

Title: Electricity Fueling our Rush into an Unknown Future

Thesis: The power of electricity can be used for delivering a promise of a better future, or it can be the object of a reckless rush towards our earth's ruin.

In a rapidly changing society, electricity is fueling an exponential growth and advancement in modern conveniences, industrial growth and communication. It is in fact the power that fuels the age that we live in. Society and the way we function are tied together by power lines and the electrical current that flows through them.

This connects the world in ways that never seen before and at a rate that is staggering. Consider the following:

- There are 31 billion searches on Google every month.
- In 2006 this number was 2.7 billion.
- Today the number of text messages sent and received every day exceeds the total population of the planet.
- Years it took to reach a market audience of 50 million people.
 - Radio - 38 years
 - TV - 13 years
 - Internet – 4 years
 - iPod – 3 years
 - Facebook – 2 years.
- The amount of technical information is doubling every 2 years.
- NTT Japan has successfully tested a fiber optic cable that pushes 14 trillion bits per second down a single strand of fiber.
(Progression of information technology, researched by Karl Fisch, Scott McLeod, and Jeff Brenmans).

As we hurl towards an unknown future fraught with the perils of terrorism, poverty, collapsing industries, global warming and world markets in crisis it is clear that the dangers of our advances hold both a blessing and a curse. The vital task we must face is to direct electricity and the technology that it powers towards a positive outcome for our future.

The enormous amount of progression occurring in today's technological era is possible only because of the power that fuels it. Namely, electricity; it holds an insane amount of power over this world. There can be little doubt that the very hope for our future depends on its wise and responsible use.

I have been told that as a junior in high school that half of the technical information that I learn will become passé' by the time I start college. I look forward to a future that holds the promise of addressing these challenges. This must be done with the inherent commitment to becoming wise stewards of our vital resources powered by our shared hope for the future. We must use electricity wisely to fuel our common goals of a better future for all of our world's inhabitants.

Thank you for considering me for this amazing opportunity.