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Work research – „Good Work“ – „good“ Technology

Information technologies penetrate more and more work sectors and work sites. While designable artefacts increase dramatically, the societal debate on design and designability of technology has been deteriorating – even the German Work Research, formerly engaged in the programme of “Humanisierung der Arbeit”, abandoned the technical perspective. In the face of the emerged desiderata of research and the real changes of work environments, a new approach of human-centered and technology-oriented work research is needed. This will require to cope with changed conditions in terms of research strategy and work politics, and to develop a completely enhanced type of human-centered approach. Work research of significance in the future has to take technology seriously again and has to accept the new role of technology itself and the user as well. Without good technology there is no “Good Work”.