Technology That Changes The Trend

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Everyone would admit that things now are very different than they were fifty years ago although it seems our surroundings today are no different than yesterday. It was an age without television fifty years ago but today we can send a picture we took with a cellular phone. The Internet has spread all over the world in the short period of ten years. The ADSL communication, which started five years ago, has spread instantly as well. These have all been achieved through the development of technology.

How has technology brought about such drastic changes? One way is the advancement of basic research, and another is the result of applied technology. As for the former, an environment that enables a long-term basic research is required, however for the latter, a small-scale enterprise or organization can also compete. There are many cases where small companies have actually produced excellent results. It is said that the Internet was born from information technologies of university students and the personal computer was created by a small number of engineers gathered in a garage. Did they have any special talent?

It is, I suppose, their dream and insatiable spirit of exploring. The continuation of the exploring occasionally becomes a prime mover of digging deeper into technology, and finding technology that overcomes the wall of the past. Moreover, the exploring creates unification and cooperation with the technology of various different fields resulting in a discovery or an invention that goes beyond the past technology.

Will technology change greatly in the future? Yes, it will keep changing greatly in the future at an even greater speed than during the past fifty years. How should we tackle such a trend of technology?

Getting appreciation of the result of our technology from the customer justifies the existence of our company. Needs of the customer are always changing for the better. It is important to always remember that the time one technology can constantly receive appreciation is very short. Since technology with a good result bears a big profit, I've seen some cases where people who obtained a good result were slow to take the next step on new technology, rapidly weakening their competitiveness.

The needs for technology are always changing. It cannot be said that the common sense of current technology is always correct. Thus, the needs keep changing and there is a chance for any company to obtain great gains if they work on developments always thinking carefully about the future.

I believe that just improving or studying the technology which we have been developing is not sufficient to find new technology. The most important point, I believe, is to try to release my ideas of the past on occasion, as well as to reconsider the starting point; what was the original purpose? Or what is the dream? And so on.

Technology will continue to change in the future. It is you, young engineers, who can work to keep up with and take advantage of such advancements. I think that the slogan "Technology That Changes The Trend" can be realized if young engineers will embrace the technology learned from senior engineers and look beyond it, to discover new technology.