Abstract
The growth in industrial employment as a result of a rise in foreign investment has caused an increase in the engineer occupational markets in towns in northern Mexico. In the instances this article refers to this growth is much more important in Tijuana than in Hermosillo. In this age of increasing appreciation of knowledge, know-how, and local and regional development competences, we must ask about the nature of such knowledge, the way it is transmitted, and actors and institutions participating in the production and reproduction of useful knowledge. The article studies the Tijuana maquiladora plants and Ford Company in Hermosillo cases with the aim of reflecting on the way this knowledge establishes (or not) links between companies and the country where they are working.

Keywords
foreign investment, industrial employment, development, technological change, human resources, knowledge creation.