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Expedia

95% Engineers in India Unfit For Software Development Jobs: Report

(gadgelsnow.com)

Posted by msmash on Thursday April 20, 2017 @08:30AM from the meanwhile,-in-India dept.

An anonymous reader shares a report: Talent shortage is acute in the IT and data science ecosystem in India with a survey claiming that 95 percent of engineers in the country are not fit to take up software development jobs. According to a study by employability assessment company Aspiring Minds, only 4.77 percent candidates can write the correct logic for a programme -- a minimum requirement for any programming job. Over 36,000 engineering students form IT related branches of over 500 colleges took Automata -- a Machine Learning based assessment of software development skills -- and over 2/3 could not even write code that compiles.

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0

I have a dream (Score:1)

by Anonymous Coward

...that we can discuss the abysmal skills of your average Indian IT worker, without being branded a racist, or using excessive PC language.

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Re: (Score:1)

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My experience... (Score:4, Interesting)

by Anonymous Coward on Thursday April 20, 2017 @08:38AM (#54268777)

Completely validates that report. When my last employer decided to fire the American citizens (forcing them to train their "offshore" replacements in order to receive any severance) that built the products and systems that made the company a success, those of us that remained discovered that we had to rewrite everything they produced (with a much smaller staff, of course). The greed of executive management results in far worse products for the customer - but they got their bonuses, so they do not care.

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Re: (Score:1, Insightful)

by Anonymous Coward

In my opinion the real greed happens when engineers agree to train their own replacements in order to receive a brown handshake. It's like the jews who helped kill other jews during WW2. It's absolutely disgusting to think anyone would agree to an arrangement like that.

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Re: My experience... (Score:4, Interesting)

by pchasco (651819) on Thursday April 20, 2017 @08:58AM (#54268887)

Similar to my experience as well. We hired offshore teams to help migrate away from some mainframe systems. Of course, the few guys they sent over to work on site were incredible: Professional, knowledgeable, and excellent communicators. On the other hand, the work churned out by the offshore team was abysmal. Inefficient, convoluted, and just plain dumb in many cases. For example: I was working for an insurance company. The company was developing the software to sell a new type of product. We had a database already with all the tables necessary to support the existing product. The offshore team, in some cases literally just added columns to existing tables for this new, unrelated product. I'm not talking just a few new columns. Entire tables' worth of columns. There were no shared keys or anything between the two data. It was like building a table for payroll, then adding more columns so that you could also store warehouse inventory.

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Re: (Score:2)

by AmiMoJo (196126)

Doesn't sound like it's anything specific to India though, the same stuff happens in the west all the time. It's the standard case of they send the best people to meet you and write a spec, but the people implementing it have little knowledge of your systems or business and you want to pay the peanuts so they aren't interesting in doing more than the bare minimum.

I've had products like that from western developers. Had some firmware written by a contractor where a CLI was specified. If you entered more than

I wonder... (Score:5, Interesting)

by Anonymous Coward on Thursday April 20, 2017 @08:40AM (#54268783)

What the numbers would look like in the US.

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Re: (Score:2)

by AmiMoJo (196126)

It sounds like the test was designed to produce this result, so probably the same. TFA claims that 60% of candidates couldn't even write code that compiled... Well, that seems exceedingly unlikely, doesn't it? I mean, maybe it doesn't do what it is supposed to do, or maybe it is crap quality or whatever, but 60% couldn't even get it to compile?

Maybe they got them to write the code out on paper and didn't allow them to test it against the compiler and make corrections. A single typo and it fails to build kin

Re: (Score:2)

by vtcodger (957785)

My guess would be that at least 15% of US engineers would be fit to produce software by the Indian criterea. The other 85% can do website development or, if unfit for even that, can get an MBA and become managers.

It'll get better, maybe someday (Score:4)

by conquistadorst (2759585) on Thursday April 20, 2017 @08:42AM (#54268799)

Pretty sure my parent company still outsources to all of them. I hate making large broad statements, but I've never yet met one I was impressed by. Seems to whole business model for outsourcing revolves around everything being so cheap you can rebuild it 5x and still come out ahead on direct project costs. As for impacting the business with garbage software, that doesn't cost anything, right?

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Re: (Score:2)

by jittles (1613415)

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I think when these companies initially court you, they typically have some very talented people help make the sell. These people can talk the talk and walk the walk. Once there is ink on paper, even before the signature dries, they're off to the next sale.

Not that bad. (Score:3)

by Gravis Zero (934156) on Thursday April 20, 2017 @08:47AM (#54268831)

I heard that 3/4 of the people working on Windows 10 couldn't write code that compiles, so I understand why they are hiring from India. ;)

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I don't think it's just India... (Score:5, Insightful)

by adosch (1397357) on Thursday April 20, 2017 @08:50AM (#54268845)

I would say in a whole, true software engineering has been completely watered down and very disappointing over the last 10-15 years. From all the way down in school systems with STEM and all they way up with these 3-4 day crash-course 'bootcamps' and seem to manufacture quick hot-on-resume-paper skills without experience is really the problem. And even on top of that, how many people just 'google' their way into a job or solution? No one thinks anymore, we are in an age of just-give-me-the-stuff mentality. Don't care how or why, just blindly take the answer and move on. You don't grow as a competent and efficient engineer that way.

Coupled with the fact that any business, company or dev shop wants talent in our psychotic digital age, this reminds me nothing more than a massive amount of people doing nothing more than to try to get their foot into a hot job market and doing nothing more than trying to flip a huge salary for 6-12 months. And that's why I say it has very little to do with India.

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Re: (Score:2)

by drinkypoo (153816)

It is well past time for "engineer" to be made to mean something in programming. Engineers code to standards and use best practices. Programmers bash keyboards until code appears that more or less works. I am in the latter group to the extent that I am even qualified to call myself either of these things, and have only respect for people who do things the "right" way. (Sometimes bashing will produce the desired result, I'm not here to bash bashing.)

We need programmers in certain disciplines to be held to ce

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This is truly suprising! (Score:3)

by Ihlosj (895663) on Thursday April 20, 2017 @08:51AM (#54268857)

I am shocked! I cannot describe how shocked I am.

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