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Viewfinder: Opinions from around the world

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"We have become inured to Moore's law. The astonishing advances that once would have brought us to our knees are now reduced to a thumbs-up on Gizmodo. They're removed from the realm of magic - they're just cool gear."

Steven Levy in *Wired* magazine regrets that technology is losing its sheen

"Every model has to be compared to the real world and, if you can't do that, then don't believe the model."

Physicist **Freeman Dyson**, in a talk to the pro-market **Cato Institute**, expresses his scepticism over climate science's excessive reliance on computer modelling

"Now that President Barack Obama has pledged American leadership in cutting greenhouse-gas emissions relief is giving way to worry... The result might not be cooperation but conflict, and possibly the world's first green trade war."

Stefan Theil in *Newsweek* fears a US emissions trading system could lead to import tariffs being slapped on goods from countries like China that don't control their emissions

Good week for...

American atheism Unbelievers are coming out of the closet, according to a report in *The New York Times*, in a trend being likened to the emergence of the gay rights movement

Bad week for...

Slackers Around half of companies surveyed by security company Sophos block employee access to Twitter, MySpace and Facebook, which they fear lead to time-wasting

The word

GLOBESITY

Unexpected links between the obesity epidemic and the global environment, as explored in a book of the same name

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