coal, there is low quality, unreliable data. And old data is of little value.¹⁷⁷

Thus, she claimed, “information that is not collected in the first place can’t be misused” and then she outlined a parade of “horribles” that will occur if such data collection is allowed at all.¹⁷⁸ She was particularly concerned that all this data might somehow be used by companies to discriminate against certain classes of customers.

There are other concerns regarding data collection practices. Some legal scholars today decry what Ryan Calo of the University of Washington School of Law calls “digital market manipulation,” or the belief that “firms will increasingly be able to trigger irrationality or vulnerability in consumers—leading to actual and perceived harms that challenge the limits of consumer protection law, but which regulators can scarcely ignore.”¹⁷⁹ Others fear “power asymmetries” between companies and consumers and even suggest that consumers’ apparent lack of concern about sharing information means that people may not be acting in their own best self-interest when it comes to online safety and digital privacy choices.¹⁸⁰ “We could

¹⁷⁶ Edith Ramirez, *The Privacy Challenges of Big Data: A View from the Lifeguard’s Chair*, Speech before the Technology Policy Institute Aspen Forum, Aspen, Colorado, Aug. 19, 2013, <http://www.ftc.gov/speeches/ramirez/130819bigdataaspen.pdf>.

¹⁷⁷ *Id.*, 4.

¹⁷⁸ *Id.*, 6.

¹⁷⁹ Ryan Calo, *Digital Market Manipulation*, 42 GEO. WASH. L. REV. 5 (forthcoming 2014), http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2309703. Also see David Talbot, *Data Discrimination Means the Poor May Experience a Different Internet*, MIT TECHNOLOGY REVIEW, Oct. 9, 2013, <http://www.technologyreview.com/news/520131/data-discrimination-means-the-poor-may-experience-a-different-internet>.

¹⁸⁰ See, e.g., Anita L. Allen, *Coercing Privacy*, 40 WM. & MARY L. REV. 723 (1999); Mark MacCarthy, *New Directions in Privacy: Disclosure, Unfairness and Externalities*, 6 I/S: J. L. & POL’Y INFO. SOC’Y (2011) at 443 (“The idea is that individual choice in this area would lead, in a piecemeal fashion, to the erosion of privacy protections that are the foundation of the democratic regime, which is the heart of our political system. Individuals are making an assessment—at least implicitly—of the advantages and disadvantages to them of sharing information. They are determining that information sharing is, on balance, a net gain for them. But the aggregate effect of these decisions is to erode the expectation of privacy and also the role of privacy in fostering self-development, personhood, and other values that underlie the liberal way of life. In this way, individual choices are not sufficient to justify information practices that collectively undermine widely shared public values” (footnote omitted).)

imagine,” Calo suggests, “the government fashioning a rule—perhaps inadvisable for other reasons—that limits the collection of information about consumers in order to reduce asymmetries of information.”¹⁸¹

B. The Problem with Precautionary Principle-Based Policymaking

So, what’s wrong with this sort of precautionary approach to policymaking? Doesn’t it make sense to plan ahead for worst-case scenarios, including those that might develop for the Internet of Things and wearable technologies? After all, these technologies clearly have the potential to disrupt well-established social and legal norms.

Anticipating and seeking to avoid potential hazards are important parts of life, but there are problems with converting the logic of “better to be safe than sorry” from an informal *personal* or *institutional* prescription into a formal *legal* directive. When individuals and institutions apply anticipatory, precautionary thinking and policies in their own lives or business decisions, they bear the cost of those efforts. By contrast, when precautionary thinking is converted into preemptive policy prescriptions, the cost of those actions will be borne by a far greater universe of actors.

Generally speaking, the problem with “precautionary” policy-making comes down to this: If we spend all our time living in constant fear of worst-case scenarios—and premising public policy upon such fears—it means that *best-case* scenarios will never come about. Wisdom and progress are born from experience, including experiences that involve risk and the possibility of occasional mistakes and failures.¹⁸² As the old adage goes, “nothing ventured, nothing gained.”

More concretely, the problem with “permissioning” innovation is that traditional regulatory policies and systems tend to be overly-rigid, bureaucratic, costly, and slow to adapt to new realities.¹⁸³ Precautionary-based policies and regulatory systems focus on preemptive remedies that aim to predict the future, and future hypothetical problems that may not ever come about. Worse yet, preemptive bans or regulatory prescriptions can limit innovations that yield new and better ways of doing things.¹⁸⁴

Regardless of whether the technical regulatory specifications for “permissioned” products and services are published in advance or firms must seek special permission before they offer a new product or service, both varieties of preemptive regulation have the same effect: It raises the cost of starting or running a business or nonbusiness venture, and therefore discourages activities that benefit society. Such precautionary regulation can limit what Angela Benton, Founder & CEO NewME Accelerator, refers to “democratized entrepreneurship,” or the sort of

¹⁸¹ Calo, *Digital Market Manipulation*, *supra* note, at 5.

¹⁸² Thierer, PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION, *supra* note __, at viii.

¹⁸³ Abelson, et. al., *supra* note __, at 285, (“Bureaucracies change more slowly than the technologies they regulate.”).

¹⁸⁴ Aaron Wildavsky, *SEARCHING FOR SAFETY* 183 (1988). (“Regulation, because it deals with the general rather than with the particular, necessarily results in forbidding some actions that might be beneficial. Regulators cannot devise specifications sufficiently broad to serve as guidelines for every contingency without also limiting some actions that might increase safety. Because regulation is anticipatory, regulators frequently guess wrong about which things are dangerous; therefore, they compensate by blanket prohibitions.”)

modern start-up culture that means “just about anyone can afford to launch a business.”¹⁸⁵ In turn, this has implications for consumers and end-users of technology. Overly prescriptive regulatory systems can raise the cost of goods and services, diminish the quality of those goods and services, or limit the overall range of choices that the public has at its disposal.¹⁸⁶

Such preemptive regulation is often discussed in the context of the Internet of Things. Recall, for example, Calo’s hypothetical rule that “limits the collection of information about consumers in order to reduce asymmetries of information.” While he does not endorse the adoption of such a rule at this time, the cost of such a rule and comparable regulatory proposals should be taken into account and subjected to a strict benefit-cost analysis.¹⁸⁷ Alleviating all “information asymmetries” would be impossible absent sweeping and constant regulatory interventions. If such precautionary regulation was imposed on IoT technologies, it could stifle the provision of devices and services that could substantially improve consumer welfare.¹⁸⁸

The same would likely be true if Chairwoman Ramirez’s approach to preemptive data use “commandment” was enshrined into a law that says, “Thou shall not collect and hold onto personal information unnecessary to an identified purpose.”¹⁸⁹ Such a precautionary limitation would certainly satisfy her desire to avoid hypothetical worst-case outcomes since, as she noted, “information that is not collected in the first place can’t be misused,”¹⁹⁰ but it is equally true that information that is never collected may never lead to serendipitous data discoveries or new products and services that could offer consumers concrete benefits. “The socially beneficial uses of data made possible by data analytics are often not immediately evident to data subjects at the time of data collection,” notes Ken Wasch, President of the Software & Information Industry Association.¹⁹¹ If academics and lawmakers succeed in imposing such precautionary rules on IoT and wearable technologies, many important innovations may never see the light of day.

¹⁸⁵ Angela Benton, *Angela Benton on the Future of Entrepreneurship*, WALL ST. J., July 7, 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/angela-benton-on-the-future-of-entrepreneurship-1404762819>.

¹⁸⁶ Thierer, PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION, *supra* note __, at viii.

¹⁸⁷ Adam Thierer, *A Framework for Benefit-Cost Analysis in Digital Privacy Debates*, 20 GEO. MASON L. REV. 1055, 1066-69 (2013), http://www.georgemasonlawreview.org/doc/Thierer_Website.pdf; Future of Privacy Forum, *Comments to the Federal Trade Commission on Internet of Things, Project No. P135405*, Jan. 10, 2014, at 13, http://www.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/documents/public_comments/2014/01/00013-88250.pdf, (“The value of the Internet of Things will largely come from rapidly evolving, beneficial uses of data. When considering whether the use of data is appropriate to the context, consideration should instead be given to the likely benefits and the risk, if any, of actual harm.”).

¹⁸⁸ Adam Thierer, *Testimony before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation: A Status Update on the Development of Voluntary Do-Not-Track Standards*, Apr. 24, 2013, at 2-3, http://mercatus.org/sites/default/files/Thierer_testimony_DNT_042313.pdf.

¹⁸⁹ *Id.*, 4.

¹⁹⁰ *Id.*, 6.

¹⁹¹ Ken Wasch, Software & Information Industry Association, *Letter to the Honorable Edith Ramirez RE: FTC Request for Information on the ‘Internet of Things,’* May 31, 2013, at 6, http://www.siaa.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4325&Itemid=318.

C. The Importance of Regulatory Patience & Humility

An embrace of permissionless innovation over precautionary principle thinking requires that legislators and regulators understand that *patience* and *humility* are worth embracing as policy virtues.¹⁹² To the maximum extent possible, policymakers should exercise restraint and resist the urge to try to plan the future and all the various scenarios—good or bad—that might come about. We can think of this as a policy of *forbearance*.

FTC Commissioner Maureen K. Ohlhausen concisely elucidated the philosophy of forbearance in an October 2013 speech titled, “The Internet of Things and the FTC: Does Innovation Require Intervention?” in which she noted that, “the success of the Internet has in large part been driven by the freedom to experiment with different business models, the best of which have survived and thrived, even in the face of initial unfamiliarity and unease about the impact on consumers and competitors.”¹⁹³

Ohlhausen pointed out that the precautionary mindset is dangerous when enshrined into policy directives because regulators—in their zeal to correct for supposed *consumer* irrationality or ignorance—often ignore *regulator* irrationality or ignorance. In other words, regulators can spend so much time focused on the supposed irrationality of consumers and their openness to persuasion or “manipulation” that those regulators end up ignoring their own irrationality or ignorance. Regulators simply do not possess the requisite knowledge to perfectly plan for every conceivable outcome, and attempts to do so will likely have many unintended consequences.¹⁹⁴

This is particularly true for information technology markets, which generally evolve much more rapidly than other sectors, and especially more rapidly than the law itself.¹⁹⁵ Technology author Larry Downes has noted that policymaking in the information age is inexorably governed by the “law of disruption” or the fact that “technology changes exponentially, but social, economic, and legal systems change incrementally.”¹⁹⁶ This law is “a simple but unavoidable principle of modern life,” he said, and it will have profound implications for the way businesses, government, and culture evolve. “As the gap between the old world and the new gets wider,” he argues, “conflicts between social, economic, political, and legal systems” will intensify and “nothing can stop the chaos that will follow.”¹⁹⁷

¹⁹² This section adapted from: Thierer, PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION, *supra* note __, at 34-5, 66.

¹⁹³ Maureen K. Ohlhausen, *The Internet of Things and the FTC: Does Innovation Require Intervention?* Remarks before the US Chamber of Commerce, Oct. 18, 2013, <http://www.ftc.gov/speeches/ohlhausen/131008internetthingsremarks.pdf>.

¹⁹⁴ Abelson, et. al., *supra* note __, at 159, (“Too often, well-intentioned efforts to regulate technology are far worse than the imagined evils they were intended to prevent.”).

¹⁹⁵ Amy Collins, Adam J. Fleisher, D. Reed Freeman, Jr. & Alistair Maughan, “The Internet of Things Part 2: The Old Problem Squared,” Morrison Foerster CLIENT ALERT 6 (Mar. 20, 2014), <http://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/the-internet-of-things-part-2-the-old-p-28404>. (“The key issue seems likely to be whether the regulators can work fast enough to keep up with what the technology is capable of doing.”)

¹⁹⁶ Larry Downes, *THE LAWS OF DISRUPTION: HARNESSING THE NEW FORCES THAT GOVERN LIFE AND BUSINESS IN THE DIGITAL AGE 2* (2009).

¹⁹⁷ *Id.* at 2-3. In a similar sense, Andy Grove, former CEO of Intel, once reportedly said that “[h]igh tech runs three-times faster than normal businesses. And the government runs three-times slower than normal businesses. So

That insight prompts Ohlhausen to caution to her fellow regulators:

It is . . . vital that government officials, like myself, approach new technologies with a dose of regulatory humility, by working hard to educate ourselves and others about the innovation, understand its effects on consumers and the marketplace, identify benefits and likely harms, and, if harms do arise, consider whether existing laws and regulations are sufficient to address them, before assuming that new rules are required.¹⁹⁸

Compared to Chairwoman Ramirez’s policy approach, which is clearly based on precautionary principle thinking rooted in fears about hypothetical worst-case outcomes, Ohlhausen’s approach to technological innovation in this space is consistent with the permissionless innovation approach.

If we care about expanding innovation opportunities, boosting consumer choice, and enhancing human welfare, then the philosophy of humility and forbearance should guide public policy: Policymakers should generally exercise restraint and resist the urge to try to plan the future and all the various scenarios—good or bad—that might come about.¹⁹⁹ Prospective regulation based on hypothesizing about future harms that may never materialize is likely to come at the expense of innovation and growth opportunities. To the extent that any corrective action is needed to address harms, *ex post* measures, especially via the common law, are typically superior.²⁰⁰

Another lesson flows from this: not every wise ethical principle, social norm, or industry best practice automatically makes wise public policy prescriptions.²⁰¹ If we hope to preserve a free and open society, we must not convert every ethical directive or societal norm—no matter how sensible—into a legal directive.

For these reasons, more flexible, “bottom-up” approaches to solving complex problems are almost always superior to preemptive, precautionary, “top-down” controls. A variety of these less burdensome bottom-up solutions are outlined in Section VI.

That being said, the Internet of Things and wearable technologies will raise many legitimate issues that deserve to be taken seriously and addressed in a constructive fashion. Some of these concerns, such as the safety of medical apps and wearable health devices, may raise some serious issues that deserve regulatory scrutiny. Such safety concerns will likely only relate to a subset of IoT devices, however. Privacy-related concerns will likely apply to a much wider class of IoT and wearable technologies, which is why those issues receive more attention here. As noted next, traditional privacy regulatory paradigms and policies are likely unequipped to deal with some of these concerns.

we have a nine-times gap.” Lillian Cunningham, *Google’s Eric Schmidt Expounds on His Senate Testimony*, WASH. POST, Oct. 1, 2011, available at http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/on-leadership/googles-eric-schmidt-expounds-on-his-senate-testimony/2011/09/30/gIQAPyVgCL_story.html.

¹⁹⁸ Ohlhausen, *supra* note __.

¹⁹⁹ Thierer, PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION, *supra* note __, at viii.

²⁰⁰ Adam Thierer, *Why Permissionless Innovation Matters*, MEDIUM, Apr. 24, 2014, <https://medium.com/challenging-the-status-quo/why-permissionless-innovation-matters-257e3d605b63>.

²⁰¹ Thierer, PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION, *supra* note __, at viii.

IV. **HOW THE INTERNET OF THINGS CHALLENGES TRADITIONAL PRIVACY NORMS & LEGAL STANDARDS**

Due to the massive amount of information that IoT and wearable technologies can gather, privacy and security-related concerns will grow as these devices and services proliferate.²⁰² Users enjoy the personalization and customization that IoT and wearable technologies offer, yet those same capabilities that are so hotly demanded also exacerbate digital privacy and data security risks that already existed for traditional online services and technologies.²⁰³

This section specifically explores how these technologies raise challenges to traditional privacy norms—both social and legal—and explains why a more creative and flexible approach to dealing with these issues will be necessary.

A. Growing Privacy-Related Regulatory Interest in the IoT & Wearables

Policymaker interest in IoT and wearable technology is growing and getting the legislative and regulatory balance right will affect the potential for ongoing innovation in this arena. “Courts, regulators and lawmakers will be fighting over IoT privacy safeguards for years to come,” notes Patrick Thibodeau of *Computerworld*.²⁰⁴ In fact, that process has already begun.

In April 2013, the FTC launched an inquiry into the “Privacy and Security Implications of the Internet of Things” and invited comments.²⁰⁵ That proceeding was followed by a day-long workshop that was held on November 21, 2013 in Washington, DC.²⁰⁶ In May 2014, the White House also completed an expedited 90-day study “to examine how big data will transform the way we live and work and alter the relationships between government, citizens, businesses, and consumers.”²⁰⁷

Shortly thereafter, on May 7, 2014, the FTC also hosted a seminar on “Consumer Generated and Controlled Health Data,” which explored the privacy concerns surrounding website and digital applications (including wearables) that collect information about personal health and

²⁰² Patrick Thibodeau, *The Internet of Things could encroach on personal privacy*, COMPUTERWORLD, May 3, 2014, http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9248086/The_Internet_of_Things_could_encroach_on_personal_privacy; Jaikumar Vijayan, *The Internet of Things likely to drive an upheaval for security*, COMPUTERWORLD, May 2, 2014, http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9248069/The_Internet_of_Things_likely_to_drive_an_upheaval_for_security.

²⁰³ Jat Singh & Julia Powles, *The internet of things - the next big challenge to our privacy*, THE GUARDIAN, July 28, 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2014/jul/28/internet-of-things-privacy>.

²⁰⁴ Thibodeau, *The ABCs of the Internet of Things*, *supra* note ___.

²⁰⁵ Federal Trade Commission, *FTC Seeks Input on Privacy and Security Implications of the Internet of Things*, Apr. 17, 2013, <http://www.ftc.gov/news-events/press-releases/2013/04/ftc-seeks-input-privacy-and-security-implications-internet-things>.

²⁰⁶ Federal Trade Commission, *Internet of Things - Privacy and Security in a Connected World*, Nov. 19, 2013, <http://www.ftc.gov/news-events/events-calendar/2013/11/internet-things-privacy-security-connected-world>.

²⁰⁷ White House, *BIG DATA: SEIZING OPPORTUNITIES, PRESERVING VALUES*, May 2014, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/big_data_privacy_report_may_1_2014.pdf.

fitness.²⁰⁸ Following the FDA's draft guidance for mobile medical applications, which was discussed earlier, this FTC effort may become the federal government's next major foray into IoT and wearable technology regulation,²⁰⁹ especially since many privacy advocates are already clamoring for policy action on this front.²¹⁰ This is happening against the backdrop of broader privacy-related policy efforts. Federal and state lawmakers have introduced a variety of privacy-related measures in recent years²¹¹ and regulatory interest in IoT and wearable tech is growing in Europe²¹² and Asia.²¹³

B. IoT & the FIPPs

What these efforts share in common is a desire to extend traditional privacy norms and protections to the world of "big data" and the Internet of Things. With more information being produced, collected, categorized, and repurposed than ever before, policymakers worry that new laws and preemptive regulations may be needed to head-off potential worst-case scenarios.²¹⁴

Generally speaking, these efforts have been focused on translating traditional "fair information practice principles" (FIPPs) into a workable set of industry best practices. Modern privacy law and policy has been driven by a focus on these FIPPs and how they might guide data collection and use.²¹⁵ Obama Administration privacy reports have generally listed the following FIPPs:

²⁰⁸ Federal Trade Commission, *Spring Privacy Series: Consumer Generated and Controlled Health Data*, May 7, 2014, <http://www.ftc.gov/news-events/events-calendar/2014/05/spring-privacy-series-consumer-generated-controlled-health-data>.

²⁰⁹ Mark Sullivan, *FTC may soon turn its regulatory gaze toward data-collecting health apps*, VENTURE BEAT, May 16, 2014, <http://venturebeat.com/2014/05/16/ftc-may-soon-turn-its-regulatory-gaze-toward-data-collecting-health-apps>.

²¹⁰ Andrea Peterson, *Privacy advocates warn of 'nightmare' scenario as tech giants consider fitness tracking*, WASH. POST THE SWITCH, May 19, 2014, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/the-switch/wp/2014/05/19/privacy-advocates-warn-of-nightmare-scenario-as-tech-giants-consider-fitness-tracking>; Linder Ackerman, Privacy Clearinghouse, *Mobile Health and Fitness Applications and Information Privacy Report to California Consumer Protection Foundation*, July 15, 2013, <https://www.privacyrights.org/mobile-medical-apps-privacy-consumer-report.pdf>.

²¹¹ Padro Pavon, *The 'Internet of Things' Will Impact Law and Regulation in 2014*, INFORMATION SECURITY REVIEW, Jan. 15, 2014, <http://infosecreview.com/2014/01/15/the-internet-of-things-will-impact-law-and-regulation-in-2014>.

²¹² Helen Rebecca Schindler, Jonathan Cave, Neil Robinson, Veronika Horvath, Petal Hackett, Salil Gunashekar, Maarten Botterman, Simon Forge & Hans Graux, RAND Corporation, *Europe's policy options for a dynamic and trustworthy development of the Internet of Things*, SMART 2012/0053 (2013), http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR356.html; *New guidelines on data ownership and liability could be issued to address 'internet of things' phenomenon*, OUT-LAW.COM, July 4, 2014, <http://www.out-law.com/en/articles/2014/july/new-guidelines-on-data-ownership-and-liability-could-be-issued-to-address-internet-of-things-phenomenon>.

²¹³ Chris Neiger, *China Is Dominating the Internet of Things*, THE MOTLEY FOOL, June 15, 2014, <http://www.fool.com/investing/general/2014/06/15/china-is-dominating-the-internet-of-things.aspx>.

²¹⁴ Kate Tummarello, *Obama's 'big data' report calls for new privacy laws*, THE HILL, May 1, 2014, <http://thehill.com/policy/technology/204961-white-house-big-data-report-calls-for-new-privacy-laws>.

²¹⁵ Robert Gellman, *Fair Information Practices: A Basic History, Unpublished Manuscript*, Version 2.11, Apr. 4, 2014, [last accessed May 25, 2014] <http://bobgellman.com/rg-docs/rg-FIPShistory.pdf>.

Individual Control (i.e., “notice and consent”), Transparency, Respect for Context, Security, Access, Accuracy, Focused Collection, and Accountability.²¹⁶ The Administration has advocated that such principles govern private sector data collection and use and that they be formally enshrined in a congressionally-implemented “Consumer Privacy Bill of Rights.”²¹⁷ Congress has not yet acted on the Administration’s request, however.

That may be because lawmakers understand the challenge of applying FIPPS in a strict, legalistic fashion considering how rapidly technology, business practices, and consumer demands are evolving in the modern economy.²¹⁸ The lack of policy action may also be due to a more fundamental problem that has long haunted privacy policy and enforcement: definitional confusion.²¹⁹ Writing at the International Association of Privacy Professionals blog, Brooks Dobbs, chief privacy officer for KBMGroup, notes that “the terms ‘personal data’, ‘personal information’ and ‘personally identifiable information’ are often used interchangeably, [but] it’s apparent they could easily be read to speak to fundamentally different things.”²²⁰ He notes that this is:

an enormous problem at the heart of our profession. Simply stated, as privacy professionals, we generally believe our jobs revolve around maintaining controls for the appropriate use and disclosure of either PII or personal data, but we can’t agree on what those terms mean.... This definitional problem is leading to monumental uncertainty at the core of our profession.

Moreover, each of the core FIPPs are open to extensive interpretational disagreements among policymakers and privacy professionals alike. This leads Brookings Institution scholars Benjamin Wittes and Wells C. Bennett to conclude that privacy is “something of an intellectual rabbit hole, a notion so contested and ill-defined that it often offers little guidance to policymakers concerning the uses of personal information they should encourage, discourage, or forbid.”²²¹

²¹⁶ White House, BIG DATA report, *supra* note, at 19-20.

²¹⁷ White House, CONSUMER DATA PRIVACY IN A NETWORKED WORLD: A FRAMEWORK FOR PROTECTING PRIVACY AND PROMOTING INNOVATION IN THE GLOBAL DIGITAL ECONOMY, (Feb. 2012), <http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/privacy-final.pdf>.

²¹⁸ Jane Yakowitz Bambauer, *The New Intrusion*, 88 NOTRE DAME L. REV. 205, 274 (2012), http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2019079 (“To this point, American lawmakers have been wisely reluctant to condemn the accumulation of personal information until we fully understand its consequences.”)

²¹⁹ See Adam Thierer, *The Pursuit of Privacy in a World Where Information Control Is Failing*, 36 HARV. J.L. & PUB. POL’Y 409, 424-35 (2013) (noting that “privacy has always been a highly subjective philosophical concept. It is also a constantly morphing notion that evolves as societal attitudes adjust to new cultural and technological realities. For these reasons, America may never be able to achieve a coherent fixed definition of the term or determine when it constitutes a formal right outside of some narrow contexts.”)

²²⁰ Brooks Dobbs, *The Problem at the Heart of the Privacy Profession*, PRIVACY PERSPECTIVES, May 19, 2014, https://www.privacyassociation.org/privacy_perspectives/post/the_problem_at_the_heart_of_the_privacy_profession.

²²¹ Benjamin Wittes & Wells C. Bennett, Brookings Institution, *Database and a Trusteeship Model of Consumer Protection in the Big Data Era*, GOVERNANCE STUDIES AT BROOKINGS 1 (June 2014), <http://www.brookings.edu/research/papers/2014/06/04-database-trusteeship-consumer-protection-big-data-era-privacy>.

But these definitional dilemmas are only part of the problem. Even if “privacy” and the corresponding FIPPS could be defined with greater academic and legal rigor, an equally thorny problem arises when determining how to translate these principles into a workable enforcement regime for the Internet of Things and wearable tech. First Amendment-related hurdles to privacy enforcement may also exist. Those two issues are discussed next.

C. Limitations of the Traditional “Notice & Consent” Model for IoT

By their very nature, IoT and wearable technologies are always-on, always-sensing, always-collecting, and always-communicating. This will create major challenges for traditional FIPPS-based policymaking efforts. As FTC Chairwoman Ramirez notes, “the difficulties will be exponentially greater with the advent of the Internet of Things, as the boundaries between the virtual and physical worlds disappear.”²²² She goes on to ask a series of questions about the rise of the IoT and its implications for privacy best practices:

Will consumers understand that previously inert everyday objects are now collecting and sharing data about them? How can these objects provide just-in-time notice and choice if there is no user interface at all? And will we be asking consumers to make an unreasonable number of decisions about the collection and use of their data?²²³

“The answers to these and other questions may not be simple,” Ramirez says, “but in my mind the question is not whether the core principles of privacy by design, simplified choice, and transparency should apply to the Internet of Things. The question is how to adapt them to the Internet of Things.”²²⁴

Alas, Ramirez does not offer a clear roadmap for how to do so. Nor has the FTC. That is hardly surprising, however, since it is almost impossible to envision how a rigid application of traditional notice and choice procedures would work in practice. The Future of Privacy Forum notes that while FIPPs “are a valuable set of high-level guidelines for promoting privacy,... given the nature of the technologies involved, *traditional* implementations of the FIPPs may not always be practical as the Internet of Things matures.”²²⁵

For example, it is not even clear at the moment whether existing wearable technologies and mobile medical applications are in compliance with—or even need to be in compliance with²²⁶—the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), which governs the use of “individually identifiable health information held by covered entities and their business

²²² Edith Ramirez, *Opening Remarks of FTC Chairwoman Edith Ramirez, The Internet of Things: Privacy and Security in a Connected World*, Nov. 19, 2013, at 4, <http://www.ftc.gov/public-statements/2013/11/opening-remarks-ftc-chairwoman-edith-ramirez-federal-trade-commission>.

²²³ *Id.*

²²⁴ *Id.*

²²⁵ Future of Privacy Forum, *Comments to the Federal Trade Commission on Internet of Things, Project No. P135405*, Jan. 10, 2014, at 3, (emphasis in original), http://www.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/documents/public_comments/2014/01/00013-88250.pdf.

²²⁶ HIPAA’s coverage is conditioned on a variety of definitional distinctions involving who or what counts as “protected health information,” a “covered entity,” a “business associate,” and so on. See Anne Marie Helm & Daniel Georgatos, *Privacy and Mhealth: How Mobile Health ‘Apps’ Fit into A Privacy Framework Not Limited to HIPAA*, 64 SYRACUSE L. REV. 152-6 (2014).

associates and gives patients an array of rights with respect to that information.”²²⁷ As consumers use their smartphones and tablets as medical monitoring devices to compile data about their health and fitness and then share it with medical professionals or others, it will raise a variety of questions about HIPAA compliance as well as traditional FDA medical device regulatory compliance more generally.²²⁸

Enforcing privacy best practices in an age of increasing device miniaturization means that, in many cases, it also will not be possible for consumers to read an organization’s privacy policy because many of these technologies will be too small to even have a display.²²⁹ Moreover, the sophistication of many of these devices, and the sheer amount of data they collect, makes it difficult to devise a workable notice and choice regime that can foresee every possible misuse. As the recent White House *Big Data* report noted:

Big data technologies, together with the sensors that ride on the “Internet of Things,” pierce many spaces that were previously private. ... Always-on wearable technologies with voice and video interfaces and the arrival of whole classes of networked devices will only expand information collection still further. This sea of ubiquitous sensors, each of which has legitimate uses, make the notion of limiting information collection challenging, if not impossible.²³⁰

“Together, these trends,” the White House concluded, “may require us to look closely at the notice and consent framework that has been a central pillar of how privacy practices have been organized for more than four decades.”²³¹ In an accompanying report, the President’s Council of Advisors for Science & Technology concluded that, “as a useful policy tool, notice and consent is defeated by exactly the positive benefits that big data enables: new, non-obvious, unexpectedly powerful uses of data.”²³²

Many academics agree. Peppet says, “notice and choice is an ill fitting solution to these problems, both because Internet of Things devices may not provide consumers with inherent

²²⁷ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, *Health Information Privacy*, <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/index.htm>, (last accessed June 13, 2014).

²²⁸ Mark Sullivan, *Health apps could be heading into a HIPAA showdown*, VENTUREBEAT, June 13, 2014, <http://venturebeat.com/2014/06/13/health-apps-could-be-heading-into-a-hipaa-showdown>.

²²⁹ The FDA has already struggled with this problem in the context of digital advertising for prescription drugs and medical devices. In doing so, the agency has actually discouraged the use of some social media sites, such as Twitter, if adequate disclosure is difficult. The draft guidance says that “[i]f the firm concludes that adequate benefit and risk information, as well as other required information, cannot all be communicated within the same tweet, then the firm should reconsider using Twitter for the intended promotional message.” See Food and Drug Administration, *Guidance for Industry Internet/Social Media Platforms with Character Space Limitations— Presenting Risk and Benefit Information for Prescription Drugs and Medical Devices* 7 (June 2014), <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM401087.pdf>.

²³⁰ *Id.*, p. 53-4.

²³¹ *Id.*, at 54.

²³² President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, *BIG DATA AND PRIVACY: A TECHNOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE* 38 (May 2014).

notice that data rights are implicated in their use and because sensor device firms seem stuck in a notice paradigm designed for web sites rather than connected consumer goods.”²³³

D. The Possible Move toward Use Restrictions for the IoT

In light of these problems, various academics, government officials, and even private companies have suggested that it may be necessary to **move away from a policy approach rooted in notice and choice and toward a new regime based on use restrictions.**²³⁴

Former FTC officials J. Howard Beales and Timothy J. Muris have argued that “government should base commercial privacy regulations and policies on the potential consequences for consumers of information use and misuse. This approach focuses attention on the relevant questions of benefits and costs, and offers a superior foundation for regulation,” they say.²³⁵ Similarly, Craig Mundie, a Senior Advisor at the Microsoft Corporation, says, “The time has come for a new approach: shifting the focus from limiting the collection and retention of data to controlling data at the most important point—the moment when it is used.”²³⁶ Finally, in a recent report on revising data protection principles, Fred H. Cate of Indiana University, Peter Cullen of Microsoft, and Viktor Mayer-Schönberger of Oxford University argue that:

As a practical matter, the evolution of data collection and data use necessitates an evolving system of information privacy protection. A revised approach should shift responsibility away from individuals and toward data collectors and data users, who should be held accountable for how they manage data rather than whether they obtain individual consent. In addition, a revised approach should focus more on data use than on data collection because the context in which personal information will be used and the value it will hold are often unclear at the time of collection.²³⁷

Policymakers appear ready to move in this direction. The Obama Administration’s recent *Big Data* report suggested that, “in instances where the notice and consent framework threatens to be overcome—such as the collection of ambient data by our household appliances—we may need to re-focus our attention on the context of data use, a policy shift presently being debated by privacy scholars and technologists.”²³⁸ **The White House argued that this sort of “responsible use framework” has many potential advantages:**

It shifts the responsibility from the individual, who is not well equipped to understand or contest consent notices as they are currently structured in the marketplace, to the

²³³ Peppet, *Regulating the Internet of Things*, at 55.

²³⁴ Bambauer, *The New Intrusion*, *supra* note ___, at 270-1 (“Laws prohibiting specific uses of personal information can achieve the goals of privacy law without significantly curtailing the flow of truthful information. If we have reason to believe that a particular use diminishes social welfare, we can and should craft prohibitions on those specific uses.”)

²³⁵ J. Howard Beales, III & Timothy J. Muris, *Choice or Consequences: Protecting Privacy in Commercial Information*, 75 U. Chi. L. Rev. 109, 132 (2008).

²³⁶ Craig Mundie, *Privacy Pragmatism: Focus on Data Use, Not Data Collection*, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, March/April, 2014, <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/140741/craig-mundie/privacy-pragmatism>.

²³⁷ Fred H. Cate, Peter Cullen & Viktor Mayer-Schönberger, DATA PROTECTION PRINCIPLES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY: REVISING THE 1980 OECD GUIDELINES 8 (Dec. 2013).

²³⁸ White House, BIG DATA report, *supra* note, at 56.

entities that collect, maintain, and use data. Focusing on responsible use also holds data collectors and users accountable for how they manage the data and any harms it causes, rather than narrowly defining their responsibility to whether they properly obtained consent at the time of collection.²³⁹

Many companies, including many large IoT players, have suggested they are open to such a move. The Transatlantic Computing Continuum Policy Alliance, which includes AT&T, General Electric, Intel Corporation and Oracle Corporation, has filed comments with the FTC arguing that:

We need to move away from an approach centered on the collection of data to focus in practical terms on what happens to that data and how it's used, bearing in mind the real world harms and consequences. That does not mean that there is no role for notice and choice, but rather that we must review the context of the implementation and potential societal benefits from how the information may be used to determine what controls are needed to protect privacy within the circumscribed use. We need to think through how we manage notice and choice—not to change existing privacy principles, but to provide more guidance about how to apply the existing principles in this new IoT environment.²⁴⁰

Such a move away from notice and consent and toward use-based limitations seems likely as IoT and wearable technologies evolve and make older enforcement methods less effective.²⁴¹

For technologies such as Google Glass and other wearables, it would be impossible for users to obtain notice and consent from every individual they randomly passed by on a sidewalk or at an event. By contrast, it might be possible to impose some limited use-based restrictions of wearables to achieve privacy or safety goals.

For example, the use of wearables in certain sensitive environments (such as bathrooms or locker rooms) could be prohibited. Use-based restrictions might also be imposed for safety-related reasons as well. A state senator in Illinois recently introduced a bill that would prohibit drivers from wearing Google Glass while operating a vehicle.²⁴² Even if that measure does not pass, it is easy to imagine comparable restrictions being imposed on the use of wearables while driving or operating heavy machinery.

E. The Problem of “Privacy Paternalism” & the Limits of Privacy “Harm”

In crafting use-based restrictions, however, policymakers must exercise caution. Overly-broad restraints could end up being tantamount to a de facto ban on *all* uses of certain IoT or

²³⁹ *Id.*

²⁴⁰ Transatlantic Computing Continuum Policy Alliance, *Comments to the Federal Trade Commission on Internet of Things, Project No. P135405*, January 10, 2014, http://cppionline.org/docs/Letter-to-Secretary_Clark_final.pdf.

²⁴¹ Jill Valenstein, *Will Individual Notice and Consent Become a Relic of the Past? The White House Report on Big Data Suggests Privacy Regulation Should Focus on Data Use, Rather than Data Collection*, PRIVACY & SECURITY LAW BLOG, May 20, 2014, <http://www.privsecblog.com/2014/05/articles/main-topics/marketing-consumer-privacy/will-individual-notice-and-consent-become-a-relic-of-the-past-the-white-house-report-on-big-data-suggests-privacy-regulation-should-focus-on-data-use-rather-than-data-collection>.

²⁴² John Byrne, *Illinois lawmaker wants to outlaw wearing Google Glass while driving*, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, May 20, 2014, http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2014-05-20/news/chi-illinois-google-glass-law-driving-20140520_1_google-glass-illinois-lawmaker-silverstein.

wearable technologies. Moreover, policymakers must avoid converting their preferences—or the preferences of just a small but vocal group of regulation advocates—into paternalistic policies that limit individual autonomy.²⁴³ The goal of privacy policy should not be to prevent people from making choices that others feel are unwise.

Privacy scholar Daniel J. Solove of the George Washington University School of Law has warned of **privacy law's "paternalism" problem**.²⁴⁴ "Privacy regulation," he notes, "risks becoming too paternalistic. Regulation that sidesteps consent denies people the freedom to make choices. The end result is that either people have choices that are not meaningful or people are denied choices altogether."²⁴⁵

Privacy is too subjective to have policymakers or academics dictating outcomes based on their own preferences.²⁴⁶ As Solove notes, "the correct choices regarding privacy and data use are not always clear. For example, although extensive self-exposure can have disastrous consequences, many people use social media successfully and productively."²⁴⁷ Generally speaking, barring a clear showing of actual, not prospective or hypothetical, harm,²⁴⁸ our culture has rejected the paternalistic idea that law must "save us from ourselves" (i.e., our own irrationality or mistakes).²⁴⁹ Importantly, "harm" in this context has usually been narrowly defined as actions that pose a direct threat to human well-being, personal property, or the home.²⁵⁰ This is not to say emotional or psychic harm associated with privacy violations are

²⁴³ Adam Thierer, *Is Privacy an Unalienable Right? The Problem with Privacy Paternalism*, TECHNOLOGY LIBERATION FRONT, January 18, 2014, <http://techliberation.com/2014/01/27/is-privacy-an-unalienable-right-the-problem-with-privacy-paternalism>.

²⁴⁴ Daniel J. Solove, *Privacy Self-Management and the Consent Dilemma*, 126 Harv. L. Rev. 1880, 1895 (2013).

²⁴⁵ *Id.*, at 1894.

²⁴⁶ See Thierer, *The Pursuit of Privacy*, *supra* note, at 414-21; Thomas M. Lenard & Paul H. Rubin, Technology Policy Institute, *The Big Data Revolution: Privacy Considerations* 24 (Dec. 2013) http://www.techpolicyinstitute.org/files/lenard_rubin_thebigdatarevolutionprivacyconsiderations.pdf, (worrying that "many of the privacy advocates and writers on the subject do not trust the consumers for whom they purport to advocate.")

²⁴⁷ Solove, *Privacy Self-Management*, *supra* note, at 1895.

²⁴⁸ Solove, *Privacy Self-Management*, *supra* note, at 1897. ("The law generally does not override consent, even with potentially dangerous activities. . . . As a general matter, the law refrains from restricting transactions that appear on the surface to be consensual, and the law will tolerate a substantial amount of manipulation and even coercion before it deems a transaction to be nonconsensual.")

²⁴⁹ *Id.*, at 1897. ("People make decisions all the time that are not in their best interests. People relinquish rights and take bad risks, and the law often does not stop them.")

²⁵⁰ Jim Harper, *The Privacy Torts: How U.S. State Law Quietly Leads the Way in Privacy Protection* (2002), http://www.privacilla.org/releases/Torts_Report.html, ("Prescriptive regulation may be called for where there is significant risk to human life or health because the injuries people may suffer are irreversible or deadly. This makes compensation after the fact impossible or insufficient. Though suffering a privacy violation can be devastating, information policy can not be fairly characterized as an area of significant danger to human life or health.")

ignored completely under American law,²⁵¹ merely that a much higher bar exists when attempting to make the case that those harms should be legally actionable.²⁵²

That approach generally makes sense both in light of how subjective privacy can be as well as the high value Americans place on balancing privacy against other values, such as freedom of speech and journalistic freedoms (discussed in the following section), as well as economic innovation and consumer choice. “We have fallen in love with this always-on world,” note Hal Abelson, Ken Ledeen, and Harry Lewis, authors of *Blown to Bits: Your Life, Liberty, and Happiness After the Digital Explosion*. “We accept our loss of privacy in exchange for efficiency, convenience, and small price discounts.”²⁵³ While many privacy advocates are loathe to hear it, the reality is that “we give away information about ourselves—voluntarily leave visible footprints of our daily lives—because we judge, perhaps without thinking about it very much, that the benefits outweigh the costs. To be sure, the benefits are many,” argue Abelson, Ledeen, and Lewis.²⁵⁴

This is why America’s privacy torts typically involve a careful weighing of competing values and courts usually try to strike a balance among them. “Reasonable minds are bound to differ when deciding whether the likely psychic harms outweigh the social gains,” notes Jane Yakowitz Bambauer of the University of Arizona College Of Law. “The values on both sides of the scale are inordinately difficult to measure.”²⁵⁵

For these reasons, use-based restrictions should not be converted into a regulatory straightjacket that uniformly mandates data collection and use practices according to a static, one-size-fits-all blueprint. The need for flexibility and adaptability will be paramount if innovation is to continue in this space.²⁵⁶

For example, if policymakers attempt to craft a use-based restriction that prohibits the use of wearable data on grounds that it could be used to “discriminate” against users, lawmakers should narrowly tailor that rule to address truly invidious forms of racial, sexual, or religious discrimination.²⁵⁷ Of course, many anti-discrimination laws already exist that might make such

²⁵¹ See Daniel J. Solove, *Privacy and Data Security Violations: What’s the Harm?* LINKEDIN, June 25, 2014, <https://www.linkedin.com/today/post/article/20140625045136-2259773-privacy-and-data-security-violations-what-s-the-harm>; Ryan Calo, *The Boundaries of Privacy Harm*, 86 INDIANA L. JOUR. (2011), http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1641487.

²⁵² See Thierer, *Privacy Law’s Precautionary Principle Problem*, *supra* note, at 473-79.

²⁵³ Abelson, et. al., *supra* note __, at 20.

²⁵⁴ *Id.*, at 36.

²⁵⁵ Bambauer, *The New Intrusion*, *supra* note __, at 261.

²⁵⁶ Future of Privacy Forum, *Comments to the Federal Trade Commission on Internet of Things*, Project No. P135405, Jan. 10, 2014, http://www.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/documents/public_comments/2014/01/00013-88250.pdf, (“Even in circumstances where traditional [privacy policy] implementations may seem appropriate, however, flexibility is needed.”).

²⁵⁷ Sam Pfeifle, *How Big Data Discriminates*, PRIVACY PERSPECTIVES, June 24, 2014, https://www.privacyassociation.org/publications/how_big_data_discriminates.

practices illegal anyway.²⁵⁸ But “discrimination” should not be construed to include any form of service differentiation, such as tailored product offerings that help expand the range of consumer services.²⁵⁹ In the future, some IoT developers might craft creative data sharing policies that provide consumers with a wide variety of unanticipated benefits. Serendipitous discoveries and data-driven innovation can only materialize in a policy environment that embraces trial-and-error experimentation.²⁶⁰ That is why flexible data collection and use proposals and evolving best practices will ultimately serve consumers better than one-size-fits all, top-down regulatory edicts.

Even well-intentioned regulation can create complex and sometimes quite costly trade-offs.²⁶¹ Data collection has fueled a remarkable amount of the innovation in the modern economy.²⁶² Privacy-related mandates that propose curtailing the use of data could have several deleterious effects, including higher costs for consumers, a decrease in the content and services supported by that data collection and advertising, increased costs for smaller operators and new start-ups (meaning less competition overall), and perhaps even a diminishment of America’s global competitive advantage in the digital economy.²⁶³

All these considerations and trade-offs are equally applicable to the Internet of Things and wearable technologies. Health and fitness application providers already collect and sell a

²⁵⁸ Bambauer, *The New Intrusion*, *supra* note ____, at 271. (“Antidiscrimination laws are prime examples of narrow use restrictions. Antidiscrimination laws restrict the use of race, age, sex, or medical information for hiring, housing, and lending decisions because the biases that result from use of this information, whether statistically rational or not, run against the public interest. These laws work well on the risk-utility calculator because they allow information to be exploited for all purposes except the ones that have been determined to be harmful or risky. The large, rich scholarship on discrimination law explores and debates the soundness of anti-discrimination measures. Curiously, the privacy and discrimination fields often work in isolation, without overt awareness that regulations called ‘privacy laws’ and those called ‘antidiscrimination laws’ often aim to prevent the same harms.” *Internal citations omitted.*)

²⁵⁹ For general discussion of benefits of price discrimination, see Hal Varian, *Price discrimination*, in Richard Schmalensee & Robert Willig, eds., *HANDBOOK OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION*, VOL. I, 597-654 (1989).

²⁶⁰ Thierer, *PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION*, *supra* note, at 1, 17, 81; Daniel Castro, “The Public Policy Implications of ‘Big Data,’” Center for Data Innovation, March 31, 2014, <http://www2.datainnovation.org/2014-ostp-big-data-cdi.pdf>, (“The federal government can play a major role in maximizing the potential benefits of big data, but it must above all encourage use and reuse of data. This means allowing data to be collected and retained for serendipitous future applications that were not foreseen at the time of collection, while restricting harmful applications.”)

²⁶¹ See Thierer, *A Framework for Benefit-Cost Analysis*, *supra* note, at 1055–105.

²⁶² John Deighton & Peter A. Johnson, *THE VALUE OF DATA: CONSEQUENCES FOR INSIGHT, INNOVATION & EFFICIENCY IN THE U.S. ECONOMY* (2013), <http://ddminstitute.thedma.org/#valueofdata>, (finding that data-driven marketing added \$156 billion in revenue to the U.S. economy and fueled more than 675,000 jobs in 2012.) Also see Gartner, *Gartner Says Big Data Will Drive \$28 Billion of IT Spending in 2012*, Oct. 17, 2012, <http://www.gartner.com/newsroom/id/2200815>; McKinsey & Co., *BIG DATA: THE NEXT FRONTIER FOR INNOVATION, COMPETITION, AND PRODUCTIVITY* 97-106 (May 2011), http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/business_technology/big_data_the_next_frontier_for_innovation.

²⁶³ See Adam Thierer, *A Status Update on the Development of Voluntary Do-Not-Track Standards*, Testimony before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, Apr. 24, 2013, at 2, <http://mercatus.org/publication/status-update-development-voluntary-do-not-track-standards>,

certain amount of user information to advertisers so they can create richer user profiles and deliver more relevant ads.²⁶⁴ Some users may find that “creepy,” but this process is what ensures the cost of such services remains low, or even altogether free of charge. And users are always free to avoid such services altogether if they fear such data collection practices.

Instead of imposing these FIPPS in a rigid regulatory fashion, therefore, these privacy and security best practices will need to evolve gradually to new realities and be applied in a more organic and flexible fashion, often outside the realm of public policy. For example, providing consumers with adequate information about various data collection practices remains a sensible best practice for developers to follow, even if it proves difficult to enforce by law. Likewise, IoT developers would be wise to be highly transparent about their data use policies and also limit the amount of overall data collection, keeping it limited to core functions as much as possible. Finally, they should limit retention of that data, limit sharing with too many third parties, and safeguard the data they collect to guard against unauthorized interception or data breaches.

The key takeaway from this discussion is that no silver-bullet solution exists to these complex privacy issues. As analysts with Morrison Foerster have argued, “threats to security and privacy vary considerably and the breadth of challenges presented means that a one-size-fits-all approach to policy and/or regulation is unlikely to work.”²⁶⁵ What is needed is a layered approach. Some potential responses are outlined in Section VI. But one additional complication needs to be discussed first: The First Amendment.



F. First Amendment-Related Hurdles to the Regulation of IoT & Wearable Tech

Rodney A. Smolla notes that “strong First Amendment doctrines stand in the way of many of the most meaningful privacy reforms.”²⁶⁶ In particular, legal scholars have long noted that press rights are also implicated by stronger commercial privacy controls. Philosopher Judith Jarvis Thomson has argued that, “even if there is a right to not be caused distress by the publication of personal information, it is mostly, if not always, overridden by what seems to me a more stringent right, namely the public’s right to a press which prints any and all information, personal or impersonal, which it deems newsworthy. . . .”²⁶⁷

But more than just journalistic freedoms are at stake here. The First Amendment protects the right of all citizens to observe and freely gather information about the world around them, and to use various technologies to help them do so. As the Seventh Circuit explained in its 2012 decision in *ACLU of Illinois v. Alvarez*:

²⁶⁴ Thorin Klosowski, *Lots of Health Apps Are Selling Your Data. Here’s Why*, LIFEHACKER, May 9, 2014, <http://lifehacker.com/lots-of-health-apps-are-selling-your-data-heres-why-1574001899>.

²⁶⁵ Amy Collins, Adam J. Fleisher, D. Reed Freeman, Jr. & Alistair Maughan, “The Internet of Things Part 2: The Old Problem Squared,” Morrison Foerster CLIENT ALERT 2 (Mar. 20, 2014), <http://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/the-internet-of-things-part-2-the-old-p-28404>.

²⁶⁶ Rodney A. Smolla, *Privacy and the First Amendment Right to Gather News*, 67 GEO. WASH. L. REV. 1097, 1098 (1999).

²⁶⁷ Judith Jarvis Thomson, “The Right to Privacy,” *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, Vol. 4, (1975): 295, 310.

The act of *making* an audio or audiovisual recording is necessarily included within the First Amendment's guarantee of speech and press rights as a corollary of the right to disseminate the resulting recording. The right to publish or broadcast an audio or audiovisual recording would be insecure, or largely ineffective, if the antecedent act of *making* the recording is wholly unprotected, as the State's Attorney insists. By way of a simple analogy, banning photography or note-taking at a public event would raise serious First Amendment concerns; a law of that sort would obviously affect the right to publish the resulting photograph or disseminate a report derived from the notes. The same is true of a ban on audio and audiovisual recording.²⁶⁸

While some privacy theorists argue that data and data collection is not protected speech deserving First Amendment protection,²⁶⁹ other scholars recognize that restrictions on data collection are restrictions on the free flow of information, which implicate the First Amendment.²⁷⁰ This reasoning is supported by the Supreme Court's 2011 decision in *Sorrell v. IMS Health Inc.*, which struck down a state law prohibiting data aggregators from selling personal information to pharmaceutical companies, which in turn use the data to customize their marketing pitches to doctors.²⁷¹ In line with a lower court ruling, the Supreme Court found that the regulation violated the First Amendment because it restricts the speech rights of data miners without directly advancing legitimate state interests.²⁷² The Court's ruling means that restrictions on the sale, disclosure, and use of personally-identifying information will be subject to heightened judicial scrutiny going forward.

This makes it clear how the First Amendment might pose a serious roadblock to more comprehensive regulation of the Internet of Things and wearable technologies—whether these devices and services are being used for commercial or non-commercial purposes. For example, consider technologies such as Google Glass and wearable clip-on cameras, which were discussed above. When individuals use these technologies in public spaces, it is likely that their First Amendment rights to record information and interactions would trump most privacy considerations.²⁷³ “Current U.S. privacy law recognizes only a very limited right of privacy in

²⁶⁸ ACLU of Illinois v. Alvarez, 679 F.3d 583, 595-96 (7th Cir. 2012).

²⁶⁹ Neil M. Richards, *Reconciling Data Privacy and the First Amendment*, 52 UCLA L. REV. 1149, 1173-74 (2005); Tim Wu, *Free Speech for Computers?*, N.Y. TIMES (June 19, 2012), <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/06/20/opinion/free-speech-for-computers.html>.

²⁷⁰ Jane Yakowitz Bambauer, *Is Data Speech?*, 66 STAN. L. REV. 57 (2014), <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2231821> (“Data privacy laws regulate minds, not technology. Thus, for all practical purposes, and in every context relevant to the privacy debates, data is speech.”).

²⁷¹ *Sorrell v. IMS Health Inc.*, 131 S. Ct. 2653, 2660 (2011).

²⁷² *Id.* at 2672; Yara Tercero-Parker, *US Supreme Court Questions State Drug Data Restrictions*, ETHICS ILLUSTRATED (Apr. 27, 2011), <http://www.bioethicsinternational.org/blog/2011/04/27/us-supreme-court-questions-state-drug-data-restrictions>.

²⁷³ Seth F. Kreimer, *Pervasive Image Capture and the First Amendment: Memory, Discourse, and the Right to Record*, 159 U. PA. L. REV. 335 (2011), http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1553920. (“Once we recognize that image capture is protected by principles of free expression, proposals to impose liability without observing the established limitations of privacy torts—either by common law innovation or by statute—raise serious constitutional questions. Such liability would facilitate interference with efforts by private individuals to preserve their observations for future review, reflection, and dissemination without any actual demonstration to a court of substantial countervailing privacy interests.”)

public, one that would likely not bar citizens from ... gathering information through augmented-reality spectacles,” says Daxton ‘Chip’ Stewart of Texas Christian University’s College of Communication.²⁷⁴ That will be equally true for many other IoT and wearable technologies.

Thus, when considering the application of traditional FIPPs in this context, policymakers would be wise to remember law professor Eugene Volokh’s observation that:

We already have a code of “fair information practices,” and it is the First Amendment, which generally bars the government from controlling the communication of information (either by direct regulation or through the authorization of private lawsuits), whether the communication is “fair” or not.²⁷⁵

This does not mean that government is completely powerless to impose privacy-related restrictions on some information-gathering efforts. As will be noted in Section VI, some targeted statutes already exist that limit information gathering in highly sensitive contexts outside the scope of First Amendment protection.²⁷⁶ For example, while citizens have broad liberties to use cameras and recording devices in public, privacy torts and “peeping Tom” laws prohibit intrusive or surreptitious recording in private spaces or even in many public places. And the use of wearables in private spaces could be constrained by private contracts and property rights considerations, although enforcement challenges will be evident in this context, too.

Nonetheless, more expansive regulatory efforts aimed at clamping down on information collection efforts using IoT and wearable technologies are bound to face formidable First Amendment-related challenges.²⁷⁷ Policymakers will need to narrowly tailor privacy-related measures if they hope to avoid these complications.

V. THE ROLE OF RESILIENCY & GRADUAL SOCIAL ADAPTATION

Before discussing some of the ways we might constructively address concerns about the Internet of Things and wearable tech, it is worth discussing the important—and quite often overlooked—role that social and individual adaptation plays with regards to new inventions.²⁷⁸

A. From Resistance to Resiliency

Citizen attitudes about these technologies will likely follow a familiar cycle we have seen play out in countless other contexts. That cycle typically witnesses initial *resistance*, gradual

²⁷⁴ Daxton ‘Chip’ Stewart, *Do Androids Dream of Electric Free Speech? Visions of the Future of Copyright, Privacy, and the First Amendment in Science Fiction*, forthcoming, COMM. L. & POL’Y 32 (May 20, 2014), http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2439423.

²⁷⁵ Eugene Volokh, *Freedom of Speech and Information Privacy: The Troubling Implications of a Right to Stop People from Speaking about You*, 52 STAN. L. REV. 1049, 1050–51 (2000) (footnote omitted).

²⁷⁶ See Bambauer, *The New Intrusion*, *supra* note ____.

²⁷⁷ Fred H. Cate & Robert Litan, *Constitutional Issues in Information Privacy*, 9 MICH. TELECOMM. & TECH. L. REV. 35, 51 (2002) (“[T]o the extent that privacy laws restrict expression, even if that expression is commercial, the First Amendment imposes a considerable burden on the government to demonstrate the need and effectiveness of those laws.”).

²⁷⁸ Adam Thierer, *Muddling Through: How We Learn to Cope with Technological Change*, TECHNOLOGY LIBERATION FRONT, June 17, 2014, <http://techliberation.com/2014/06/17/muddling-through-how-we-learn-to-cope-with-technological-change>.

adaptation, and then eventual *assimilation* of a new technology into society.²⁷⁹ It may be the case that many of us will begin our relationship with these new technologies in a defense crouch. In the extreme, if there is enough of a backlash, the initial resistance to these technologies might take the form of a full-blown “technopanic.”²⁸⁰

Over time, however, citizens tend to learn how to adapt to new technologies or at least become more resilient in the face of new challenges posed by modern technological advances. Andrew Zollli and Ann Marie Healy, authors of *Resilience: Why Things Bounce Back*, define resilience as “the capacity of a system, enterprise, or a person to maintain its core purpose and integrity in the face of dramatically changed circumstances.”²⁸¹ They continue:

To improve your resilience is to enhance your ability to resist being pushed from your preferred valley, while expanding the range of alternatives that you can embrace if you need to. This is what researchers call *preserving adaptive capacity*—the ability to adapt to changed circumstances while fulfilling one’s core purpose—and it’s an essential skill in an age of unforeseeable disruption and volatility.²⁸²

Consequently, they note, “by encouraging adaptation, agility, cooperation, connectivity, and diversity, resilience-thinking can bring us to a different way of being in the world, and to a deeper engagement with it.”²⁸³

Those who propose more precautionary-based solutions to challenging social problems often ignore this uncanny ability of individuals and institutions to “bounce back” from technological disruptions and become more resilient in the process. Part of the reason precautionary thinking sometimes dominates discussions about emerging technologies is because many of us hold a deep-seated pessimism about future developments and a belief that, with enough preemptive planning, we can anticipate and overcome any number of hypothetical worse-case scenarios. Consequently, our innate tendency to be pessimistic but also want greater certainty about the future means that “the gloom-mongers have it easy,” notes author Dan Gardner.²⁸⁴ “Their predictions are supported by our intuitive pessimism, so they *feel* right to us. And that conclusion is bolstered by our attraction to certainty.”²⁸⁵ Clive Thompson, a contributor to *Wired* and the *New York Times Magazine*, also notes that “dystopian predictions are easy to generate” and “doomsaying is emotionally self-protective: if you complain that today’s technology is wrecking the culture, you can tell yourself you’re a gimlet-eyed critic who isn’t hoodwinked by high-tech trends and silly, popular activities like social networking. You seem

²⁷⁹ See Thierer, PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION, *supra* note __, at 53-60.

²⁸⁰ Adam Thierer, *Technopanics, Threat Inflation, and the Danger of an Information Technology Precautionary Principle*, 14 Minn. J. L. Sci. & Tech. 309 (2013).

²⁸¹ Andrew Zollli & Ann Marie Healy, RESILIENCE: WHY THINGS BOUNCE BACK 7 (2012).

²⁸² *Id.*, 7-8.

²⁸³ *Id.*, at 16.

²⁸⁴ Dan Gardner, FUTURE BABBLE: WHY EXPERT PREDICTIONS ARE NEXT TO WORTHLESS, AND YOU CAN DO BETTER 140-1 (2011).

²⁸⁵ John Seely Brown & Paul Duguid, *Response to Bill Joy and the Doom-and-Gloom Technofuturists*, in AAAS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY YEARBOOK 2001, Albert H. Teich, Stephen D. Nelson, Celia McEnaney and Stephen J. Lita, eds., 79 (2001).

like someone who has a richer, deeper appreciation for the past and who stands above the triviality of today's life."²⁸⁶

Luckily, as science reporter Joel Garreau reminds us, "the good news is that end-of-the-world predictions have been around for a very long time, and none of them has yet borne fruit."²⁸⁷ Doomsayers have a bad track record because they typically ignore how "humans shape and adapt [technology] in entirely new directions."²⁸⁸ "Just because the problems are increasing doesn't mean solutions might not also be increasing to match them," Garreau correctly notes.²⁸⁹

In their 2001 "Response to Doom-and-Gloom Technofuturists," John Seely Brown and Paul Duguid noted that, "technological and social systems shape each other. ... [and] are constantly forming and reforming new dynamic equilibriums with far-reaching implications." "Social and technological systems do not develop independently," they continued, rather, "the two evolve together in complex feedback loops, wherein each drives, restrains and accelerates change in the other."²⁹⁰

This is how humans become more resilient and prosper, even in the face of sweeping technological change. Wisdom is born of experience, including experiences that involve risk and the possibility of occasional mistakes and failures while both developing new technologies and learning how to live with them.²⁹¹ We should remain open to new forms of technological change not only because it provides breathing space for future entrepreneurialism and invention, but also because it provides an opportunity to see how societal attitudes toward new technologies evolve—and to learn from it. More often than not, citizens find creative ways to adapt to technological change by employing a variety of coping mechanisms, new norms, or other creative fixes. While some things are lost in the process, something more is typically gained, including lessons about how to deal with subsequent disruptions.

B. Case Study: The Rise of Public Photography

Consider the jarring impact of rise of the camera and public photography on American society in the late 1800s.²⁹² Plenty of other critics existed and many average citizens were probably outraged by the spread of cameras²⁹³ since "for the first time photographs of people could be taken without their permission—perhaps even without their knowledge," notes Lawrence M.

²⁸⁶ Clive Thompson, *SMARTER THAN YOU THINK: HOW TECHNOLOGY IS CHANGING OUR MINDS FOR THE BETTER* 283 (2013).

²⁸⁷ Garreau, *RADICAL EVOLUTION*, *supra* note, at 148.

²⁸⁸ *Id.*, at 95.

²⁸⁹ *Id.*, at 154.

²⁹⁰ Brown & Duguid, *Response to Bill Joy*, *supra* note, at 83.

²⁹¹ Thierer, *PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION*, *supra* note __, at viii.

²⁹² This section condensed from: Thierer, *Muddling Through*, *supra* note __.

²⁹³ For a discussion of the anxieties caused by photography during this time, see Robert E. Mensel, *Kodakers Lying in Wait: Amateur Photography and the Right of Privacy in New York, 1885-1915*, 43 *AMER. QUAR.* 24-45 (March 1991).

Friedman in his 2007 book, *Guiding Life's Dark Secrets: Legal and Social Controls over Reputation, Propriety, and Privacy*.²⁹⁴

In fact, the most important essay ever written on privacy law, Samuel D. Warren and Louis D. Brandeis's famous 1890 *Harvard Law Review* essay on "The Right to Privacy," decried the spread of public photography. The authors lamented that "instantaneous photographs and newspaper enterprise have invaded the sacred precincts of private and domestic life" and claimed that "numerous mechanical devices threaten to make good the prediction that 'what is whispered in the closet shall be proclaimed from the house-tops.'"²⁹⁵

Despite the profound disruption caused by cameras and public photography, personal norms and cultural attitudes evolved quite rapidly and they became a central part of the human experience. In fact, instead of shunning cameras, most people quickly looked to buy one! At the same time, social norms and etiquette evolved to address those who would use cameras in inappropriate or privacy-invasive ways. In other words, we bounced back and became more resilient in the face of technological adversity.

While some limited legal responses were needed to address the most egregious misuses of cameras, for the most part, the gradual evolution of social norms, public pressure, and other coping mechanism combined to solve the "problem" of public photography. As will be noted in the next section, in much the same way, the Internet of Things and wearable tech will likely see a similar combination of factors at work as individuals and society slowly adjust to the new technological realities of the time.

That being said, resiliency should not be equated with complacency or a "just-get-over-it" attitude. Privacy and security issues are too important to take such a blasé attitude. With time, it may very well be the case that people "get over" *some* of the anxieties they might hold today toward these new technologies, but in the short-run, IoT and wearable technologies will create serious social tensions that deserve serious responses.²⁹⁶ We turn to some of those potential responses next.

VI. CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX PROBLEMS

Even if it is true that precautionary regulation will be costly, counter-productive, or potentially ineffective—and should, therefore, be avoided if possible—it does not mean the various privacy and security challenges associated with the Internet of Things and wearable technologies can be ignored.

As noted already, there are no silver-bullet solutions that can instantly or easily solve these complex problems. Instead, what is needed is a *layered* approach to addressing these concerns that incorporates many different solutions. This section outlines a variety of constructive

²⁹⁴ Lawrence M. Friedman, *GUIDING LIFE'S DARK SECRETS: LEGAL AND SOCIAL CONTROLS OVER REPUTATION, PROPRIETY, AND PRIVACY* 214 (2007).

²⁹⁵ Samuel D. Warren & Louis D. Brandeis, *The Right to Privacy*, *HARV. L. REV.* 195 (1890).

²⁹⁶ Adam Thierer, *Can We Adapt to the Internet of Things?* *PRIVACY PERSPECTIVES*, June 19, 2013, https://www.privacyassociation.org/privacy_perspectives/post/can_we_adapt_to_the_internet_of_things.

approaches that can be tapped to address the various privacy and security concerns associated with these new innovations.

A. Digital Literacy: How Education & Etiquette Can Help

One solution to the privacy, security, and safety concerns raised by IoT and wearable technologies is to better educate the public about the potential downsides associated with these technologies, as well as their proper and improper uses.²⁹⁷ This can be accomplished with a variety of education and awareness-building efforts.²⁹⁸

Education and awareness-based efforts are already the primary means of dealing with concerns about online child safety.²⁹⁹ Much like today's policy debates over online privacy, early policy debates over online child safety focused on top-down regulatory solutions, including efforts to censor objectionable content.³⁰⁰ These efforts to devise legislative and regulatory responses to online safety concerns immediately faced both technical and legal challenges. Technically speaking, devising workable filtering mechanisms for a medium such as the Internet proved elusive. Legally speaking, at least in the U.S., various First Amendment-based constraints made it impossible to devise constitutionally-permissible restrictions.³⁰¹

After many years of trying and failing to impose such restrictions, policymakers and online safety experts instead turned their attention to educational and empowerment-based solutions.³⁰² The educational approaches that they tapped—which were focused on media literacy strategies, critical thinking skills, and “digital citizenship”—are equally relevant in the context of online privacy.³⁰³ Digital citizenship efforts stress the importance of teaching both children and adults better online behavior, or “netiquette” (proper behavior toward others), which can further both online safety and digital privacy goals.³⁰⁴ Digital literacy and digital

²⁹⁷ Adam Thierer, *Privacy Law's Precautionary Principle Problem*, 66 MAINE L. REV. 479 (2014), <http://www.maine.lawreview.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/05-Thierer.pdf>.

²⁹⁸ Howard Beales, Richard Craswell & Steven C. Salop, *The Efficient Regulation of Consumer Information*, 24 JOUR. L. & ECON. 531 (1981) (“Consumer education is often overlooked as a means of dealing with incomplete information.”)

²⁹⁹ See Adam Thierer, Progress & Freedom Foundation, PARENTAL CONTROLS & ONLINE CHILD PROTECTION: A SURVEY OF TOOLS (Version 4.0) (2009), [http://www.pff.org/parentalcontrols/Parental%20Controls%20&%20Online%20Child%20Protection%20\[VERSION%204.0\].pdf](http://www.pff.org/parentalcontrols/Parental%20Controls%20&%20Online%20Child%20Protection%20[VERSION%204.0].pdf).

³⁰⁰ Thierer, *Precautionary Principle Problem*, *supra* note __, at 479-82.

³⁰¹ *Reno v. ACLU*, 521 U.S. 844 (1997).

³⁰² See Adam Thierer, *Five Online Safety Task Forces Agree: Education, Empowerment & Self-Regulation Are the Answer*, 16 Progress & Freedom Found.: PROGRESS ON POINT, issue 2, July 2009, at 1, <http://www.pff.org/issues-pubs/pops/2009/pop16.13-five-online-safety-task-forces-agree.pdf>; Online Safety & Tech. Working Grp., Nat'l Telecomm. & Info. Admin., YOUTH SAFETY ON A LIVING INTERNET: REPORT OF THE ONLINE SAFETY AND TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP (June 4, 2010), http://www.ntia.doc.gov/legacy/reports/2010/OSTWG_Final_Report_060410.pdf.

³⁰³ *Digital Literacy and Citizenship in the 21st Century: Educating, Empowering, and Protecting America's Kids*, COMMON SENSE MEDIA (June 2009), www.common SenseMedia.org/sites/default/files/CSM_digital_policy.pdf.

³⁰⁴ Anne Collier, *From Users to Citizens: How to Make Digital Citizenship Relevant*, NET FAMILY NEWS (Nov. 16, 2009), <http://www.netfamilynews.org/2009/11/from-users-to-citizen-how-to-make.html>; Larry Magid, *We Need to*

citizenship efforts can help individuals understand the potential perils of over-sharing information about themselves and others while simultaneously encouraging consumers to occasionally delete unnecessary online information and cover their digital footprints in other ways.³⁰⁵ “We live in what one might call the Peeping Tom society,” argues Lawrence M. Friedman, in that “new technology puts powerful tools for invading privacy into the hands of ordinary people.”³⁰⁶ Digital literacy and digital citizenship efforts can help address that problem.

The Obama Administration’s *Big Data* report included a short section on the need to “recognize digital literacy as an important 21st century skill.” It noted:

In order to ensure students, citizens, and consumers of all ages have the ability to adequately protect themselves from data use and abuse, it is important that they develop fluency in understanding the ways in which data can be collected and shared, how algorithms are employed and for what purposes, and what tools and techniques they can use to protect themselves. Although such skills will never replace regulatory protections, increased digital literacy will better prepare individuals to live in a world saturated by data. Digital literacy—understanding how personal data is collected, shared, and used—should be recognized as an essential skill in K-12 education and be integrated into the standard curriculum.³⁰⁷

In 2013, scholars affiliated with the Center on Law and Information Policy at the Fordham University School of Law released a good model for how to operationalize this vision. They launched a privacy education program “aimed at engaging middle school students in discussions about privacy and its relevance in their lives.”³⁰⁸ The resulting “Volunteer Privacy Educators Program” offered lessons about dealing with social media and how to actively manage their digital reputation as well as establishing strong passwords and avoiding behavioral advertising, if they were so inclined.³⁰⁹

Governments can play an important role in facilitating education and awareness-based approaches. The FTC has noted that “Consumer and business education serves as the first line of defense against fraud, deception, and unfair practices.”³¹⁰ Toward that end, the FTC already

Rethink Online Safety, HUFFINGTON POST, (Jan. 22, 2010), www.huffingtonpost.com/larry-magid/we-need-to-rethink-online_b_433421.html.

³⁰⁵ Brian O’Neill & Yiannis Laouris, *Teaching Internet Safety, Promoting Digital Literacy. The Dual Role of Education and Schools*, in Brian O’Neill, Elisabeth Staksrud & Sharon McLaughlin (eds.), *TOWARDS A BETTER INTERNET FOR CHILDREN? POLICY PILLARS, PLAYERS AND PARADOXES* 193 (2013), <http://www.nordicom.gu.se/en/publikationer/towards-better-internet-children>.

³⁰⁶ Lawrence M. Friedman, *GUIDING LIFE’S DARK SECRETS: LEGAL AND SOCIAL CONTROLS OVER REPUTATION, PROPRIETY, AND PRIVACY* 259, 269 (2007).

³⁰⁷ White House, *BIG DATA* report, *supra* note, at 64.

³⁰⁸ Fordham Center on Law and Information Policy, *Volunteer Privacy Educators Program*, <http://law.fordham.edu/center-on-law-and-information-policy/30317.htm>, (last accessed June 13, 2014).

³⁰⁹ Fordham Center on Law and Information Policy, *Fordham CLIP Volunteer Privacy Educators Program*, 2013, http://law.fordham.edu/assets/CLIP/2013_CLIP_VPE_Complete.pdf

³¹⁰ Federal Trade Commission, *STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2009 TO 2014* (2009) at 4, <http://www.ftc.gov/opp/gpra/spfy09fy14.pdf>. (“Most FTC law enforcement initiatives include a consumer and/or business education component aimed at preventing consumer injury and unlawful business practices,

partners with over a dozen other federal agencies to provide OnGuardOnline, a website that offers wide-ranging security, safety, and privacy tips for both consumers and businesses.³¹¹ And the FTC has also created a YouTube page featuring informational videos on these issues.³¹² The Federal Communications Commission also offers smartphone security advice on its website.³¹³ Many privacy activists and privacy professionals already offer extensive educational programs and advice.³¹⁴

B. Best Practices & Self-Regulation: Privacy & Security “By Design”

Privacy and data security policies for the Internet of Things and wearable tech can also be governed by self-regulatory efforts.³¹⁵ Developers have a vested interest in adopting best practices and codes of conduct since “only by developing solutions that are clearly respectful of people’s privacy, and devoting an adequate level of resources for disseminating and explaining the technology to the mass public” can companies expect to achieve widespread adoption of IoT technologies.³¹⁶

“Compared to traditional government regulation,” notes FTC Commissioner Maureen Ohlhausen, “self-regulation has the potential to be more prompt, flexible, and responsive when business models or technologies change.”³¹⁷ Other advantages of self-regulation itemized by Ohlhausen include:

- “easier to reconfigure than major regulatory systems that must be adjusted via legislation or agency rulemaking;”
- “can also be well attuned to market realities where self-regulatory organizations have obtained the support of member firms. Their accumulated judgment and hands-on experience in their industries help create rules that are workable for companies;”
- “also helps prompt compliance by allowing corporations to ‘buy-in’ to the process;”

and mitigating financial losses. From time to time, the agency conducts pre-emptive consumer and business education campaigns to raise awareness of new or emerging marketplace issues that have the potential to cause harm. The agency creatively uses new technologies and private and public partnerships to reach new and under-served audiences, particularly those who may not seek information directly from the FTC.”).

³¹¹ www.onguardonline.gov/about-us. (last accessed June 26, 2014).

³¹² <https://www.youtube.com/user/FTCvideos> (last visited June 26, 2014).

³¹³ FCC Smartphone Security Checker, <http://www.fcc.gov/smartphone-security>, (last visited June 26, 2014).

³¹⁴ David Hoffman, *What’s One Way Organizations Can Be More Accountable? Educate! Educate! Educate!*, PRIVACY PERSPECTIVES, Apr. 2, 2013, https://www.privacyassociation.org/privacy_perspectives/post/whats_one_way_organizations_can_be_more_accountable_educate_educate_educate.

³¹⁵ Jed Bracy, *Will Industry Self-Regulation Be Privacy’s Way Forward?* PRIVACY PERSPECTIVES, June 24, 2014, https://www.privacyassociation.org/publications/will_industry_self_regulation_be_privacys_way_forward.

³¹⁶ RFID Working Group of the European Technology Platform on Smart Systems Integration, *Internet of Things in 2020: A Roadmap for the Future*, Sept. 5, 2008, at 21, http://www.smart-systems-integration.org/public/documents/publications/Internet-of-Things_in_2020_EC-EPoSS_Workshop_Report_2008_v3.pdf.

³¹⁷ FTC Commissioner Maureen Ohlhausen, *Success in Self-Regulation: Strategies to Bring to the Mobile and Global Era – Better Business Bureau Self-Regulation Conference 3* (June 2014), http://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/public_statements/410391/140624bbself-regulation.pdf.

- “may also offer a less adversarial, more efficient dispute resolution mechanism than formal legal procedures;”
- “are a useful option to resolve consumer concerns, so that government enforcement resources can be preserved for the most egregious cases of consumer harm;” and,
- “the cost burden of a self-regulatory process falls on industry participants rather than American taxpayers.”³¹⁸

Importantly, Ohlhausen notes that, “self-regulation may also be the only option for certain types of activity where government intervention is limited by the First Amendment.”³¹⁹ For the reasons stated in Section IV, this is of obvious relevance to the use of wearable technologies, which could be protected from regulation on free speech grounds.

Industry self-regulation in this space can take the form of what is known as “privacy by design” and “security by design.”³²⁰ This generally refers to efforts by developers to “bake-in” certain privacy and security practices and protections as they are designing and deploying new technologies.³²¹ The Future of Privacy Forum has compiled a centralized resource of current standards and best practices to help firms address a wide variety of privacy concerns (app development, kids’ privacy, locational privacy and mobile services, online ads, *etc.*),³²² and has also developed a blueprint to help organizations conduct privacy impact assessments for data-oriented innovations.³²³ The Council of Better Business Bureaus has also produced detailed best practice guidelines for data security³²⁴ and data privacy for small businesses.³²⁵ Finally, privacy expert Daniel Solove created “TeachPrivacy,” an educational resource to help train employees on privacy and data security matters.³²⁶

³¹⁸ *Id.*

³¹⁹ *Id.*

³²⁰ Ann Cavoukian, *Privacy by Design and the Emerging Personal Data Ecosystem* (Oct. 2012), <http://www.ipc.on.ca/images/Resources/pbd-pde.pdf>.

³²¹ Transatlantic Computing Continuum Policy Alliance, *Comments to the Federal Trade Commission on Internet of Things, Project No. P135405*, January 10, 2014, http://cppionline.org/docs/Letter-to-Secretary_Clark_final.pdf. (“These context-specific [privacy and security] choices are something engineers, working alongside privacy and security professionals, can help bake into products.”) Efforts aimed at “baking-in” security best practices have been underway for many years. See Heather Havenstein, *Baked-In Security*, COMPUTERWORLD, March 21, 2005, http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/100443/Baked_In_Security.

³²² See Future of Privacy Forum, *Best Practices*, <http://www.futureofprivacy.org/resources/best-practices>, (last accessed June 19, 2014).

³²³ Jules Polonetsky, Omer Tene, & Joseph Jerome, Future of Privacy Forum, *Cost-Benefit Analysis for Big Data Projects*, Aug. 2014, in Future of Privacy Forum, *Filing to the Federal Trade Commission in the Matter of “Big Data: A Tool for Inclusion or Exclusion?”* Workshop, Project No. P145406, Aug. 15, 2014, http://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/public_comments/2014/08/00027-92420.pdf.

³²⁴ Council of Better Business Bureaus, *Data Security – Made Simpler*, <http://www.bbb.org/data-security>, [last accessed June 24, 2014].

³²⁵ Council of Better Business Bureaus, *Data Privacy for Small Businesses*, <http://www.bbb.org/council/for-businesses/toolkits/data-privacy-for-small-businesses>, [last accessed June 24, 2014].

³²⁶ See TeachPrivacy, <http://www.teachprivacy.com>, (last accessed June 19, 2014).

What does privacy and security “by design” entail? There are several practical steps developers of IoT and wearable technologies can take, including:

- **Proper use guidelines:** Developers should include clear warnings in their packaging materials that explain to new owners the dangers associated with inappropriate use of their technologies. Many of them already do so.
- **Transparency:** Giving consumers more and better information about their digital tools is one of the key objectives of best practice efforts.³²⁷ “Transparency is crucial,” argues FTC Chairwoman Edith Ramirez. “As more and more of our devices become smarter and smarter, it is essential we know as much about them as they know about us – that we understand what information the devices are collecting and how it is being used or shared.”³²⁸ Her fellow FTC Commissioner Julie Brill argues that, “Manufacturers should deploy signals or consumer-friendly online dashboards that explain – through sounds, pictures, or graphs – the data the device collects about consumers, the uses of the data, and who else might see it.”³²⁹ On their websites, developers should also clearly disclose how the data their devices collect is retained, if at all, by the company, or who else it might be shared with, if anyone.
- **Data transfer / data minimization:** Developers should also make it easier to transfer or delete data when users requests that. Developers should also look to minimize or delete unnecessary data sets that could open future privacy or security vulnerabilities.
- **Ongoing security notices and updates:** Ongoing software updates will be essential to ensure vulnerabilities are patched as quickly as possible so that the Internet of Things does not become “the hacker’s new playground.”³³⁰
- **Better security through encryption:** Encryption, anonymization, and data “de-identification”³³¹—which refers to “storing and sharing the data without revealing the identity of the individuals involved”— will also be important, even if imperfect.³³²

³²⁷ Future of Privacy Forum, *Comments to the Federal Trade Commission on Internet of Things, Project No. P135405*, Jan. 10, 2014, at 13, http://www.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/documents/public_comments/2014/01/00013-88250.pdf, (“Transparency can also be vital to the development of the Internet of Things. Industry must ensure that consumers understand how they will benefit from the Internet of Things and see that measures are in place to promote consumer privacy and security.”)

³²⁸ Edith Ramirez, *The Internet of Things: Privacy and Security in a Connected World*, Nov. 19, 2013, at 4, <http://www.ftc.gov/public-statements/2013/11/opening-remarks-ftc-chairwoman-edith-ramirez-federal-trade-commission>.

³²⁹ Julie Brill, *Weaving a Tapestry to Protect Privacy and Competition in the Age of Big Data*, June 2, 2014, at 8, http://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/public_statements/313311/140602edpsbrill.pdf.

³³⁰ Arik Hesseldahl, *The Internet of Things Is the Hackers’ New Playground*, RE/CODE, July 29, 2014, <http://recode.net/2014/07/29/the-internet-of-things-is-the-hackers-new-playground/>

³³¹ Ann Cavoukian & Daniel Castro, *Setting the Record Straight: De-Identification Does Work*, June 16, 2014, <http://www2.itif.org/2014-big-data-deidentification.pdf>.

³³² Daniel C. Barth-Jones, *Does de-identification work or not?*, FIERCE BIG DATA, June 23, 2014, <http://www.fiercebigdata.com/node/35502156>; Arvind Narayanan & Edward W. Felten, *No silver bullet: De-identification still doesn't work (unpublished manuscript, July 9, 2014)*, <http://randomwalker.info/publications/no-silver-bullet-de-identification.pdf>.

Why would developers adopt such best practices or codes of conduct voluntarily? Fear of legal liability or pressure from government officials are two possible explanations. But, in most cases, it comes down to good business: Many potential customers will care deeply about the privacy and security of their IoT and wearable devices and services.³³³ “The signs are already beginning to appear,” says Ann Cavoukian—who is widely credited with coining the term “privacy by design”—that “market leaders are embracing *Privacy by Design*, and are, in turn, reaping the benefits.”³³⁴

The last thing that developers want on their hands is consumer backlash or unwanted press attention because of privacy or data security-related failures.³³⁵ Failing to do so could have profound consequences. “Not only should privacy protection be built in from the start, it also has to be communicated effectively to all stakeholders throughout the process,” says David Hoffman, Director of Intel’s Security Policy and Global Privacy Office.³³⁶ “Failure to do so may incur financial implications,” he believes.

In essence, self-regulation comes down to organizations being good stewards of the information they gather and use.³³⁷ Wittes & Bennett argue that this is “a relationship best seen as a form of trusteeship.”³³⁸

A user’s entrusting his or her personal data to a company in exchange for a service, we shall argue, conveys certain obligations to the corporate custodians of that person’s data: obligations to keep it secure, obligations to be candid and straightforward with users about how their data is being exploited, obligations not to materially misrepresent their uses of user data, and obligations not to use them in fashions injurious to or materially adverse to the users’ interests without their explicit consent. These

³³³ *The internet of things (to be hacked)*, THE ECONOMIST, July 12, 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21606829-hooking-up-gadgets-web-promises-huge-benefits-security-must-not-be>, (“Wrongdoers should be punished, but the best prompt for securing the internet of things is competition. Either tech firms will find ways to make web-connected gadgets more dependable, or people will decide they can live without them.”); Larry Magid, *Safety, Security And Privacy Risks Of Fitness Tracking And 'Quantified Self'*, FORBES, July 31, 2014, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/larrymagid/2014/07/31/safety-security-and-privacy-risks-of-fitness-tracking-and-quantified-self>.

³³⁴ Ann Cavoukian, *2011: The Decade of Privacy by Design starts now*, ITBUSINESS, Jan. 15, 2011, <http://blogs.itbusiness.ca/2011/01/2011-the-decade-of-privacy-by-design-starts-now>.

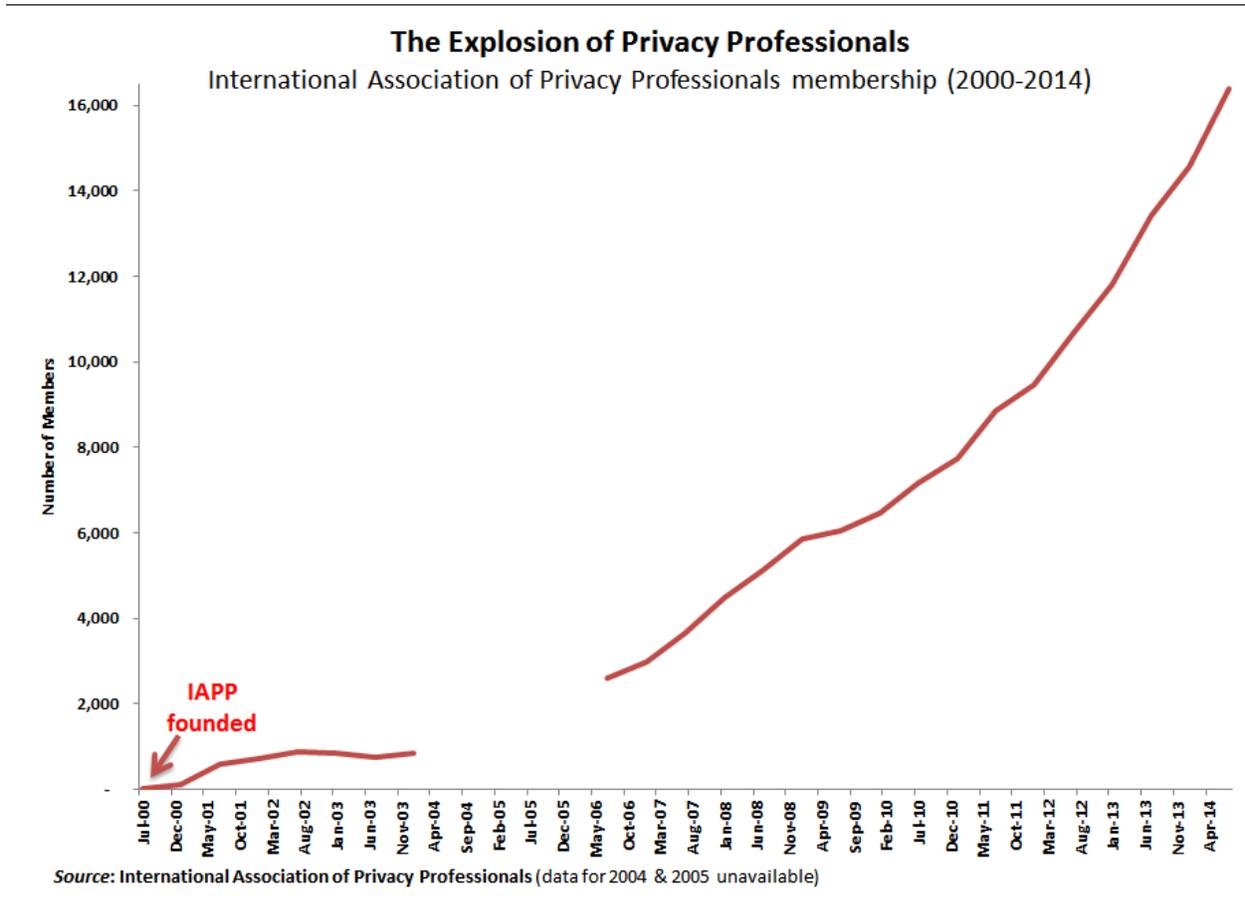
³³⁵ Danny Yadron, *Corporate Boards Race to Shore Up Cybersecurity*, WALL S.T JOUR., June 29, 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/boards-race-to-bolster-cybersecurity-1404086146>.

³³⁶ *Quoted in* Tom Quillin, *Why Is Privacy Important to Security Practitioners & Professionals?* INFORMATION WEEK DARK READING, May 23, 2014, <http://www.darkreading.com/why-is-privacy-important-to-security-practitioners-and-professionals/a/d-id/1269187?>.

³³⁷ Ken Wasch, Software & Information Industry Association, *Letter to the Honorable Edith Ramirez RE: FTC Request for Information on the 'Internet of Things,'* May 31, 2013, at 8, http://www.siiia.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4325&Itemid=318, (“to maximize the opportunities presented by the Internet of Things and data-driven innovation, policies should take a more practical approach, shifting responsibility away from data subjects toward data users, and increasing the emphasis on responsible data stewardship and accountability.”)

³³⁸ Wittes & Bennett, *Databuse and a Trusteeship Model*, *supra* note at 2.

obligations show up in nearly all privacy codes, in patterns of government enforcement, and in the privacy policies of the largest internet companies.³³⁹



The rise of privacy and security professionals is having an important influence on how privacy and security “by design” works in practice today. Privacy professionals come in many flavors today, with titles such as Chief Privacy Officers, Chief Information Officers, Chief Data Officers, Data Architects, Data Ethicists, and so on.³⁴⁰ Daniel Solove notes that these privacy professionals “educate personnel to be mindful of privacy and influence software, product, and service design to be more privacy friendly. Privacy self-management thus has the salutary effect of creating beneficial structural privacy protections and accountability inside institutions.”³⁴¹ Nothing better illustrates the growing role these privacy professional increasingly play today than the swelling membership ranks of the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP), which trains and certifies privacy professionals. The IAPP, which

³³⁹ Ibid.

³⁴⁰ See Brad Peters, *Meet the CDO*, FORBES, Dec. 20, 2013, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/bradpeters/2013/12/20/meet-the-cdo>.

³⁴¹ Solove, *Privacy Self-Management*, *supra* note, at 1900.

was founded in 2000, has seen membership grow to more than 15,000 by the end of 2013, up from 10,000 in March 2012.³⁴²

The reason all this activity by privacy professionals is so important is because, as Berkeley Law School professors Kenneth A. Bamberger and Deirdre K. Mulligan have noted, it is increasingly what happens “on the ground”—i.e., the day-to-day management of privacy decisions through the interaction of privacy professionals, engineers, outside experts, and regular users—that is perhaps most important for protecting consumers’ privacy.³⁴³ They suggest that “governing privacy through flexible principles” may be optimal, or at least more feasible, when compared to other regulatory efforts.³⁴⁴ As more technology firms bring on privacy and security professionals, this process of “baking in” best practices becomes more routine and compliance becomes easier over time.

Of course, as the FTC’s Ohlhausen also observes, “self-regulation is not a perfect solution, nor can it be a complete substitute for traditional regulation.” She argues that ““it’s important that self-regulation is backed up by enforcement. If a company makes a promise publicly and it doesn’t adhere to that, we can bring an enforcement action.”³⁴⁵ In this regard, the FTC’s important regulatory backstop role is discussed below.

Importantly—whether enforced internally by firms or by *ex post* FTC enforcement actions—best practices must not become a heavy-handed, quasi-regulatory straightjacket. A focus on security and privacy by design does not mean those are the only values and design principles that developers should focus on when innovating. Cost, convenience, choice, and usability are all important values, too. In fact, many consumers will prioritize those values over privacy and security—even as activists, academics, and policymakers simultaneously suggest that “more should be done” to address those concerns.

Finally, privacy and security issues best practices will need to evolve as social acceptance of various technologies and business practices evolve. For example, had “privacy by design” been interpreted strictly when wireless geolocation capabilities were first being developed, these technologies might have been shunned due to the privacy concerns they raised. With time, however, geolocation technologies have become a better understood and more widely accepted capability that consumers have come to expect will be embedded in many of their digital devices.³⁴⁶ Those geolocation capabilities enable services that consumers now take for granted, such as instantaneous mapping services and real-time traffic updates.

This is why flexibility is crucial when interpreting the privacy and security best practices.

³⁴² Omer Tene, *2013: The Year of Privacy*, PRIVACY PERSPECTIVES, Dec. 19, 2013, https://www.privacyassociation.org/privacy_perspectives/post/20.13_the_year_of_privacy.

³⁴³ Kenneth A. Bamberger & Deirdre K. Mulligan, *Privacy on the Books and on the Ground*, 63 STAN. L. REV. 247 (2011).

³⁴⁴ *Id.*, at 253.

³⁴⁵ Quoted in Jed Bracy, *Will Industry Self-Regulation Be Privacy’s Way Forward?* PRIVACY PERSPECTIVES, June 24, 2014, https://www.privacyassociation.org/publications/will_industry_self_regulation_be_privacys_way_forward.

³⁴⁶ See Bambauer, *The New Intrusion*, *supra* note __, at 238.

C. Empowerment Solutions

Although innovation is occurring at a breakneck pace in this sector, it may nonetheless be possible that technological self-help solutions will emerge to help individuals and organizations better protect their privacy and security in the Internet of Things era.³⁴⁷ More robust, end-to-end encryption will certainly be a major part of the solution. As Gershenfeld and Vasseur conclude:

privacy can be protected on the Internet of Things. Today, privacy on the rest of the Internet is safeguarded through cryptography, and it works: recent mass thefts of personal information have happened because firms failed to encrypt their customers' data, not because the hackers broke through strong protections. By extending cryptography down to the level of individual devices, the owners of those devices would gain a new kind of control over their personal information. Rather than maintaining secrecy as an absolute good, it could be priced based on the value of sharing. Users could set up a firewall to keep private the Internet traffic coming from the things in their homes -- or they could share that data with, for example, a utility that gave a discount for their operating their dishwasher only during off-peak hours or a health insurance provider that offered lower rates in return for their making healthier lifestyle choices.³⁴⁸

Other creative solutions will likely emerge as problems develop. Roger A. Grimes, a security expert with Microsoft, argues that "what we need is device identity. In order for us to begin securing IoT, we have to be able to reliably authenticate devices and apply the appropriate security controls to those devices—and be able to identify misbehaving devices and remediate them."³⁴⁹ "The real way to decrease Internet crime is to make it harder for the bad guys to get away with malicious hacking. Once the bad guys realize that they're likely to get caught -- and those who get away with it don't make much money—Internet crime will decrease," he argues.³⁵⁰

Better device authentication mechanisms could help address this. Computer scientists at the University of California, San Diego, recently announced the development of a tool that "tags critical pieces in a hardware's security system and tracks them."³⁵¹ This will help IoT developers and users detect security vulnerabilities that can compromise a device's security and address them before problems develop. "IoT isn't a frightening giant ogre," argues security consultant

³⁴⁷ Kashmir Hill, *Forget Glass. Here Are Wearables That Protect Your Privacy*, FORBES, July 29, 2014, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/kashmirhill/2014/07/29/forget-glass-here-are-wearables-that-protect-your-privacy>.

³⁴⁸ Neil Gershenfeld & J.P. Vasseur, *As Objects Go Online*, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, March/April 2014, <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/140745/neil-gershenfeld-and-jp-vasseur/as-objects-go-online>.

³⁴⁹ Roger A. Grimes, *The right way to secure the Internet of things*, INFOWORLD, Apr. 15, 2014, <http://www.infoworld.com/d/security/the-right-way-secure-the-internet-of-things-240486>.

³⁵⁰ Id.

³⁵¹ *Computer scientists develop tool to make the Internet of Things safer*, PHYSORG, June 2, 2014, <http://phys.org/news/2014-06-scientists-tool-internet-safer.html#jCp>.

Jim O'Reilly. "If we stop admiring how big it is and realize the devil is in the details, we should be able to handle IoT just fine."³⁵²

An extensive array of privacy-enhancing technologies and consumer information are already available on the market today to help users block or limit data collection or help them achieve a more anonymous browsing experience.³⁵³ Some of those tools can help users protect their privacy as they start using more IoT and wearable technologies.

Other technological empowerment fixes will emerge spontaneously to address new IoT-related challenges as they develop. For example, *Wired* recently profiled a Berlin artist who wrote a simple program to detect any Google Glass device attempting to connect to a Wi-Fi network and alert those in the area that someone is using Glass nearby. The program could even send a "deauthorization" command, cutting the Wi-Fi connection for the headset.³⁵⁴

As noted next, firms have a powerful incentive to handle security concerns preemptively to avoid liability and negative press attention later down the road. Industry consortia can help achieve security in a more collective fashion through best practices. For example, in early 2014, the Industrial Internet Consortium was established "to further development, adoption and wide-spread use of interconnected machines, intelligent analytics and people at work," and "build confidence around new and innovative approaches to security."³⁵⁵ Founding members include AT&T, Cisco, IBM, Intel, and GE. As firms investigate and establish innovative approaches to security in web-connected industrial gear, eventually those best practices will be applied to consumer devices and systems as well.³⁵⁶

D. Common Law Solutions, Evolving Liability Standards & Other Legal Recourses

Torts and other legal mechanisms will also continue to play a role in protecting privacy and data security.³⁵⁷ Privacy torts evolved fairly recently compared to other common law torts, but it is likely that, like other torts, they will continue to evolve in response to technological change and provide more avenues of recourse to plaintiffs seeking to protect their privacy rights.³⁵⁸ The four

³⁵² Jim O'Reilly, *The Internet of Things: Not So Scary*, INFORMATION WEEK NETWORK COMPUTING, May 23, 2014, <http://www.networkcomputing.com/wireless-infrastructure/the-internet-of-things-not-so-scary/a/d-id/1269152?>.

³⁵³ See Thierer, *The Pursuit of Privacy*, at 440-46.

³⁵⁴ Andy Greenberg, *Cut Off Glassholes' Wi-Fi with This Google Glass Detector*, WIRED, June 3, 2014, <http://www.wired.com/2014/06/find-and-ban-glassholes-with-this-artists-google-glass-detector>.

³⁵⁵ *The Industrial Internet Consortium: A Nonprofit Partnership Of Industry, Government And Academia*, <http://www.iiconsortium.org/about-us.htm>, (last accessed July 14, 2014).

³⁵⁶ *Prevention is better than cure*, THE ECONOMIST, July 12, 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21606424-more-vigilance-and-better-defences-can-make-cyberspace-lot-safer-prevention-better>.

³⁵⁷ See Jim Harper, *The Privacy Torts: How U.S. State Law Quietly Leads the Way in Privacy Protection* (2002), http://www.privacilla.org/releases/Torts_Report.html.

³⁵⁸ Bambauer, *The New Intrusion*, *supra* note ___, at 273 ("Tort law holds the solution to vexing problems in privacy law. Yet it has been neglected by privacy law scholars, who are on a misguided quest to constrain the quantity, spread, and repurposing of personal data. The extensive regulations they propose come into direct conflict with traditional American normative commitments to the free flow of information.")

privacy torts are public disclosure of private facts, intrusion upon seclusion, false light, and appropriation of name or likeness.

The tort of intrusion upon seclusion may evolve in response to some of the specific technological changes outlined in this paper and in the process provide additional remedies to perceived privacy harms.³⁵⁹ This tort states that, “One who intentionally intrudes, physically or otherwise, upon the solitude or seclusion of another or his private affairs or concerns, is subject to liability to the other for invasion of his privacy, if the intrusion would be highly offensive to a reasonable person.”³⁶⁰ Cases flowing from this tort have dealt with “involuntary exposure in public”³⁶¹ and “overzealous surveillance”³⁶² activities, as well as entering a person’s home under false pretenses and recording their activities.³⁶³ It would not be surprising to see future privacy-related controversies give rise to more legal actions involving the tort of intrusion upon seclusion since, as Bambauer notes, it “offers the best theory to target legitimate privacy harms in the information age.”³⁶⁴

Other federal and state laws already exist that could address privacy concerns. Property law already addresses trespass, and future court rulings could see property norms extended to cover new types of harms involving wearable technologies.³⁶⁵ State “peeping Tom” laws also exist that prohibit peering into individual homes or even surreptitious spying in public.³⁶⁶ The Video Voyeurism Prevention Act also imposes fines and even jail time on those who have an “intent to capture an image of a private area of an individual without their consent, and knowingly does so under circumstances in which the individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy.”³⁶⁷ Contract law can also act a powerful deterrent to the misuse of IoT and wearable technologies, not only in the workplace, but in many other formal relationships. State officials, and state attorneys general in particular, also continue to push for new privacy and data security-related policies, many of which are often more stringent than federal law.³⁶⁸

³⁵⁹ *See Id.*

³⁶⁰ Restatement (Second) of Torts §§ 652B (1977).

³⁶¹ *Daily Times Democrat v. Graham*, 276 Ala. 380 (1964).

³⁶² *Nader v. General Motors Corp.*, 25 N.Y. 2d 560 (1970).

³⁶³ *Dietemann v. Time, Inc.*, 449 F.2d 245 (9th Circuit, 1971).

³⁶⁴ Bambauer, *The New Intrusion*, *supra* note __, at 205 (“The tort of intrusion upon seclusion offers the best theory to target legitimate privacy harms in the information age.”)

³⁶⁵ Harper, *The Privacy Torts*, *supra* note, at 3. (“Real property law and the law of trespass mean that people have legal backing when they retreat into their homes, close their doors, and pull their curtains to prevent others from seeing what goes on within.”)

³⁶⁶ For example, see Va. Code Ann. § 18.2-130 Peeping or spying into dwelling or enclosure.

³⁶⁷ Video Voyeurism Prevention Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1801 (2006).

³⁶⁸ Christopher Wolf, *Targeted Enforcement and Shared Lawmaking Authority as Catalysts for Data Protection*, BNA PRIVACY & SECURITY LAW REPORT 3 (2010), <http://www.hldataprotection.com/uploads/file/PDFArtic.pdf>. (“At the state level, legislatures have become the proving grounds for new statutory approaches to privacy regulation. Some of these developments include the enactment of data security breach notification laws . . . as well as highly detailed data security laws, enacted largely in response to data breaches. This partnership has resulted in a set of robust standards for the protection of personal data.”).

Ironically, the fact that IoT and wearable technology developers may be collecting massive volumes of new data could open those developers up to new forms of liability. In the context of intelligent vehicle technology, for example, Bryant Walker Smith of Stanford Law School has noted that liability norms will likely be affected by the level of knowledge and control that manufacturers have over these systems.³⁶⁹ “A seller who can, does, or should know more about the products it sells may be expected to foresee a wider range of product-related uses, misuses, and harms,” he argues.³⁷⁰ In other words, as IoT and wearable tech application developers come to possess a greater volume of data about what users are doing with their devices and services, liability could expand over time for those developers.³⁷¹ These developers could become what economists refer to as the “least cost avoider,” or the party who is in the best position to minimize risk at the lowest cost.³⁷² Smith refers to this as “proximity-driven liability.”³⁷³

This will likely also be true for other “smart systems” as new legal standards and responsibilities evolve gradually through a body of common law cases, the same way they have for many other technologies. Brookings Institution scholar John Villasenor has noted, “when confronted with new, often complex, questions involving products liability, courts have generally gotten things right. ... Products liability law has been highly adaptive to the many new technologies that have emerged in recent decades, and it will be quite capable of adapting to emerging autonomous vehicle technologies as the need arises.”³⁷⁴

Thus, instead of trying to micro-manage the development of IoT technologies in an attempt to plan for every hypothetical risk scenario, policymakers should be patient while the common law evolves and liability norms adjust.³⁷⁵ Traditionally, the common law has dealt with products liability and accident compensation in an evolutionary way through a variety of mechanisms, including strict liability, negligence, design defects law, failure to warn, breach of warranty, and so on.³⁷⁶ There is no reason to think the common law will not adapt to new technological realities, including IoT and wearable technologies, especially since firms have powerful

³⁶⁹ Bryant Walker Smith, “Proximity-Driven Liability,” 102 *GEORGETOWN L. JOUR.*, (forthcoming, 2014), http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2336234.

³⁷⁰ *Id.*

³⁷¹ *Id.* (“Since a product use or misuse that should be known to the seller is likely to be foreseeable, this information can also expand the content of other duties.”)

³⁷² Steven Shavell, *FOUNDATIONS OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF LAW* 189 (2004).

³⁷³ Smith, *Proximity-Driven Liability*, *supra* note ____.

³⁷⁴ John Villasenor, *Who Is at Fault When a Driverless Car Gets in an Accident?* *THE ATLANTIC*, Apr. 25, 2014, <http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2014/04/who-is-at-fault-when-a-driverless-car-gets-in-an-accident/361250>.

³⁷⁵ *The internet of things (to be hacked)*, *THE ECONOMIST*, July 12, 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21606829-hooking-up-gadgets-web-promises-huge-benefits-security-must-not-be>, (“[Governments] should make clear that web-connected gadgets are covered by existing safety laws and existing product-liability regimes.”)

³⁷⁶ John Villasenor, *Products Liability and Driverless Cars: Issues and Guiding Principles for Legislation*, Brookings Institution *Research Paper*, Apr. 24, 2014, at 7-14, <http://www.brookings.edu/research/papers/2014/04/products-liability-driverless-cars-villasenor>.

incentives to improve the security of their systems and avoid punishing liability, unwanted press attention, and lost customers.³⁷⁷

E. Federal Trade Commission Oversight & Enforcement

The Federal Trade Commission has already played a major role in addressing concerns about privacy and security for today's leading online technologies. The agency has used its broad authority under Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, which prohibits "unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce."³⁷⁸ Section 5 gives the FTC remarkably broad authority to address alleged violations of data privacy and security standards. Bamberger and Mulligan note that, "since 1996 the FTC has actively used its broad authority under section 5 . . . to take an active role in the governance of privacy protection, ranging from issuing guidance regarding appropriate practices for protecting personal consumer information, to bringing enforcement actions challenging information practices alleged to cause consumer injury."³⁷⁹

In recent years, for example, the FTC has brought privacy-related and data security-oriented enforcement actions against a wide variety of information technology companies, including: Google,³⁸⁰ Facebook,³⁸¹ Apple,³⁸² Twitter,³⁸³ MySpace,³⁸⁴ HTC,³⁸⁵ Lookout,³⁸⁶ Path,³⁸⁷ Snapchat,³⁸⁸

³⁷⁷ Eli Dourado, *Internet Security Without Law: How Service Providers Create Order Online*, Mercatus Center WORKING PAPER, June 19, 2012, <http://mercatus.org/publication/internet-security-without-law-how-service-providers-create-order-online>; U.S. Chamber of Commerce, *Comment to the Federal Trade Commission on Internet of Things*, Jan. 10, 2014, at 3, http://www.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/documents/public_comments/2014/01/00011-88248.pdf, ("In this tough economy, businesses depend more than ever on having beneficial and trusted relationships with their customers. Successful companies work to ensure that their products and services are deemed trustworthy by their customers. If a company has failed to meet customers' privacy and security expectations, then oftentimes the marketplace and public relations consequences will be swift and decisive, forcing the company to quickly align its business practices with consumer expectations.")

³⁷⁸ 15 U.S.C. § 45(a) (2006).

³⁷⁹ Kenneth A. Bamberger & Deirdre K. Mulligan, *Privacy on the Books and on the Ground*, 63 STAN. L. REV. 247, 273 (2011).

³⁸⁰ Federal Trade Commission, *In the Matter of Google Inc.*, Oct. 24, 2011, <http://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/102-3136/google-inc-matter>, Alex Howard, "Google Reaches Agreement with FTC on Buzz Privacy Concerns," *Govfresh*, March 30, 2011, <http://gov20.govfresh.com/google-reaches-agreement-with-ftc-on-buzz-privacy-concerns>.

³⁸¹ Federal Trade Commission, *In the Matter of Facebook, Inc.*, Aug. 10, 2012, <http://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/092-3184/facebook-inc>, Brent Kendall, "Facebook Reaches Settlement with FTC on Privacy Issues," *Wall Street Journal*, November 29, 2011, <http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20111129-710865.html>.

³⁸² Federal Trade Commission, *Apple Inc. Will Provide Full Consumer Refunds of At Least \$32.5 Million to Settle FTC Complaint It Charged for Kids' In-App Purchases Without Parental Consent*, Jan. 15, 2014, <http://www.ftc.gov/news-events/press-releases/2014/01/apple-inc-will-provide-full-consumer-refunds-least-325-million>.

³⁸³ Federal Trade Commission, *In the Matter of Twitter, Inc.*, Mar. 11, 2011, <http://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/092-3093/twitter-inc-corporation>.

³⁸⁴ Federal Trade Commission, *In the Matter of Myspace LLC*, Sept. 11, 2012, <http://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/102-3058/myspace-llc-matter>.

Fandango,³⁸⁹ Credit Karma,³⁹⁰ among many others.³⁹¹ In testimony delivered in May 2014, an FTC official noted that the Commission had pursued 53 data security-related cases, which “examined a company’s practices as a whole and challenged alleged data security failures that were multiple and systemic.”³⁹²

Companies fear such FTC enforcement actions because they can bind them to lengthy, 20-year privacy audits³⁹³ and open them up to potential liability of up to \$16,000 per customer harmed per violation.³⁹⁴ Moreover, firms take a reputation hit with the press and the general public when such enforcement actions are handed down.

Leading privacy scholars have argued that “the principles that emerge from FTC privacy ‘common law’ demonstrates that the FTC’s privacy jurisprudence is quite thick.”³⁹⁵ At a minimum, these enforcement actions make it clear that the agency already possess plenary authority under Section 5 to “make sure companies live up to the privacy promises they make to consumers.”³⁹⁶

³⁸⁵ Federal Trade Commission, *In the Matter of HTC America Inc.*, July 2, 2013, <http://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/122-3049/htc-america-inc-matter>.

³⁸⁶ *In the Matter of Lookout Services, Inc.*, June 15, 2011, <http://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/102-3076/lookout-services-inc-matter>.

³⁸⁷ *United States of America, Plaintiff, v. Path, Inc.*, Feb. 1, 2013, <http://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/122-3158/path-inc>.

³⁸⁸ Federal Trade Commission, *In the Matter of Snapchat, Inc.*, May 14, 2014, <http://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/132-3078/snapchat-inc-matter>.

³⁸⁹ Federal Trade Commission, *In the Matter of Fandango, LLC*, Mar. 28, 2014, <http://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/132-3089/fandango-llc>.

³⁹⁰ Federal Trade Commission, *In the Matter of Credit Karma, Inc.*, Mar. 28, 2014, <http://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/132-3091/credit-karma-inc>.

³⁹¹ See Daniel J. Solove & Woodrow Hartzog, *The FTC and the New Common Law of Privacy*, 114 COLUM. L. REV. 538 (2014) <http://columbialawreview.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Solove-Hartzog.pdf>.

³⁹² Maneesha Mithal, Federal Trade Commission, *Prepared Statement of the Federal Trade Commission on Emerging Threats in the Online Advertising Industry Before the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, U.S. Senate* 12 (May 15, 2014), http://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/public_statements/309891/140515emergingthreatsonline.pdf.

³⁹³ Kashmir Hill, So, *What Are These Privacy Audits that Google and Facebook Have to Do for the Next 20 Years?* FORBES, Nov. 30, 2011, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/kashmirhill/2011/11/30/so-what-are-these-privacy-audits-that-google-and-facebook-have-to-do-for-the-next-20-years>.

³⁹⁴ Daniel J. Solove & Woodrow Hartzog, *The Anatomy of an FTC Privacy and Data Security Consent Order*, LINKEDIN, May 12, 2014, <https://www.linkedin.com/today/post/article/20140512053224-2259773-the-anatomy-of-an-ftc-privacy-and-data-security-consent-order>.

³⁹⁵ Solove & Hartzog, *New Common Law of Privacy*, *supra* note __, at 583. Also see Wolf, *Targeted Enforcement*, *supra* note __, at 3.

³⁹⁶ Federal Trade Commission, *Path Social Networking App Settles FTC Charges it Deceived Consumers and Improperly Collected Personal Information from Users’ Mobile Address Books*, Feb. 1, 2013, <http://www.ftc.gov/news-events/press-releases/2013/02/path-social-networking-app-settles-ftc-charges-it-deceived>.

The agency has also released industry best practice guidance for mobile app data collection and privacy practices,³⁹⁷ digital advertising disclosures,³⁹⁸ facial recognition technologies,³⁹⁹ and other things that may be relevant to IoT and wearable technologies. It is likely that the agency will continue to actively monitor this marketplace to ensure that privacy and data security remains a top priority.⁴⁰⁰ In fact, the FTC has already brought an enforcement action against TRENDnet, a maker of Internet-connected home video cameras, for “lax security practices [that] exposed the private lives of hundreds of consumers to public viewing on the Internet.”⁴⁰¹

Importantly, however, the FTC has acknowledged there are limits to their enforcement powers. “Through these settlements, the Commission has made clear that reasonable and appropriate security is a continuous process of assessing and addressing risks; that there is no one-size-fits-all data security program; that the Commission does not require perfect security; and that the mere fact that a breach occurred does not mean that a company has violated the law.”⁴⁰² Such enforcement constraint and flexibility will be essential if IoT and wearable technologies are to realize their full potential.

F. Social Norms, Pressure & Sanctions

Norms—“social attitudes of approval and disapproval, specifying what ought to be done and what ought not to be done”⁴⁰³—can play a powerful role in curbing potentially problematic behavior by both the developers of IoT developers and users. Indeed, the power of social norms in this context could become a crucial determinant of the popularity of many wearable technologies.

Sometimes cultural norms, public pressure, and spontaneous social sanctions are a far more powerful “regulator” of innovations and how people use new tools when compared to laws and regulations.⁴⁰⁴ Cristina Bicchieri, a leading behavioral ethicist, calls social norms “the grammar of society” because,

³⁹⁷ Federal Trade Commission, *FTC Publishes Guide to Help Mobile App Developers Observe Truth-in-Advertising, Privacy Principles*, Sept. 5, 2012, <http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2012/09/mobileapps.shtm>.

³⁹⁸ Federal Trade Commission, *.com Disclosures: How to Make Effective Disclosures in Digital Advertising 16* (2013), <http://www.ftc.gov/os/2013/03/130312dotcomdisclosures.pdf>.

³⁹⁹ Federal Trade Commission, *FTC Recommends Best Practices for Companies That Use Facial Recognition Technologies*, Oct. 22, 2012, <http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2012/10/facialrecognition.shtm>.

⁴⁰⁰ InfoLawGroup LLP, *FTC Enters “Internet of Things” Arena with TRENDnet Proposed Settlement*, Sept. 9, 2013, <http://www.infolawgroup.com/2013/09/articles/ftc/trendnet-settlement>.

⁴⁰¹ Federal Trade Commission, *Marketer of Internet-Connected Home Security Video Cameras Settles FTC Charges It Failed to Protect Consumers’ Privacy*, Sept. 4, 2014, <http://www.ftc.gov/news-events/press-releases/2013/09/marketer-internet-connected-home-security-video-cameras-settles>.

⁴⁰² Maneesha Mithal, Federal Trade Commission, *Prepared Statement of the Federal Trade Commission on Emerging Threats in the Online Advertising Industry Before the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, U.S. Senate 12* (May 15, 2014), http://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/public_statements/309891/140515emergingthreatsonline.pdf.

⁴⁰³ Cass Sunstein, *Social Norms and Social Roles*, 96 COLUM. L. REV., Vol. 903, 914 (1996), http://www.law.uchicago.edu/files/files/36.Sunstein.Social_0.pdf.

⁴⁰⁴ Thierer, PERMISSIONLESS INNOVATION, *supra* note __, at 57-8.

like a collection of linguistic rules that are implicit in a language and define it, social norms are implicit in the operations of a society and make it what it is. Like a grammar, a system of norms specifies what is acceptable and what is not in a social group. And analogously to a grammar, a system of norms is not the product of human design and planning.⁴⁰⁵

Indeed, social pressure and constraints on the use and misuse of technology often develop in an organic, bottom-up fashion. For example, social norms continue to evolve to deal with smartphone usage in various environments, such as in some restaurants and in most movie theaters, or gym locker rooms, where their use is frowned upon or actively discouraged. In some cases, social norms and constraints take the form of formal restrictions imposed by establishments themselves. Other times, however, social pressure develops more spontaneously from others in the vicinity. For example, theaters employ pre-show messaging to pressure patrons to mute or turn-off electronic devices, but other movie goers are equally likely to make their displeasure with interruptions known to offending parties. Likewise, some passenger trains include “quiet cars” where phone conversations are prohibited, and other riders often scold those who ignore those rules.⁴⁰⁶ Finally, while fitness centers often post signs disallowing the use of smartphones in locker rooms, anyone attempting to use them to take pictures would likely quickly meet the wrath of offended patrons.

In a similar way, it is likely that social norms and pressures will influence the development and use of wearable computing technologies, such as Google Glass and other wearable devices.⁴⁰⁷ Advice columns are already being written about “Google Glass etiquette,” which includes recommendations such as taking it off when first meeting someone; removing it immediately when it is clear others are uncomfortable; and never wearing it in bathrooms or other highly private settings.⁴⁰⁸

More forceful opposition may develop to Google Glass and other wearable computing or recording devices in the future. “Stop The Cyborgs” is an advocacy group that offers various resources to push back against these technologies, including free downloadable “Google Glass

⁴⁰⁵ Cristina Bicchieri, *THE GRAMMAR OF SOCIETY: THE NATURE AND DYNAMICS OF SOCIAL NORMS* ix (2006).

⁴⁰⁶ Vincent M. Mallozzi, *On Train, a Fight Between Silent and Merely Quiet*, N.Y. TIMES, Jan. 9, 2011, <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/10/nyregion/10quiet.html>.

⁴⁰⁷ Jared Newman, *The Real Privacy Implications of Google Glass*, TIME TECH, May 2, 2013, <http://techland.time.com/2013/05/02/the-real-privacy-implications-of-google-glass>.

⁴⁰⁸ Kevin Sintumuang, *Google Glass: An Etiquette Guide*, WALL ST. J., May 3, 2013, <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323982704578453031054200120.html>; Rebecca Greenfield, *The First Rule of Google Glass Etiquette*, ATLANTIC WIRE, May 6, 2013, <http://www.theatlanticwire.com/technology/2013/05/google-glass-etiquette/64916>; Ryan Singel, *Devising A Personal Google Glass Privacy Policy*, MEDIUM, May 13, 2013, <https://medium.com/future-participle/2334fecda87e>; Jediah Bracy, *Putting Google Glass on Ann Landers*, PRIVACY PERSPECTIVES, Feb. 28, 2014, https://www.privacyassociation.org/privacy_perspectives/post/what_happens_when_ann_landers_puts_on_google_glass.

ban signs” that can be displayed in places where such technologies may not be welcome.⁴⁰⁹ The group also offer stickers and shirts that convey the same message.

In the extreme, social sanction can sometimes even involve violence or the threat thereof. For example, in February, a woman who wore Google Glass into a San Francisco bar was verbally and physically assaulted by a man who was upset about potentially having his privacy invaded.⁴¹⁰ It would be extremely unfortunate if tensions over wearable technologies resulted in violent altercations, but these early incidents may have the salubrious side-effect of reminding users that not everyone shares their same privacy values and that public uses of wearable technologies should be moderated accordingly.⁴¹¹

Social norms and pressure can also be applied at the developer level to influence design choices. The behavior of IoT and wearable tech developers will likely be influenced by the pressure apply by the broad and growing collection of privacy watchdog groups that exist, such as the ACLU, the Center for Democracy & Technology, the Electronic Frontier Foundation, the Electronic Privacy Information Center, the Future of Privacy Forum, Privacy Rights Clearinghouse, and many others.⁴¹² These advocacy groups have developed websites and materials to better inform consumers about how they can protect their privacy.⁴¹³ Such organizations agitate for more rigorous privacy protections incessantly and privacy policies—both legal enactments and informal corporate standards—will continue to be significantly influenced by the pressure that these advocates exert on the process. Relatedly, there has been an explosion of academic interest in privacy-related matters in recent years and this, too, influences developer behavior.

Finally, media attention also plays an important role in curbing potentially problematic behavior—by individuals and developers alike. FTC Chairwoman Ramirez has noted that:

media organizations... have a vital role to play as well. In recent years, premier news organizations have paid increasing attention to consumer privacy issues, publicizing excesses in some data gathering methods. Such public scrutiny gives firms a powerful incentive to act as responsible stewards of consumer information.⁴¹⁴

There already exists intense media and blogger interest in the privacy and security-related implications of the IoT and wearable technologies, and that coverage will likely grow as these devices and services multiply.

⁴⁰⁹ Stop The Cyborgs, *About*, <http://stopthecyborgs.org/about>, (last accessed June 24, 2014).

⁴¹⁰ Jessica Guynn, *Clash over Google Glass shows hurdles facing wearable tech*, L.A. TIMES, Feb. 27, 2014, <http://touch.latimes.com/#section/-1/article/p2p-79459427>.

⁴¹¹ Andrew Leonard, *Glasshole nation: Tech’s culture war takes another ugly turn*, SALON, Feb. 28, 2014, http://www.salon.com/2014/02/28/glasshole_nation_techs_culture_war_takes_another_ugly_turn.

⁴¹² Thierer, *Privacy Law’s Precautionary Principle Problem*, *supra* note __, at 483-4.

⁴¹³ Thierer, *Pursuit of Privacy*, *supra* note __, at 439.

⁴¹⁴ *Protecting Consumer Privacy in a Big Data Age*, Remarks of Federal Trade Commission Chairwoman Edith Ramirez before The Media Institute, Washington, DC, May 8, 2014, p. 11-12, http://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/public_statements/308421/ramirez_-_media_institute_5-8-14.pdf.

G. Law Enforcement Guidelines and Restrictions

The use of wearable technologies by law enforcement officials—or law enforcement’s ability to tap into private data flow from wearable devices—deserves special scrutiny and additional legal protections for the public. There are significant differences between public and private entities and we should continue to distinguish between them when considering data collection policies.⁴¹⁵ Private entities cannot fine, tax, or imprison us since they lack the coercive powers governments possess. Moreover, although it is possible to ignore or refuse to be a part of various private services, the same is not true for governments, whose grasp cannot be evaded. Thus, special protections are needed for law enforcement agencies and officials as it pertains to wearables and IoT devices and data flows.

The ACLU has developed a set of best practices for law enforcement use of “body cams” or “cop cams,” which can be used to record officer’s interactions with the public.⁴¹⁶ The ACLU suggests, among other things, that citizens be notified that they are being recorded, that data retention “be retained no longer than necessary for the purpose for which it was collected,” and “that this technology not become a backdoor for any kind of systematic surveillance or tracking of the public.”⁴¹⁷

When government seeks access to privately-held data collected from wearables or other IoT technologies, strong constitutional and statutory protections should apply. Privacy advocates fear that “the government will inevitably demand access” to any private data that is collected for commercial purposes,⁴¹⁸ but to the extent that is a growing problem, those advocates should redouble their efforts to constrain government surveillance powers and the ability to indiscriminately suck up privately held data. Congress should reform of the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 (the primary federal statute that governs when law enforcement agencies may compel private entities to divulge information held on behalf of third party subscribers) to require the government to obtain a warrant issued upon a showing of probable cause before accessing the privately held data and communications.⁴¹⁹ And courts should revisit the “third-party doctrine,”⁴²⁰ which holds that an individual sacrifices their Fourth Amendment interest in their personal information when they divulges it to a third party, even if

⁴¹⁵ Adam Thierer, *Do We Need a Constitutional Amendment Restricting Private-Sector Data Collection?* PRIVACY PERSPECTIVES, Jan. 23, 2014, https://www.privacyassociation.org/privacy_perspectives/post/do_we_need_a_constitutional_amendment_restricting_private_sector_data_colle.

⁴¹⁶ Adi Robertson, *The ACLU wants police officers to wear cameras, but only with privacy protections*, THE VERGE, Oct. 9, 2013, <http://www.theverge.com/2013/10/9/4820600/aclu-issues-guidelines-for-police-officer-cameras>.

⁴¹⁷ Jay Stanley, *Police Body-Mounted Cameras: With Right Policies in Place, a Win For All*, ACLU, Oct. 9, 2013, <https://www.aclu.org/technology-and-liberty/police-body-mounted-cameras-right-policies-place-win-all>.

⁴¹⁸ Jeffrey Rosen, *Madison’s Privacy Blind Spot*, N.Y. TIMES, Jan. 18, 2014, http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/19/opinion/sunday/madisons-privacy-blind-spot.html?_r=0.

⁴¹⁹ Charles H. Kennedy, *An ECPA for the 21st Century: The Present Reform Efforts and Beyond*, 20 COMMLAW CONSPPECTUS 129 (2011).

⁴²⁰ Babak Siavoshi, *Need an alternative to the third party doctrine? Look backwards, not forward (Part I)*, CONCURRING OPINIONS, July 7, 2014, <http://www.concurringopinions.com/archives/2014/07/need-an-alternative-to-the-third-party-doctrine-look-backward-not-forward.html>.

that party has promised to safeguard that data.⁴²¹ Other bolstered Fourth Amendment constraints on national security and law enforcement powers are also essential.⁴²² Again, because governments have unique powers and responsibilities, it qualifies them for a different level of legal scrutiny.

VII. CONCLUSION

The privacy and security-related challenges associated with the Internet of Things and wearable technologies will be considerable, but it is essential that experimentation and innovation in this space not be derailed based on speculation about hypothetical worst-case scenarios. There will be profound benefits associated with these new technologies, but those benefits may not come about if preemptive, precautionary policy interventions limit new innovation opportunities.

This does not mean we should turn a blind eye to the challenges raised by these new developments since “the Internet of things is not only a technological revolution, but also social revolution.”⁴²³ As these technologies become literally woven into their fabric of our lives, they will spawn social disruptions that deserve careful consideration and constructive solutions.⁴²⁴ This paper has offered a framework for accomplishing that goal without derailing innovative efforts that could yield countless life-enriching applications and opportunities.

To the extent that some public policy responses are needed to guide technological developments, simple legal principles are greatly preferable to technology-specific, micro-managed regulatory regimes. *Ex ante* (preemptive and precautionary) regulation is often highly inefficient, even dangerous. Prospective regulation based on speculation about future harms that may never materialize is likely to come at the expense of innovation and growth opportunities. When corrective actions are needed to address more serious harms, *ex post* measures—especially via common law actions and FTC enforcement activities—will generally be more sensible.

Using such a balanced, layered approach to privacy and security concerns will ensure that those important values can be protected without derailing the many beneficial forms of economic and social innovation that could flow from the Internet of Things and wearable technologies.

⁴²¹ Jim Harper, *Reforming Fourth Amendment Privacy Doctrine*, AM. U. L. REV., Vol. 57, (2008): 1381, 1401, <http://www.wcl.american.edu/journal/lawrev/57/harper.pdf> (citing *United States v. Miller*, 425 U.S. 435 (1976)).

⁴²² James X. Dempsey, *Keynote Address: The Path to ECPA Reform and the Implications of United States v. Jones*, 47 U.S.F.L. REV. 479 (Fall 2012), https://cdt.org/files/pdfs/Keynote_%20USvJones.pdf.

⁴²³ Patrick Thibodeau, *The philosophy of IoT: Will it help or hurt? Big questions about the Internet of Things are on the agenda at a July conference*, COMPUTERWORLD, May 26, 2014, http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9248530/The_philosophy_of_IoT_Will_it_help_or_hurt_ (Quoting Justin McKeown, head of the program for Fine Art and Computer Science at York St. John).

⁴²⁴ Hugh Langley, *Autographer boss: Google Glass privacy fears have been exaggerated by the media*, TECH RADAR, June 18, 2014, <http://www.techradar.com/news/photography-video-capture/google-glass-privacy-fears-have-been-exaggerated-by-the-media-says-autographer-creator-1253837> (Quoting Simon Randall of wearable camera maker Autographer: “I think in 10 years’ time it’ll be pretty easy to put a wafer level camera in a lapel—if you wanted to.”).