



Office for Product
Safety & Standards



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Safeguarding the future together

Dr Daniel Vandenburg and Stephen James

Agenda

- 1: Horizon Scanning in OPSS – Daniel 5 mins
- 2: Fridge of the Future 2021 and 2022 - Stephen 5 mins
- 3: Safeguarding the future together – Group discussion 5 mins

What is horizon scanning?

The process of looking for early warning signs of change in the policy and strategy environment

(Horizon Scanning is just one tool in the Futures Toolkit)



Name _____ Date _____

"Get to Know Me" Questions

1. Where were you born?
2. How old are you?
3. When is your birthday?
4. What is your favorite color?
5. What is your favorite day of the week?
6. What is your favorite food?
7. What is your favorite drink?
8. What is your favorite ice cream flavor?
9. What do you want to be when you grow up?
10. Where do you want to live when you grow up?
11. Do you have any brothers or sisters? How many?
12. Do you have any pets? If so, what kind?
13. What do you like to do in your free time?
14. Who is your best friend?
15. What is your favorite subject?
16. What is your favorite movie?
17. What is your favorite book?
18. What is your favorite animal?
19. What is your favorite place?
20. What is your favorite song?

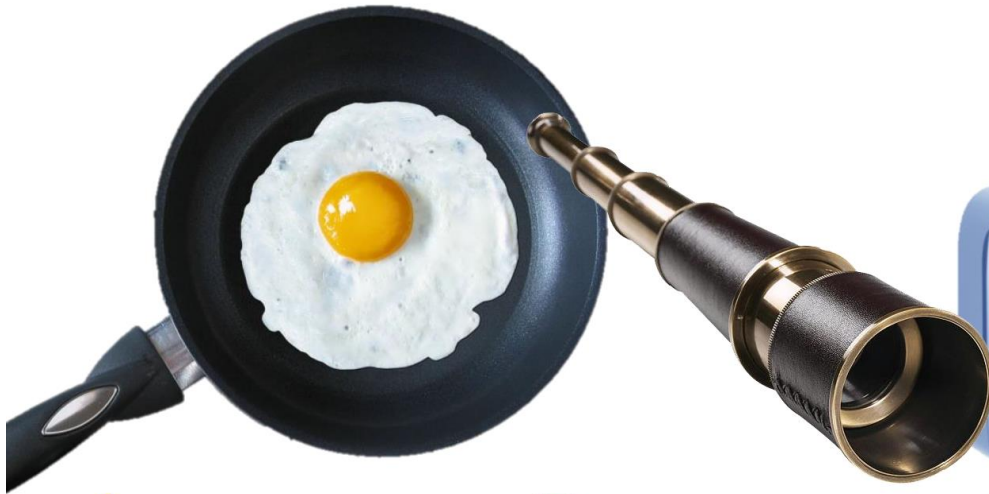
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Why Horizon Scan?

- PAC and NAO challenge to become more proactive regulator
 - Will help OPSS identify and prioritise future techs of concern, build evidence on them and prepare for their coming
 - Lead to safer, more successful adoption of future products, services, supply chains, routes to market and business models
 - Maximise benefits / minimise harms to UK consumers of new technologies
-

5 PRINCIPLES.



1 SWITCH PERSPECTIVE

Look from the outside in to see the bigger picture

2 LOOK FURTHER

Take a longer view of time to see deeper patterns of change



3 ANTICIPATE VALUES

Understand people's shifting values to anticipate social change



4 SEE CONNECTIONS

Connect more dots to see a richer view of change



5 EXPECT SURPRISES

Take off the blinkers to reveal predictable surprises

How are we doing things in OPSS

By end of 2022/23 OPSS has set up a function with the relationships, expertise and resources it needs to operate and has run one scan/prioritisation process to inform current strategic development.

Our approach for scan 1.0:

- Phase 1: Longlisting
- Phase 2: Ordering and forming a 'taxonomy'
- Phase 3: Developing assessment metrics
- Phase 4: Gathering evidence
- Phase 5: Scoring and assessment

Output: Prioritised list of TDCs and development of resulting work plans

Methodology for scan 1 based on **secondary research and analysis**. Future versions will include more primary research and views of external experts.

Work will start with supplier August

Questions to think about

1. How is your industry approaching horizon scanning and identifying future challenges?
2. How could we work together to mitigate prioritised future challenges?

2050: Fridge of the Future event

- Organised in partnership with City, University of London, AMDEA and London Fire Brigade the aim of the event was to bring together stakeholders with an interest in understanding the future of domestic appliances to share perspectives, identify common interests and discuss how we could work together to achieve shared goals.
- Panel discussions on innovation, environment and product safety.
- Took place on the 16th September 2021 at City, University of London.
- Hybrid event with over 300 attendees.
- Full recordings and report available of the day.



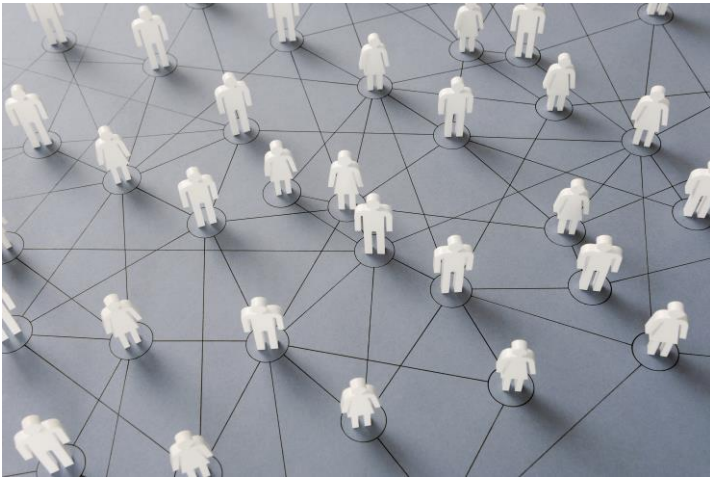
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Social and Environmental drivers

Social

1. Greater connectivity
2. Ageing population
3. Changing diet and eating habits
4. Changing living spaces

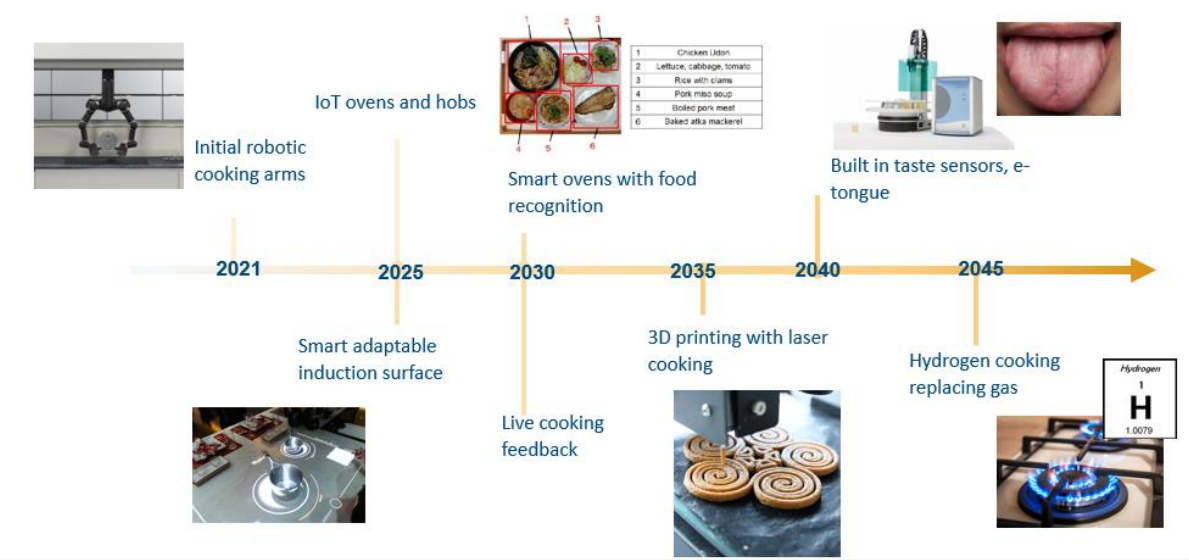


Environmental

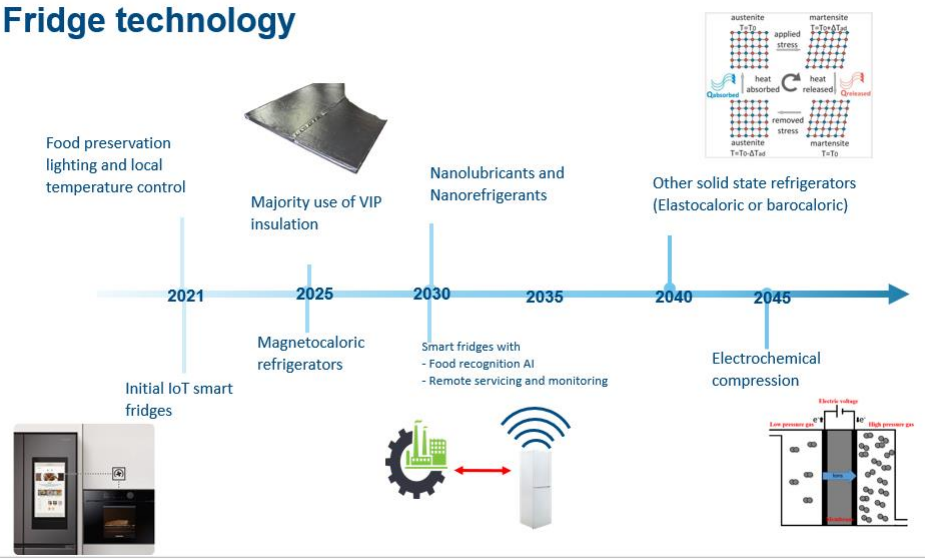
1. Energy supply
2. Reducing Energy use
3. Transition to circular economy
4. Net zero

Technological drivers

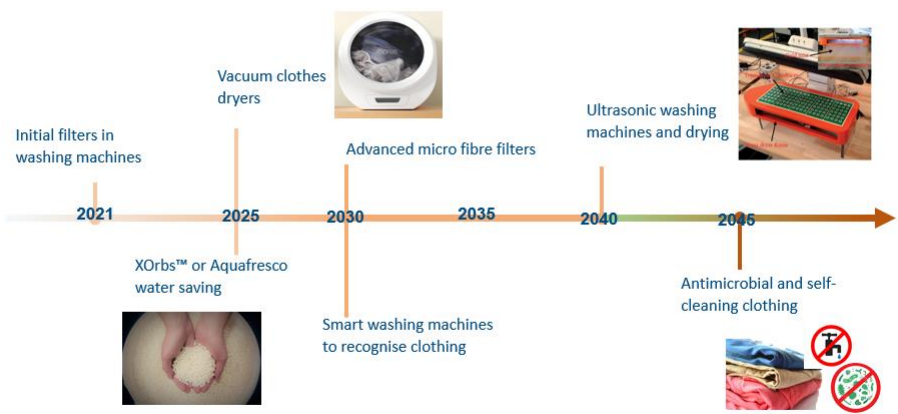
Cooking appliance technology



Fridge technology



Washing machine and tumble dryer technology



Panel discussions



Innovation

- Benefits and barriers of **getting connected**
- The opportunities for **consumer usage data** and issues around **trust**
- Innovation for **sustainability**; AI to reduce food waste and energy consumption
- Using technology to influence **consumer behaviour**
- Innovating **inclusively** – not leaving consumers behind



Net Zero

- Appliance **efficiency** has come far: look to other parts of product cycle
- Improving circularity of appliances, e.g. through **design for recycling**
- Challenges of **right to repair** and does it go far enough?
- Opportunities for **alternative business models**
- Using appliances more **flexibly**
- **Empowering consumers** to make sustainable choices



Safety and Standards

- **Nudging consumers** can be unreliable and should be supplemented with incentives
- The importance of **collaboration in standards**
- The **pace of innovation** and the role of standards to enable innovation.
- **Data** can drive safety improvements: e.g. with product recalls, but there is distrust
- Clarity is needed around **liability** in the event of a repair

Key takeaways and 2022 event

1. Connected technology has huge potential to make appliances more convenient, energy efficient and durable, as well as enhancing safety. However, there are challenges to do adoption that need to be overcome.
2. Data can be used to understand consumer behaviour and optimise appliances for consumers, but trust is a barrier which needs to be overcome. Better transparency is key.
3. Appliance efficiency has come a long way, but greater focus is needed to improve circularity and use.
4. Consumers are wanting to make 'greener' choices, but find it difficult to understand the environmental impact of their decisions: consumers should be empowered to make sustainable choices.
5. There are conflicting priorities. Stakeholders need to come together to achieve both: sustainability + safety, personalisation + privacy; innovation + regulation.
6. Innovation needs to be inclusive – it has to work for everybody.



2050: Appliances of the Future (Wednesday, 21st September 2022)

Wednesday, 21st September 2022,
09:00 – 16:45

Academics; Alumni;
Public; Staff;
Students

Add to calendar

Oliver Thompson Lecture Theatre

Free

Register now

The Road to Net Zero. Partner Conference: AMDEA, City University of London and BEIS/OPSS.



AMDEA
The Association of Manufacturers
of Domestic Appliances



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2022 Conference Theme and Agenda: 'Sustainable Appliances'

Building on the outcomes of our 2021 event, this year's conference will look at the challenges of change and the role consumer appliances have to play in delivering sustainability and the net zero home.

Discussion

1. How is your industry approaching horizon scanning and identifying future challenges?
2. How could we work together to mitigate prioritised future challenges?

Thanks for listening

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