John T. Parsons Encyclopedia Article

John T. Parsons

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John T. Parsons

1913-

American engineer who developed automated controls for machine tools, helping to turn many milling and shaping processes into precision, computer-guided tasks. Prior to Parsons's inventions, most of the processes on assembly lines still took place by hand at metal lathes and milling machines, resulting in a lack of precision and consistency. Parsons was able to transform factories into more automated areas that turned out an endless stream of precision-machined components, enhancing the overall quality of most manufactured goods.