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***The AI Race* – Tuesday 8th August at 8.30pm on ABC and iview**

In a one-hour prime-time special, ***The AI Race*** shows Australian workers taking on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and discovering for the first time how much of their jobs could be automated.

New figures to be released on the program show that every Australian job will change in the coming years as AI automates not just physical tasks, but thinking ones too.

The special on ABC will coincide with the release of an online interactive tool on the ABC NEWS website so everyone can check how much of their job could be done by AI.

From veteran truckie Frank Black to a young final year law student and paralegal, Christine Maibom, AI is about to hit all jobs and professions.

We talk to international leaders in the field including Google's Research Director Peter Norvig, an icon among AI researchers, who say the pace of change could be "a shock to the system" that will be "hard to recover from."

One of Australia's leading AI scientists, Professor Toby Walsh is calling for a national discussion about whether we need boundaries around how AI is developed and used in our lives.

"The rate of (AI) learning is going to be exponential, something that we humans aren't used to seeing. We learn things painfully and slowly and individually, the computers will learn on a planet wide scale," **Professor Toby Walsh.**

Economist Andrew Charlton says, *"Hundreds of thousands of jobs we do today will be replaced by machines...I don't think everyone needs to become a coder. If AI is any good, machines will be better at writing code than humans. People need to be able to work with the output of those machines and turn it into valuable services."*

We bring the workers face to face with AI experts to quiz them about what the future might look like and how they can prepare.

Presented by Margot O'Neill and produced by Fanou Filali, ***The AI Race*** is part of a week of AI coverage on *Lateline* and ABC NEWS online.

Lateline interviews will include US-based Australian data scientist Jeremy Howard, who brilliantly describes the wonderful and terrifying implications of AI; Cathy O'Neil, the US author of 'Weapons of Math Destruction' who believes AI could be used to undermine democracy; and a panel of Australian politicians responding to the challenges and opportunities presented by AI.

Across the week *Lateline* and ABC NEWS online will explore many of the big questions about AI including what the jobs of the future will look like, how far AI can go, are Big Tech companies like Google and Facebook too big, is Australian industry ready for this next technological leap and should algorithms decide whether we get insurance or a jail term.

To help make sense of it all, there'll be digital features with explainers and opinion pieces.

The week of special programming leads into the coverage of National Science Week from August 12-20, across all ABC platforms.

Margot O'Neill is available for media interviews.

Lateline is presented by Emma Alberici Monday to Thursday and David Lipson on Fridays. The program airs on the ABC NEWS channel weeknights at 9.30pm AEST and on ABC at 10.30pm.

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