MOVING FORCES OF TECHNOLOGY

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We live in the world of technological devices. In the XX century people discovered, designed and invented as much as never before. And technology doesn't seem to slow down its victorious march. People speak a lot about advantages and disadvantages of technology but what makes it develop so fast?

To my mind there are two main forces that move technology forward. They are curiosity and laziness. These are two main features of peoples' character that will always help us to discover new things and to invent new devices.

Driven by curiosity people have built submarines and space shuttles. They just wanted to see what was beyond the point they could reach. But let's not forget that curiosity killed a cat. There are still a lot of different things in this world we don't even know.

People often behave like children playing with the forces they can't manage. That's the main problem of invention. You do whatever you would like to get what nobody got before and you can never be sure of the result. It is fun and challenging when you're trying to invent a never-ending pen, but it frightens when it comes to Hadron Collider.

Curiosity is a great force – a wonderful power that makes serious scientists do crazy things and leads them to success despite all the problems. It often boarders with insane and brings troubles to society, environment and first of all to inventor himself, but can never be stopped.

People are very active when they are curious in something but they are very lazy by their nature. In common technology is the thing that makes our life easier giving us time to do what we want to do leaving what we must for different tools and devices.

Nobody wants to do the hand wash or go 300 km on foot from one town to another. We prefer to have washing machines and to travel by car or a comfortable train. We type on the computers what check spelling of the words instead of using dictionary.

Technology is developing fast. Different devices change each other improving our life and making it easier. People work without leaving their homes, machines function automatically operated by robots; smart computers solve scientific problems and entertain us. People need lots of high quality goods to be produced to satisfy their endless needs but they start to lose their qualification in crafts.

Another problem is that in the age of highly developed communications we forgot how to communicate. Having all the faxes, cell phones, computers connected to the Internet and other electronic devices, we don't need to go to the post to send a letter and then wait a few months to get an answer. But we don't need to leave a flat to talk to the neighbor either.

And that is where a vicious circle begins. People develop technology to have more time for themselves. But they spend it in the web doing nobody knows what or playing computer games instead of football or hockey. Teenagers often see their friends only in the pictures of the accounts in the social networks. People become addicted to high-tech.

Laziness brings more laziness and we start looking for the way to improve the technology to make our life easier even more.

It all sounds scary and seems like there is no way out of this situation. But it's not true. We can talk hours about pollution, harm and addictions but it is really hard to give up using technological achievements because they are everywhere. We are used to them and can't imagine our life without them. The only thing we must remember is that things were made for us and not vice versa.

Technology is great when you have a right attitude to it. And it's always better to have more curiosity and less laziness in your life.