

Tau Bates Name Top 10 Engineers & Engineering Achievements of The Twentieth Century

iN AN ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY as many outstanding Tau Beta Pi and other engineers as possible — both for the reader's own knowledge and to enable all of us to inform the general public, one person at a time — the 89,000 readers of THE BENT were asked to select the Top 10 Engineers and the Top 10 Engineering Achievements of the 20th Century by December 15, 1999. The top choices of the readers are listed below. All nominees were chosen by readers of THE BENT .

The top five achievements as of October 29, 1999, were submitted to the National Academy of Engineering in Washington, DC, which plans to announce the greatest achievements of the century, according to Tau Beta Pi and the technical societies, during National Engineers Week 2000.

Top Engineers of the Twentieth Century

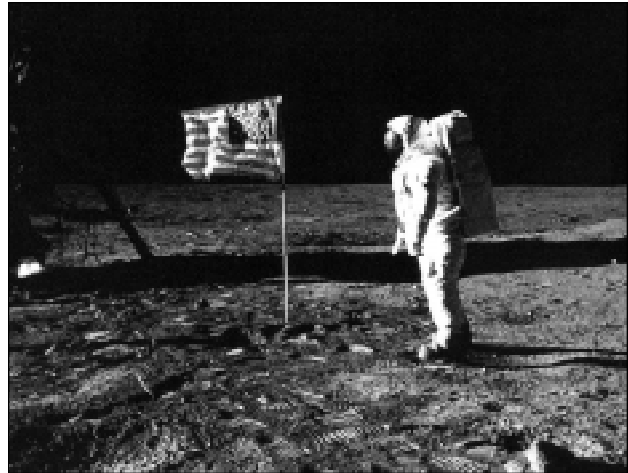
1. Thomas A. Edison
2. Orville & Wilbur Wright
3. Henry Ford
4. Wernher von Braun, MI Γ '32
5. William B. Shockley, CA B '32
6. Charles P. Steinmetz, IL A '02
7. Lee deForest, CT A 1896
8. George W. Goethals, MI Γ 1880
9. Herbert C. Hoover
10. Hyman G. Rickover

Top Engineering Achievements

1. Apollo program; moon landing (1960s)
2. Airplane (1903)
3. Digital computer (1941)
4. Transistor (1947)
5. Television (1939)
6. Manhattan project; nuclear weapon (1945)
7. Panama Canal (1914)
8. Integrated circuit (1959)
9. Jet engine, plane (1941)
10. Communication satellites (1962)



Jack S. Kilby's, Illinois Alpha '47, integrated circuit, 1959.



Armstrong's photo of Buzz Aldrin, Massachusetts Beta '62, on July 20, 1969, during the Apollo XI mission.