Elon Predicts One Million Humans Will Be Augmented By Neuralink By 2030

Neuralink's bold vision: 1M augmented humans by 2030, seamlessly controlling devices with thoughts at unimaginable speeds. A revolution in technology—are we ready?

By Dan Fitzpatrick

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Tech investor Apoorv Agrawal has described Neuralink as the “most important company of the decade.” The bold claim on X has sparked widespread attention, but it was Elon Musk’s repost that elevated the conversation to a new level:

“Bit rate and patient number will increase hyperexponentially over the next 5+ years. My guess is combined I/O bit rate > 1Mbs and augmented humans >1M by 2030.”

This statement is a vision for a future where the boundary between humans and machines dissolves at a scale that could redefine humanity itself. Are education systems ready for what’s coming and how might they need to adapt?

The Promise of Neuralink

Neuralink’s work in 2024 has already reshaped what we think is possible. The company moved its technology out of the lab and into the real world, successfully implanting its N1 device in human patients. For people with severe

disabilities, this implant represents independence. By translating neural signals into digital commands, the N1 enables users to interact with computers and other devices using only their thoughts.

Thanks to the N1, Neuralink's first patient, Noland Arbaugh, can now use his computer, play video games, and connect with friends, all without physical movement. Using a Star Wars reference, he likened using the Neuralink to using the force on a cursor. The second participant is designing intricate 3D objects using CAD software through thought alone. These stories are inspiring, but they're only the beginning. Neuralink's technology is poised to augment human potential.

Musk's comments emphasize the potential of Neuralink in breathtaking terms. A combined input/output (I/O) bit rate of over 1 million bits per second by 2030? In simple terms, this means humans could interact with technology as fast as we think. This is far beyond the speed of typing or speaking. Neuralink users wouldn't just control devices with

their thoughts; they would do so with precision and speed, approaching natural brain function. The implications are staggering. It's not just about restoring lost functions but creating a new kind of human-machine symbiosis.

Redefining Human Capability

The implications of Musk's prediction extend far beyond Neuralink's immediate applications. We are heading into a world where humans don't just use devices but integrate with them. Where we directly control computers and collaborate with artificial intelligence using only thought. This is not just an evolution of technology, but a redefinition of human capability.

With such transformation come profound questions. If augmented humans become the norm, what happens to those

without access to these technologies? How do we navigate the ethical and societal challenges of blending biology and machines?

Preparing for a Hyperexponential Future

Neuralink's journey reflects the broader truth about the world today. The world is changing fast. Musk's prediction of hyper-exponential growth is not just a statement about Neuralink, but it's a call to prepare for a world that could be radically different in just a few years. Neuralink isn't just about restoring abilities for a few; it's about reshaping the possibilities for everyone. In Musk's words, we may soon see a million augmented humans, operating at speeds and capacities unimaginable today.

Musk's prediction may seem audacious, but Neuralink's track record suggests it's not far-fetched. The world is on the brink of a transformation that could rival the invention of the internet or the industrial revolution. As Neuralink accelerates toward this future, the real challenge will be ensuring that we are ready to meet it.

In a world of hyper-exponential growth, the question for our education systems isn't whether change is coming—it's how we prepare for it.

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