



## Ciencia

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Now that we are among neighbors, I confess that every day that passes I miss some scientific culture more. The last one has been the history of the 'aracnocóptero'. A helicopter, of the model aircraft, with extenders that make it look like a flying spider. In 2008, when the first clouds of this economic cyclone in which we are involved, a researcher at the University of Salamanca, in his thirties and with a few bills to pay, saw a need not covered in the renewable energy business. He drew numbers and was surprised by the money that the companies that managed the wind farms had to pay each time an inspection of the wind turbine blades was carried out. Crane, crane operators, work at height, safety plans,... And if we get - he had to say Carlos, the thirties- that can be done without having to climb anyone, from the ground? And he put the brain to work.

He made a list of jobs that are done in an inspection. Another list of technological devices that can perform them. Then he designed a gadget that incorporates that technology and makes human work at height unnecessary.

### We must make Algeciras Bay the most sustainable port-logistics-industrial region in Europe

And the most complicated thing: let them hear your idea. Carlos, four years later, has just returned from Germany, the world's most important trade forum in the renewable energy sector, and his invention has been a success. A small and simple helicopter that carries on board video, audio, articulated arms, data transmission systems; all managed by a single person, from the ground and using a tablet. In less than a year, the aracnocóptero will work in the Campo de Gibraltar. And Carlos, of course, will spend less trouble at the end of the month. That, dear neighbors, has its art.

Science is a great hope in our time. Science understood as a tool to solve problems. Global warming, of course, but also to better manage our lives. In the Campo de Gibraltar we have several scientific challenges.

The main one, in my opinion, is to make the bay of Algeciras, the region, the Strait be the most sustainable port-logistic-industrial region in Europe. With, for example, an algae biofuel refinery, a shipbuilding research center, an ecological naval engine factory, a shipyard specialized in solar powered ships, the best port management training center and logistics centers. Not to mention the potential that the area as a center of scientific attraction in oceanography, ornithology, botany, aquaculture, archeology or marine biology.

The success of Carlos has been possible thanks to the support of a university center, which collaborated in the formation of a company that now employs about twenty people. For something similar to be possible in our region it is essential that we fight for a quality Technology Campus. Our economic future must continue through specialization in (this is my proposal) an economy linked to goods and services that fit with sustainable development. You will see how then Gibraltar plans to be Spanish again.

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