

EDITORIAL

On criteria

Many years ago, during my studentship, I was walking slowly together with a colleague towards the botanical garden. Suddenly, he shows me a car and tells me that it belongs to Professor X, the greatest specialist in combustion engines in our country and even in Europe. To my naive question, which were the engines designed and put into production by the great specialist, I received a rough answer, namely that the named Professor is a specialist, not a researcher or a technical designer.



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In the latest years I have found out to my surprise that the great engineers have papers written and published in some “quoted” journals, not patents or new products designed and put into production. Currently, the self-declared specialists of our domain hold no patents, no technical design projects, and they glare contempt at laboratory research and even worse at technical design, although on their diploma there is still written “engineer”. Basically, I would not mind this situation too much, but I am deeply disturbed by the fact that these “specialists” are extremely noisy, sometimes even aggressive, managing to impose their assessment criteria which state the supremacy of words on practical achievements. I am curious how A. Saligny or G. Constantinescu would now be appreciated.

Should we still be surprised by the fact that the economy and especially local industry continue to lower their technical level, that Romanian engineers leave the country to work abroad and the only hope relates to the possible penetration of foreign companies regarded as able to reconnect us to the international production circuit? I personally am not surprised by this course of things, I am just concerned. I would like that all the specialists in the field, from time to time, to be placed face-to-face with the specialized research laboratories and industrial level commissioning activities, and only after that they should afford to give advice, set criteria and assess research and researchers. Is it that difficult?