
17. De Engineer, een gedicht over technische types,

door: Jaap Dekker

Jaap Dekker stuurde het volgende gedicht, opgediept uit de krochten van zijn computer:

THE ENGINEER.

Who is the man that designs our pumps with judgment, skill and care ?

Who is the man that builds 'em and who keeps them in repair ?

Who has to shut them down, because the valve-seats disappear ?

The bearing-swearing, gearing-tearing **MECHANICAL ENGINEER.**

Who buys his juice for half a cent and wants to charge a dime ?

Who when we have signed the contract can't deliver half the time ?

Who thinks a loss of twenty-six percent is nothing queer ?

The volt-inducing, lead-reducing **ELECTRICAL ENGINEER.**

Who is it takes a transit out to find a sewer to tap ?

Who then, with care extreme, locates the junction on the map ?

Who is it goes to dig it out and finds it nowhere near ?

The mud-bespattered, torn and tattered **CIVIL ENGINEER.**

Who thinks without his products we would all be in the lurch ?
Who has a heathen idol with which he designates Research ?
Who stinks the creeks, perfumes the air and makes the landscape drear ?
The stink-evolving, grass-dissolving **CHEMICAL ENGINEER.**

Who is the man who 'll draw a plan for everything you desire ?
From Trans-Atlantic liner to a hairpin made of wire ?
With "ifs" and "ands", "howevers" and "buts" makes his meaning clear ?
The work-disdaining, fee-retaining **CONSULTING ENGINEER.**

Who builds a road for fifty years that disappears in two ?
Then changes his identity, so no one 's left to sue ?
Who covers all the travelled roads with filthy oily smear ?
The pump-providing, rough-on-riding **HIGHWAY ENGINEER.**

Who takes the pleasures out of life and makes existence hell ?
Who 'll fire a real good-looking one because she cannot spell ?
Who substitutes a dictaphone for coral-tinted ear ?
The penny-chasing, dollar-wasting **EFFICIENCY ENGINEER.**