When it comes to the two computer science professionals who are having a heated discussion on implementation details, whether they are to be exposed or abstracted away. My personal opinion belongs with that of computer science professional A. The one in favor that implementation details should be abstracted away and not exposed.

I have come to this conclusion because it is a well-known fact that abstraction is one of the four pillars of object oriented programming. Abstraction allows for you to hide the implementation details and only expose the result functionality. This is of course beneficial because it adds another level of security to your architecture by hiding the implementation details. In layman terms, if you have a secret recipe for some baked goods, you would not expose the details of your special ingredients and processes, but keep them protected. All your customers would know is that your final product was delicious rather than having details of the ingredients and cooking methods. In this particular case the secret ingredients would be the implementation details that have been abstracted away and no longer visible.

I do not agree with the case of computer scientist B, the professional who wanted to expose the implementation details. This would be an inherit security flaw to expose all the implementation details. If you have proprietary data or personally identifiable information you do not want to expose that to the outside world. That is why it is better to abstract those details away so they cannot be accessed externally.

So how does one abstract away implementation details? Probably one the best and most infamous ways to explain this is through the use of Java Abstract classes and Interfaces.

Java interfaces allow you to fully utilize abstraction, while abstract classes provide and option for either partial of full abstraction. Interfaces provide full abstraction by only allowing abstract methods. Meaning they do not have a method body only a method signature. This ensures that when using interfaces that 100% of your methods implementation details have been abstracted away. Abstract classes can be partial abstraction because although they do allow abstract methods, they also allow for non-abstract methods as well. Effectively abstracting away method bodies on some while exposing them on others. Typically I like to explain interfaces are for implementing verbs while abstract classes are for inheriting nouns. For example, you can have an abstract class animal, and then some classes that inherit animal such as a dog class that can inherit the animal abstract class and a snake class that can also inherit the animal abstract class. Both have animal methods whose implementations have been abstracted into their specific instances of dog and snake. Building from this, not only can dog and snake inherit the animal class abstract methods but at the same time they both can implement an interface, for this scenario we will call our interface eats. The eats interface abstracts the details of the eats method to be designated by one of the classes implementing it. Since both dog and snake eat differently, each ones eats method that it implements will have the same method signature but a different method body. We do not care how or what the snake or dog eats as long as they do in fact eat.

That is the beauty of abstraction, hiding the details but exposing the result.

In conclusion I chose computer scientist A to be the correct side of this debate because it is a better architecture solution to hide your implementation details on all things then to do the opposite and expose them to the world.