

Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

We are always trying to be more efficient. It reduces the effort we need to invest and gives us more time for other things. Often it even improves the quality of what we're attempting to do. Artificial Intelligence and its more statistical cousin Machine Learning are two tools that are being rapidly incorporated into our connected world. AI can increase our productivity, reduce costs and do this while simplifying our lives. Here are a few examples from CES.

[Healium – AR Visualization](#)

Healium is an AR visualization experience that helps you relax. It does this by monitoring your pulse and brain waves. By trying to control your pulse and brain waves, you can steer the Healium experience around scenes with butterflies and rainbows or various geometric patterns. One representative described it as a “virtual digital chill pill.” Can brain waves and pulse be measured? Sure. Can those measurements be used to steer you around a virtual experience? Sure. Will it relax you? I'm not sure. You'll have to try it yourself. But the US Air Force is doing a project with Healium.



[John Deere – See and Spray](#)



The John Deere “See and Spray” tractor implement is designed to spray weeds – just weeds. It does this by using embedded cameras on the implement and using AI to distinguish the weeds from the crops or soil. Then, it just sprays the weeds. Not only does this improve the chance of killing the weeds and not killing the crops, it also reduces the amount of weed spray required.

[Smart Eye – Driver Tracking](#)

Smart Eye is a leader in driver monitoring in the car with Smart Eye, and their subsidiary iMotions, they can monitor the whole interior car situation. Using cameras and AI, SmartEye can understand, support, and predict human behavior in complex environments. They use this information to help prevent accidents, but I'm a little concerned about how far they could go with reporting on the passengers. I can imagine a digitized voice saying, “Nancy just rolled her eyes, I'm not sure she's taking you seriously.”

[Deepbrain AI – AI Assistants](#)



Deepbrain AI is taking another step along the machine sentience scale. Their “AI Human” video avatars are built using composites of real facial features to generate a human looking entity. They then use AI and voice recognition to interact with presumably real people. I expect the AI Humans can answer simple questions or direct you to the customer service department, but how *real* are they? I'm still looking forward to the true Turing test of having two AI Humans carry on a conversation with each other.

[Klleon – AI for Multilingual Overdub](#)

Klleon is a South Korean startup that specializes in substituting AI content into real content. You can take an existing video and substitute your own face or voice. You can also substitute a made-up face or voice. Most impressive, though, is their Killing product that can automatically dub a movie in a new language with the original voice intonation and reasonable lip synch. It appears as if the actor has suddenly become fluent in a new language. This is awesome! ...unless my evil twin gets hold of it. Like many technologies, this brings up a raft of ethical questions. If I can make a video of anyone (real or fake) saying anything in any language, what can I trust? I guess that's a job for the next startup.

[Cipia – AI Vision Driver Monitoring](#)

Cipia vision is driver monitoring for fleets. It can tell if a driver is drowsy or distracted and can even tattle if the driver is using a mobile phone. Cipia can reduce accidents and help drivers to avoid dangerous situations. It is also a powerful tool for fleet managers in evaluating driver performance. At least until drivers get replaced by autonomous vehicles.

[Amaryllo – iBabi Smart AI Camera](#)

Amaryllo makes an AI-powered video analytics camera, called iBabi Smart, to monitor your baby. It can let you know when the baby is crying or talking and warn you if the baby's face is covered. It can play a lullaby or enable two-way communication. The iBabi is on a swivel base, so it can spin around to see the whole room. It has an embedded processor which gives it enough power to send the stream with 256-bit encryption. With auto-tracking, it can even detect and film your toddler's escape attempt.



[Sony – Bravia Camera](#)



The Sony Bravia camera sits on top of your TV and watches you while you watch TV. The camera supports two-way video calls. It can recognize hand signals to adjust settings and even change some settings automatically based on where you're sitting. There is a "too close" warning that can black out the screen if your kids don't move back. If you leave the room and nobody is watching the TV, "Dad mode" can automatically turn it off. With a little home automation, he can automatically have the lights turn off as well.

[Blink Tech – AI Robotic Camera Tripod](#)

Blink Tech can turn your smart phone into an autonomous cameraman. The Focos motorized swivel mount attaches to the tripod and holds your camera. With AI and video analytics, the mount will keep the camera aimed at the main action so you can actually enjoy the game. You watch the game while the Focos does the filming. Of course, I've been to many soccer games with 4-year old players and I can tell you some of the best action is not around the ball.

