

Course Outline

DEN 308 Professional Responsibility

This course will focus on professional standards and legal requirements that relate to engineering managers. We will perform activities that combine knowledge of these requirements with management actions involving direct reports and colleagues. As a group, we will share ideas and best practices on communicating and enforcing codes and standards as they apply to engineering projects. Throughout the course, there will be an emphasis on recognizing that familiar domestic rules and concepts may not apply in an international environment.

Course Description

This course is directed at engineering managers who have a responsibility to ensure adherence to professional standards and regulatory requirements. The purpose of the course is to provide knowledge of these requirements that can be combined with management skills in a way that effectively conveys the standards to their direct reports and colleagues. It covers interpreting codes and standards as they apply to their projects and enforcing compliance. They need to utilize laws that are to their benefit in protecting intellectual property. They also need to be familiar with international standards within an increasingly global engineering project environment. Knowledge areas include:

1. Regulatory requirements, codes, and standards,
2. Business contract, patent, copyright, and trademark laws (intellectual property),
3. U.S. and international codes, standards, and regulations,
4. Professional codes of ethics; professional liability, and
5. Company-specific policies and procedures.

The time available does not allow for an in-depth presentation of all aspects of these topics. Resources are provided at the end of these Participant Workshop Notes for further exploration.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Maintain professional and ethical standards.
- Oversee adherence to regulatory requirements.
- Develop and improve safety requirements and procedures.
- Monitor safety and address violations of safety practices.
- Maintain intellectual property (e.g., patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets).
- Review projects and documents such as contracts to ensure that they meet legal and organizational criteria.
- Ensure that employees are aware of and follow organizational policies and procedures.
- Adapt to international regulations and customs.

- Determine international business practices in new countries for business entry.
- Identify constituencies affected by a decision or action (employer, employee, customer, supplier, public, etc.) and determine the impact on that group.