

THE BALL IS IN YOUR COURT

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Project management is an important engineering process. Typically, technical professionals are assigned to participate in and often lead project teams. The synergy of working with others brings more successful results and enhances personal growth.

Managing personal careers is the most important project for all technical professionals. It is our responsibility to plan our career by establishing a vision, developing a strategy, and using proven steps to implement our career plan.

Career management starts as soon as we enter the educational process. Career choices are experienced early, and we need to continually review our goals and career desires to find the areas of interest and highest potential success. Choices should be made to enhance and achieve our visions. In addition, our visions and strategy should be dynamic to reflect future opportunities.

A successful career management plan includes:

- ◆ Establishing personal and professional visions
- ◆ Developing a strategy to achieve visions
 1. Preparing short and long-term goals
 2. Identifying skill needs
 3. Managing time
- ◆ Designing an action plan
- ◆ Implementing the action plan
- ◆ Documenting and evaluating results
- ◆ Building effective resumes based on successful projects and activities
- ◆ Revising career plan to take advantage of new opportunities
- ◆ Building a strong foundation of technical expertise through life-long learning
- ◆ Developing a balance between technical and non-technical skills
- ◆ Learning to work successfully with people, both technical and non-technical
- ◆ Taking reasonable risks and learning to build success from failure
- ◆ Developing personal and professional networks with a wide range of peers
- ◆ Starting early and continuing to be actively involved in professional societies

Although the definition of success is based on personal values, most would agree that we should strive to achieve the highest level of growth and professional contribution possible. Career management is the key to achieving success and it can only be accomplished when we personally take control of the process.

“The Ball Is In Your Court” is designed by an engineer for engineers and will address the important bullet points listed above and more. This workshop provides a proven plan for career management and the opportunity for the audience to ask questions and participate in career planning exercises in an informal environment.

It has been said that if you do not know where you are going, any road will take you there. Unfortunately, those who do not plan and control of their career often find the results are much less than what they would like or could achieve. The time to start managing your career is now.