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The Essential Engineer: Why Science Alone Will Not Solve Our Global Problems

By Aleksandar S Vesic Professor of Civil Engineering and Professor of History Henry Petroski

Random House USA Inc, United States, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 202 x 130 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. From the acclaimed author of *The Pencil and To Engineer Is Human*, *The Essential Engineer* is an eye-opening exploration of the ways in which science and engineering must work together to address our world's most pressing issues, from dealing with climate change and the prevention of natural disasters to the development of efficient automobiles and the search for renewable energy sources. While the scientist may identify problems, it falls to the engineer to solve them. It is the inherent practicality of engineering, which takes into account structural, economic, environmental, and other factors that science often does not consider, that makes engineering vital to answering our most urgent concerns. Henry Petroski takes us inside the research, development, and debates surrounding the most critical challenges of our time, exploring the feasibility of biofuels, the progress of battery-operated cars, and the question of nuclear power. He gives us an in-depth investigation of the various options for renewable energy--among them solar, wind, tidal, and ethanol--explaining the benefits and risks of each. Will windmills soon populate our landscape the way they did...



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