



**Published Date:** 20 Oct 2013

## **Emtage interacts with IITGn students**

[dna correspondent @dnaahmedabad](#)

Ahmedabad: Alan Emtage, who invented world's first internet search engine Archie, strongly opined against patenting of fundamental concepts.

He made this observation while interacting with students at Amalthea-2013 at Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IITGN) on Saturday. "I think patenting of basic ideas is problematic because future innovation is built on these basic ideas," said Emtage.

Explaining why he himself did not patent his Archie, Emtage said, "Patenting of algorithms and software had not started in US then. But the main reason why we didn't go for patenting was that we did not want to suppress the innovation that would follow otherwise."

Emtage also said that there is a disadvantage in today's 'customized search results' in which the search engines give the results of searches according to the user's search history. He said, "It narrow the focus of the users and limits them from exposure to new ideas." Amalthea, a two-day annual technological summit, is one of the biggest events of IITGN. It is held every year under different themes since 2010. This year's theme is 'Incubation for Innovation'.

Copyright restricted. For reprint rights [click here](#)