

How do practising engineers learn? (p. 33)

1. What is meant by the immediacy problem?
2. Why are regular CPD programs insufficient?
3. Explain the great value that internet can contribute to solving problems!
4. What is the key to faster learning?
5. *Time = money = competitive advantage = success*
How does the industry view this equation according to the text?
6. What possible danger is mentioned in the text as for network learning?
7. What are two common messages for engineers hidden in the text?
8. What does the finding mean for your studying?

Answers to questions

1. learn in a specific place, at a certain time and apply knowledge later, i.e. not simultaneously
2. limitation by place and time for course members; knowledge gets lost between studying/learning and actual employment; learning and then doing; lack of immediacy → traditional methods of learning are slow
3. internet contains a lot of knowledge → easy and immediate access everywhere, any time → learn & do at same time → fast
4. internet (network learning), databases (online search); learning and doing at same time; engineers' participation in professional networks; Losing the distinction between learning and doing
5. "survival of the fittest": faster learning, which means also faster application of new knowledge and that is business advantage, leading to success → money
6. Loss of personal contact: face-to-face contact → loss of mutual trust
- 7a. Challenge customary ways → engineers are think tanks where visions are devised and pursued to change old structures
- 7b. Do not learn in isolated way!
8. learn & do = success: knowledge not equals ability