Frederick Simms Encyclopedia Article

Frederick Simms

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Frederick Simms

1863-1644

English engineer who is considered the father of the British motor industry. Impressed with Daimler's pioneering internal combustion engine, Simms purchased the British rights, intending to manufacture automobiles. He was initially unsuccessful and sold his rights. Later, Simms helped develop the tank and other vehicles important to modern, mechanized warfare. Simms is also generally recognized as inventing the words "motor car" and "petrol." Simms founded the Manufacturing Company to produce engines and Simms Motor Units, which produced ancillary equipment for cars.