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1. 1018®

1018® (Dieci Diciotto) is born of an idea, an intuition. It is a thought that blooms initially in the medical-health field but grows and develops to cover the whole field of knowledge of humanity.

1018® aims at creating a bridge between two fields of knowledge, otherwise unconnected, in order to create a third field that encompasses and envelops the two preceding ones. A 10 and an 18 coming together to form a 1018 within a common orderly shape, as the logo attempts to represent.

Starting from the specialised and targeted critical-scientific analysis of the topics under consideration, we then move on to a general understanding of them as mechanisms of a well-defined ecosystem. The synthesis of these two evaluations and the observing of common elements will be the technical-scientific basis for the creation of a functional research protocol.

The above-mentioned transition is the philosophical and operational basis of the work carried out by 1018®. It is not enough to create an operational protocol to make it functional, but it is necessary to analyse its functionality, namely if in this time and this space the bridge I want to create is useful and constructive.

1018® does not preclude any type of field of knowledge explored by humanity so far. Ideas and novelties are critically welcomed, studying their structures in order to evaluate their truthfulness. Experimenting becomes the fundamental act to understand the functionality of the operational protocol that it wants to apply.

The "Bridge Builder" (BB) is the figure that works in synergy together with the thinking and operational rules of 1018®. The Bridge Builder represents 1018® in the workplace following its list of duties, aware of its responsibilities.

Below we will analyse how the figure of the BB actively operates for the creation of new bridges in the field of scientific research.

2. The Bridge Builder

2.1 Description and list of professional tasks

With the term Bridge Builder (BB) we indicate the professional figure responsible for the design and the structuring of a scientific research. The BB begins with the analysis of previous publications related to the topic of interest and ends with the drafting of the final implementation protocol of the research, passing through the creation of a correct and coherent analytical order.

It is important to emphasise that the task of the Bridge Builder is exclusively that of planning and organising scientific research conceived and supported by third parties, providing on request a finished product ready to be used.

The job of the BB begins when he is asked to plan a scientific research on a specific topic and ends when he provides the finished research protocol to the requester. It is not his responsibility either to implement the research or to have the initial intuition on which it is based. When necessary, especially in case of extended timelines, a consultation with the Bridge Builder may be useful if not essential.

A practical example: Dr. Rossi contacts the BB because, in the context of his clinical experience, he realises that a certain therapeutic treatment could have effects on certain symptoms. At this point, after gathering the necessary information, a research project is implemented in which the two spheres of analysis highlighted by Dr. Rossi are related, creating an order of investigation following the canons of scientific research. Once the complete project is laid out, including the collected information with the necessary bibliography, the Bridge Builder delivers the finished protocol to Dr. Rossi, completing his work task.

Specifically, the list of tasks pertaining to the Bridge Builder includes:

- Researching the necessary information to have a clear and precise idea of the topics to be related;
- Researching in the medical literature topics of interest, focusing on their nature and characteristics, with an initial identification of any commonalities;
- Researching on the main biomedical scientific literature websites any past research on topics of interest, individually or in relation to each other;
- Identifying an analytical method for collecting and analysing the variability of the data of interest;
- Identifying a suitable and consistent sample population for conducting the research;
- Creating an empirically feasible operational protocol that links the topics covered, according to the guidelines of the scientific community;
- Writing the complete research project in its entirety following the indications and preferences of the requester;
- Delivering the finished research project within the established deadlines;
- Providing if requested consultation to the research coordinator.

It is important to bear in mind that an integrative and interactive collaboration between the professionals involved in the research is fundamental in creating of a project which is as aligned as possible with the ideas and possibilities of those requesting its drafting.

2.2 Professional responsibilities

The Bridge Builder is bound by professional secrecy, non-disclosure of the data under analysis and of intellectual property which he may become aware of. The Bridge Builder is required to disclose how the research was conducted and the results obtained, namely matters pertaining to his profession. Further agreements on confidentiality or disclosure can be defined based on the needs of the professional figures involved.

As outlined in the previous paragraph, the Bridge Builder professionally takes care of each point listed in the tasks list. His main responsibility is to organise an empirically applicable, consistent, and aligned research project according to the requester's indications. The Bridge Builder completes his work when he has developed a protocol that is satisfactory to the requester.

It is important to remember that neither the actual implementation of the planned research nor the intuition of the idea that leads to creating a bridge between two spheres under analysis falls within his competence.

Anything the Bridge Builder provides in addition to what has been mentioned above is part of his own choice and/or implementation in the work cycle.

2.3 Role in scientific research

The idea of the Bridge Builder is born within the realm of scientific research.

It follows a work logic in which information gathering and protocolization of a rigorous analysis order are necessary but require huge amounts of time. Since the profession as researcher is typically secondary to a primary occupation or subject to a certain degree of bureaucratic-contractual precariousness, this is not always straightforward.

In the light of the aforementioned challenges, the BB enters the work cycle when a client, belonging to the scientific field, requests information and planning of a research project which he has conceived, and exits the work cycle when he delivers to the requester a complete schedule with all the characteristics detailed in the preceding paragraphs.

The Bridge Builder aims at increasing the productive potential of a research centre, with the aim of boosting the number of projects brought to conclusion. The enormous technological development of recent times has opened many channels of information and communication that allow the instantaneous sharing of ideas and thoughts, ensuring excellent teamwork even if physically distant. However, this same technological development has led to an increased demand that scientific research has not always been able to support adequately, as it is not simple to evolve so rapidly.

3. The birth of the Bridge Builder

3.1 Professional needs

The Bridge Builder aims at filling the gap for a specialised professional figure who can gather preliminary information and create an implementation protocol that forms the foundation of scientific research (without necessarily having had the initial intuition). Usually, those who perform these activities do so intermittently and are subordinated to a primary profession that occupies most of their working day. As things stand, it is no longer possible to sustain an increased demand for knowledge while keeping the current work organisation and personnel unchanged.

3.2 Socio-personal needs

Due to the increasing number of requests, people working in research are subject to continuous pressure to complete a certain task in the shortest time possible. The environment, superiors, colleagues, and ultimately oneself all contribute to this pressure. Bearing in mind that, usually, those who work as the creators and organisers of a research project do so secondary to a primary occupation that occupies most of their day, it leads to the sacrifice of leisure time otherwise spent on other activities. Translated into daily life, a person is forced to forgo spending time with loved ones or simply being in touch with themselves in order to channel their energy into scientific research. The Bridge Builder offers itself as a profession that helps to alleviate the psychological and emotional burden naturally linked to researchers.

3.3 Macrosocial needs

As previously mentioned, the significant technological progress and advancement of common intellect has led to a greater number of questions looking for an answer, fueling a thirst for knowledge in society as a whole, not only in the scientific world. The Bridge Builder puts his professional skills at the service of society, seeking to plan and implement every scientific research project aimed at enhancing collective well-being.

3.4 Personal reprocessing

Analysing the needs of the contemporary world and drawing from my personal experiences, I have realised how the Bridge Builder can be an effective response to many demands of modern society. Its main role concerns the optimization of research processes while maintaining the main focus on increasing the well-being of the community, thereby enabling individuals to regain the necessary amount of free time to invest on themselves.

4. The evolution of the Bridge Builder

4.1 Beyond scientific research

Taking a holistic view of the Bridge Builder figure, it can be inferred that this is a profession applicable to every field of work where there is a need to "research," from the Latin "ri-circum," etymologically understood as "to delimit with a circle, circumscribe a space, a scope within which to channel effort, to channel it in such a way as to avoid dispersion and to achieve the predetermined result more effectively," indicating intensity and perseverance thanks to the reinforcing prefix "ri." In other words, the BB, moving beyond scientific research, can operate in any context where the study of previous knowledge and the drafting of an implementation protocol are required, remaining consistent with predefined guidelines, in order to confirm a certain intuition to achieve an evolution of processes.

4.2 Possible fields of application

One of the main peculiarities of the Bridge Builder is that it can be integrated into any work context, from scientific research to any existing professional sphere. All that is needed is an idea, which the BB will then process to make feasible.

The Bridge Builder bases his professionalism on the scientific method, which is by definition applicable and repeatable.

5. Bridge Builder's costs

5.1 Fixed costs

The only fixed cost of the Bridge Builder is the payment for consultancy or the hiring the professional.

5.2 Variable costs

The only variable cost of the Bridge Builder is that of providing technological devices strictly for work purposes, such as PCs, tablets, or mobile phones for potential access to data, otherwise encrypted.

6. Philosophical speculation on the Bridge Builder

The Bridge Builder aims at optimising the current operational research processes, which are at present pragmatic and cumbersome, slowing down the natural human desire for discovery and knowledge. It appears that the collective consciousness has reached an evolutionary stage where the thirst for knowledge outpaces the ability to materialise it.

The Bridge Builder does not limit his vision to his profession but aspires to expand humanity's global knowledge. The BB aims at being a new cog in this extremely dynamic puzzle that is contemporary society, where almost every aspect of our lives, including the professional realm, is being questioned.

From this philosophical speculation, comes the seed that fertilised by the new waters that agitate our era, has led me to realise the need for the Bridge Builder professional figure. The future will not be focused on optimising material production, rather the worker's happiness time will be also taken into account: based on this conviction, the BB carries out his profession making the lives of those who study to save many others more balanced.

The ultimate goal of this figure is to try to answer as many questions as possible: for this reason, it makes little sense to limit the scope of the Bridge Builder to pure scientific research. Every path that humans tread has the same right to be studied.

7. 1018[®] and the future

The underlying philosophy of 1018[®] suggests a vision of the future that is already in existence, as the best future is the one built today. Without imposed limits, 1018[®] sees tomorrow as an expansion of collective knowledge and an enhancement of the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being of humanity.