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Summary of “Can Engineers make a beneficial contribution to society”

There is no doubt that engineers make a beneficial contribution to society through three special forms which are connection, supplying and protection of society. The whole society is affected by the infrastructure designed and built by the engineers.

In the area of connection, engineers built an efficient transport network, which promotes the development of the society and economy as well as make humans life more convenient. For example, the logistics and infrastructure to collate, sort and distribute materials are very helpful. Telecommunications, including reliable phone and broad band network, are also great contributions by engineers in this strand. Highly-developed network has greatly improved the efficiency of people’s communication. Such contribution from engineers creates many opportunities for people to join together and make people more connected.

In the second area of Supply, engineers built and developed systems of water, electricity, and other essential resources. These systems are so important that our society will quickly become dysfunctional when they are suddenly threatened or disrupted. Even though engineers design them to meet people’s basic requirements, their effectiveness is often limited due to poor government and corruption. In Britain, people often take such supply for granted because the government invest little money in energy infrastructure.

In the third strand of “Protection”, engineers have designed and constructed flood defense, aiming at protecting people living near rivers. Engineers also pay attention to the preserve of historic buildings and structures, allowing the future generations to learn from the past. The engineers also protect the natural environment by making buildings and transport greener to reduce greenhouse effect.

The reason engineers make a great contribution to society is because they can check whether all requirements are met through tests and fix any problems before they affect people. The engineers’ success lies in their planning and foresee before the accomplishment of their project. As a result, engineers never stop planning for our future. In urban areas, lots of engineers are working hard to keep a healthy balance between technology and the environment. They also study the green roofs to maintain urban environment and make citizens relaxed.

Furthermore, engineers play an important role in making our society more open. Recently, engineers have revolutionized people’s ability to share ideas and connect to each other. Take the Bundestag building as an example, its glass design conveys the “openness” of modern German politics and make the government accessible to the public. With consistent meet with citizens, the government can maintain the civilize society better. None of these can be done without great engineers.

However, the media seldom favors the engineers, which is caused by the lack of ‘spin factor’. Engineers often prefer an inner pride in their works than being publicized in highly personal and aggressive media deters.

To sum up, the society can’t function effectively without engineers’ significant contribution. What’s more, they guide the direction of society and support it, which is an invaluable contribution.

Reference

[1] Tim, B. ,2015, “Can engineers make a beneficial contribution to society?”

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