

Frederick W. Taylor Encyclopedia Article

Frederick W. Taylor

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Frederick W. Taylor

1856-1915

American engineer who pioneered scientific management as a feature of mass production. Taylor's experiences at Midvale Steel Company, from shop laborer to chief engineer, exposed him to inefficiencies in the way work was done. Using time studies and job analysis, he strove to eliminate wasted efforts and time by shop workers. Many workers and managers resisted his methods, but the methods were instrumental in rationalizing industrialism in the age of mass production.