

Contemporary Issues:
Engineering Implications,
Day 2

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Introduction

- What did you learn in our last class?
- My major point:
 - It is not what you learn in school that counts;
 - It is what you keep on learning as your career develops that will make the difference between a mediocre career and an outstanding one.

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Today's Agenda

- Places & Sources
 - Report what you've found.
- Search & report exercise

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Report Your Findings

- Five students report:
 - What issue did you find?
 - What were your sources?
 - What are the implications for engineering?
- Other students:
 - Are there other implications?
 - How long before changes might come?
 - **Where can we go to find more information about these issues?**

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Information Sources

- We've listed several sources.
- Are they all equally good or reliable?
- Web sites (which ones are good?)
- Technical/Scholarly Journals
- News headlines (good and bad)
- Popular press "Computer/Technology" magazines (also good and bad)

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Information Sources

- Some of the best are provided by the professional engineering societies.
 - Journals
 - Web sites
 - Regular E-mail updates
- Handout of good engineering sources.

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Information → Implications

- Once you have the information, what are the implications?
- Activity: From the issues & implications we've listed, try to figure out what the likely implications will be in the next 3-5 years?
- Think – Pair – Share [*or Brainstorm*]

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Information → Implications

- It is always difficult to predict the future, **BUT**,
- In order to be prepared for what **actually** comes,
- We must consider what **might** come,
- Even if most of the possibilities we consider **never** come to pass.
- The Boy Scout Motto: **Be Prepared!**
- A wise company will devote time and resources to planning for the future!

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Assignment

- For the next class meeting, in groups of 3-5 students:
 - Research a contemporary issue in your preferred area of engineering.
 - Find the latest developments you can.
 - Find the latest expert speculation on the possible implications in the near future.
- Bring to class a 2 page (~600 word) report. Be ready for a 3-5 minute presentation of the major points.

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