

AGORA 81

21 JOBS FOR THE FUTURE

‘When machines do everything, lots of people wonder what will we do? What work will be left for people? How will we make a living when machines are cheaper, faster and smarter than we are - machines that don’t take breaks or vacations, don’t get sick and don’t care about chatting with their colleagues about last night’s game? For many people, the future of work looks like a bleak place, full of temporary jobs (a ‘gig’ economy), minimum wage labour and a ruling technocracy safely hidden away in their gated communities and their circular living machines.’

The authors of the guide ‘Jobs of the future’ think these concerns are understandable but they don’t share this vision.

They think it is in the nature of things: lots of jobs which existed in the past no longer exist and are not regretted. A number of jobs are dull, dirty or dangerous; it will then be a progress for the workers who deal with these jobs today to skip to more enjoyable and lucrative work.

According to the authors, machines will never surpass people, as they cannot create themselves. Even in an age of intelligent machines, man will continue to want to explore and this will be the source of new work ad infinitum.

They consider that technology, which is still peripheral to many aspects of our daily work and our lives, is set to become central to the way we do everything and, will thus improve considerably the services and experiences we want. Intelligent machines will address many problems in society, but as a result and unavoidably, they will also create new problems and people will, logically, have to address them.

In conclusion, people will have to address wrenching transformations, but it was already the case in the past. And if a number of jobs are to disappear in the future, a number of new jobs will be created.

The authors have identified 21 jobs which will be needed for the next 10 years:

- Master of Edge computing
- Data Detective
- Bring Your Own IT Facilitator
- AI Business Development Manager
- Ethical Sourcing Manager
- Fitness Commitment Counsellor
- Digital Tailor
- Walker/Talker
- Quantum Machine Learning Analyst
- AI-Assisted Healthcare Technician
- Cyber City Analyst
- Chief Trust Officer
- Financial Wellness Coach
- Genomic Portfolio Director
- Man-Machine Teaming Manager
- Virtual Store Sherpa
- Personal Memory Curator

Augmented Reality Journey Builder
Genetic Diversity Officer
Personal Data Broker
Highway Controller
Personal Memory Curator

*Cognizant 'Jobs of the future' - A guide to getting - and staying - employed over the next 10 years
(Center for the future of work, USA, Nov 2017)

<https://www.cognizant.com/whitepapers/21-jobs-of-the-future-a-guide-to-getting-and-staying-employed-over-the-next-10-years-codex3049.pdf>

Suzette Saint-Marc
Syndicat des agents du Conseil de l'Europe