Electronic design automation became an industry when diversification of the electronics and semiconductor industries led to economies of scale for the design software industry.

Although the EDA industry gives the appearance of relatively steady growth over its history, in actuality it is driven by rapid growth segments and saturation of successive waves of new design paradigms, e.g. printed circuit board layout, ASIC top-down design, physical design facilitated by silicon foundries, etc.

As each of these design paradigms matured, they became slow growth segments of EDA. Future growth of the EDA industry can come only from solving new design problems. Fortunately, there is an abundance of these. Dr. Rhines will address the problems most likely to be the drivers of future industry growth, as well as some less likely possibilities.