

Technology News

Technology company builds desert ghost town

An American technology firm is building a town the size of Bristol in the desert in New Mexico but nobody will live there.



Uninhabited cities are usually more associated with dystopia and nuclear warfare than the development of green technology.

By **Lucinda Dobinson**
7:30AM BST 18 Sep 2011

7 Comments

The 'Centre for Innovation, Testing and Evaluation' will be a ghost town, 20 miles square, that will be used for testing 'smart city' technologies, such as traffic control, smart power grids, cyber security and self-driving vehicles.

Pegasus Global Holdings, a technology company based in Washington, DC, plans to spend \$200 million over the next three years building the facility.

The New Mexico Economic Development Department said the Centre would "resemble a mid-sized American city, including urban canyons, suburban neighbourhoods, rural communities and distant localities."

Most towns and cities have an infrastructure that has been patched together over decades, or even centuries, of growth and development. Taking a new piece of cutting edge technology and applying it to that infrastructure can be fraught with difficulties, not least the inconvenience caused to a town's inhabitants should things go wrong.

In order to test how new technologies will work with existing city infrastructures, Pegasus plans to build a mixture of old and new technologies into the Centre, to replicate a real city.

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ronnyfigs

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Whilst I can understand the rationale, spending all that money on a new city WITHOUT inhabitants is bizarre in the extreme.

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cjon

09/18/2011 10:55 PM

eventually androids will be introduced, into different zones, and holiday makers will be invited to stay there, all ending with one of the robots - dressed in black, wearing a 10 gallon hat over his bald head - going on the rampage and tracking you down ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, coool cant wait !

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jpotter

09/18/2011 02:20 PM

Can I move in please? Its sounds very quiet and I won't have other people's kids running around!

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cjhazard

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I know EXACTLY how you feel! Can I join you?

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Yes, but only if you stay on your side of town!

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<http://t.co/UWM27bon>. Pretty cool



D3viant

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