



TERCER LUGAR
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Engineering Can Change the World

Juan Carlos Badilla Rojas - CCC Pérez, San Isidro, Pérez Zeledón

Many people, when they hear the word “engineering”, think of machines or robots, when the word itself means something else. And that something is the main reason why the world has evolved and why people have created cars, planes, tall buildings, bridges, computers, cell phones and basically revolutionized technology. A curious fact is that most of human inventions involve more than one type of engineering, for example, mechanical with electrical engineering.

They all have applications that are independent from other engineering fields like civil engineering. In this type of engineering, the engineer’s basic application is to design and construct buildings, bridges, highways and other infrastructures. But even in civil engineering professionals have to work with other engineers like mechanical, chemical or electric engineers in order to build the most ideal infrastructures. We can see that they all work together with the purpose of improving the lives of human beings and the evolution of the world.

What kind of changes have engineering caused on the world? Since the first Neanderthals drawings, we were able to see the development of new weapons to hunt animals and new technology. Taking little steps, humanity was able to develop better ways to build shelters and get food by farming or gathering fruits. Many people may think that this was not engineering. It was not because it had not been named with this word, but engineering actually means the application of scientific, economic, social and general knowledge in order to design, build or improve structures, machines, devices, systems, materials and processes to improve life. In other words, it was basic engineering.

The biggest breakthrough of engineering happened in the XVIII century in the Industrial Revolution. From 1760 to sometime between 1820 and 1840 this revolution happened. This was the time when the manufacturing processes changed from being mostly done by human to being

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mostly done by machines. This happened because the application of different types of engineering and the effect that it caused was positive as well as negative. On the positive side, we were able to make new technology that helped to obtain many important accomplishments and that make the world evolve. When the steel ships were introduced, almost no one used wooden ones because the new ones were more effective. On the negative side, there were a lot of consequences in the environment because they used a fossil fuel. The biggest pollution problems started at that time. However, thanks to engineering, humanity has been able to develop new fuels from solar energy.

I think that engineering is very useful because when they have a problem, they are able to fix it later. That is why, among other reasons, these careers have a lot of labor market in many countries. They will continue helping the world change and fixing a lot of problems that we have today. In conclusion, I think more people, creative people, should choose engineering as their vocation to help discover and go beyond new frontiers.

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