

# The 7 most underrated technology trends for 2017

You've seen all the usual lists of technology trends. At Mindtree, we have a different perspective. Here's our take on the trends that digital leaders should watch closely in 2017.



## 1 CONTEXT BROKERING

### What it is:

Designed to collect and synthesize transactional, behavioral, location and other data from multiple sources.

### Why it matters:

This capability helps organizations make smarter business decisions and harnesses contextual data to trigger the next best action.

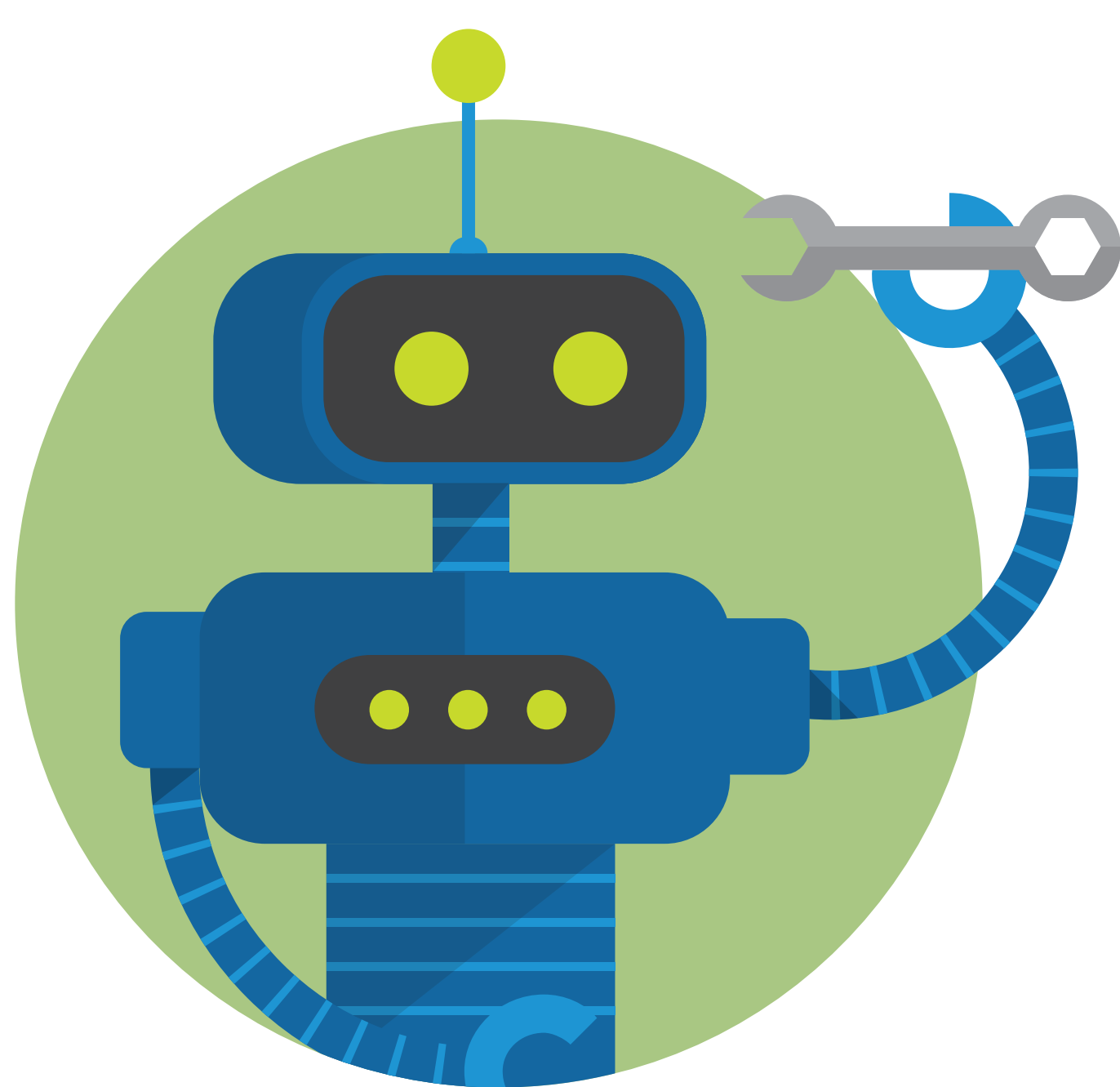
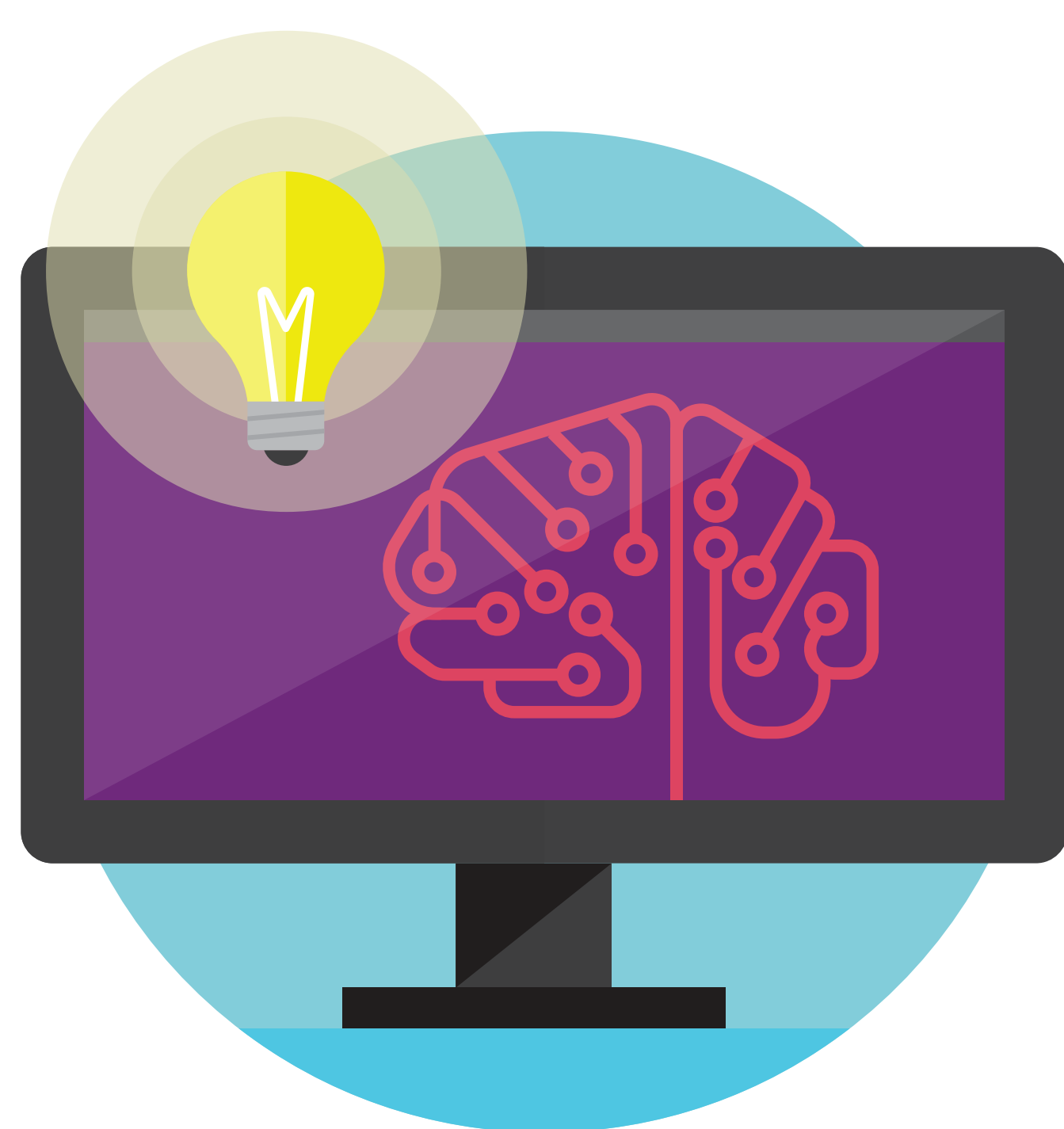
## 2 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING

### What it is:

Enables machines to process vast amounts of data in real time and solve problems on their own.

### Why it matters:

The ability to analyze complex data to predict outcomes, identify profitable opportunities and avoid risk—potentially without any human intervention—is an enormous competitive differentiator in every market.



## 3 THE RISE OF ROBOTS

### What it is:

Built initially for highly controlled environments, such as assembly lines, robots can now enter uncontrolled environments (such as highways) as a result of machine learning and cheaper computing power.

### Why it matters:

Increased use of robots will greatly improve productivity, improve safety and lower operating costs.

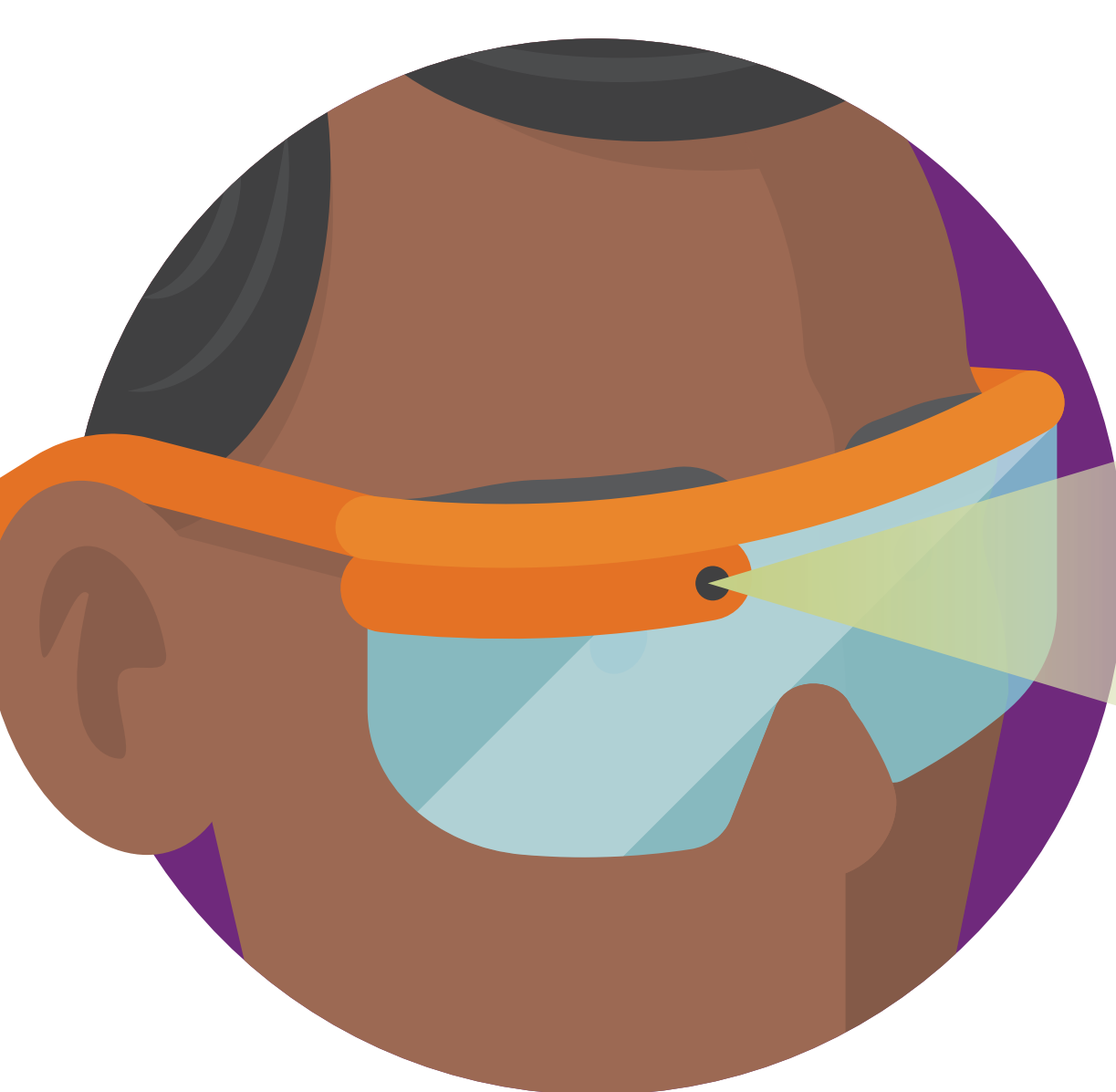
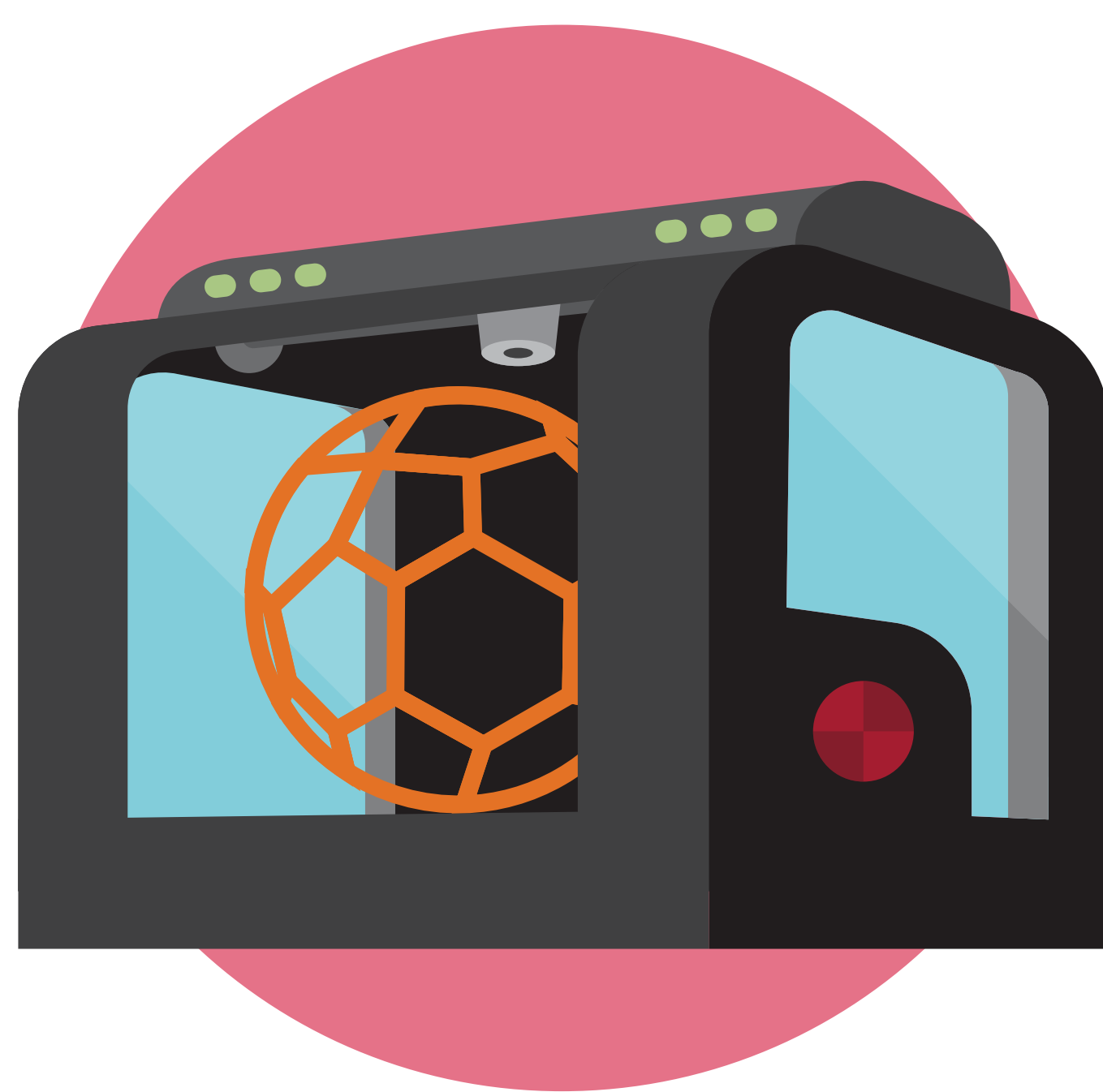
## 4 3-D AND 4-D PRINTING

### What it is:

Lets users design and create personalized or limited-run merchandise for e-commerce.

### Why it matters:

As 3-D printing becomes mainstream, it has the potential to revolutionize manufacturing. Also look for developments in 4-D printing, where objects can reshape themselves or even self-assemble.



## 5 VIRTUAL AND AUGMENTED REALITY

### What it is:

Innovations in displays and wireless bandwidth allowed VR and AR headsets to go from fanciful to practical in 2016. This technology will only become more affordable and accessible in the coming year.

### Why it matters:

AR opens doors to remote support, customer service, training and collaboration, while VR creates even more opportunities in gaming and entertainment, plus immersive experiences in tourism, retail and hospitality.

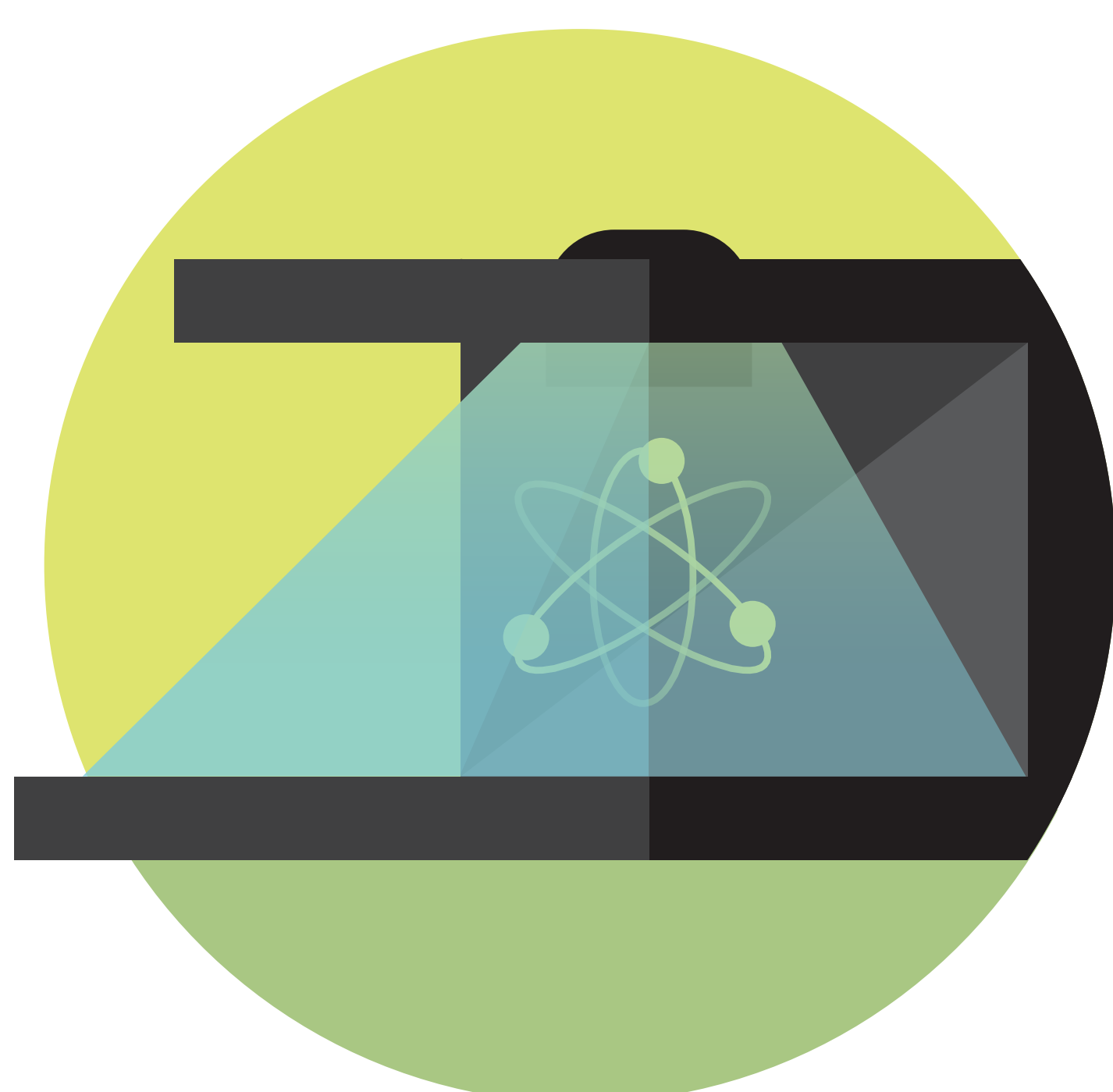
## 6 DISPLAY TECHNOLOGY

### What it is:

Unlike 3-D movies or AR/VR, where the brain is tricked into believing it can see three dimensions, new volumetric displays actually show three-dimensional images.

### Why it matters:

These displays hold huge potential for interpersonal communication (such as holoportation), medical imaging, mathematics, oil exploration, product design and more.



## 7 SMART HOMES

### What it is:

Thanks to the Internet of Things (IoT), most every device in your home that uses electricity can be put on a network to communicate with each other—and with you.

### Why it matters:

These innovations create opportunities for consumer manufacturers and service providers to transform the home, but they also pose a threat to traditional businesses that don't keep up.

As you look toward 2017, what kinds of technological change do you see?

[Read the full article](#) to find out more. If transformation is in the cards for your business, [contact Mindtree](#) to start a conversation about the future.