

21 Principles for Consideration by Surveyors and Other Geospatial Professionals

(drawing on "The ABC of x,y,z")

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Objective:

- Identify guiding principles that are relevant to individual circumstances
- Consider ways of continuing development

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Method:

- No instruction
- All the wisdom will be found in the group
- Small group resolution (?)
- Journal

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21 Principles for Consideration...

Scope today:

- overview – principles??
- group chooses focus
- if "B" – break into smaller groups
- record findings
- consider "what next?"

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- The Hypothesis:
 - Each professional, regardless of position or employment, has a client to satisfy and wider obligations and responsibilities
 - Technical standards can be codified
 - Professional standards resist codification
 - Principles defined in abstract terms can have many meanings

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The Questions:

- What are the principles of professional practice in the "spatial" professions?
- How do principles get passed on?
- How are standards defined?
- How do we know we are meeting standards?
- How can professional dilemmas be resolved?
- If challenged, how will a professional be judged?

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Principles?

- Rules of action or behaviour?
- Basic truths?
- Doctrines or tenets?
- Risk management tools?
- Something to consider when trouble descends?
- Points for reflection after the trouble and pain has passed?
- Or.....?

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.....questions, which members of professional communities ask themselves from time to time.....

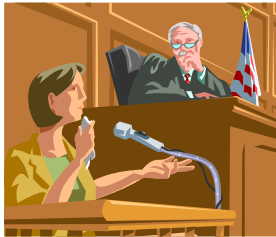
without expectation of a definitive answer

"When I use a word it means just what I choose it to mean, neither more nor less"
(Humpty Dumpty)
"Alice in Wonderland" - Lewis Carroll. 1865

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'Principles' from another viewpoint



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"The ABC of x,y,z"

A = Application

B = Behaviour

C = Context

3 sets of 7!

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"ABC of x,y,z" - The Journey (Kelly and Byrne)

- Question: does the SSI community have a common set of principles?
- Struggle to define and find
- The questions of transmission and acceptance
- Take up by YSPs.....a demonstration of need
- Take up by others.....small group work
-??

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Application

1. First, Consider the Whole
2. Know the Tools
3. Consider and Analyse Contributing Errors
4. Record Defining Parameters
5. Beware The Bounds of Convention
6. Build Proof Into The Process
7. Engage The User

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Behaviour

1. **First Responsibility Is To The Community**
2. **Act Well and With Honesty**
3. **Stay Within Competence**
4. **Develop (knowledge and skill)**
5. **Act In The Interests Of Client or Employer**
6. **Inform Client or Employer**
7. **Reveal Conflict of Interest**

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Context

1. **Confirm The Client and Other Interested Parties**
2. **Define The Objective**
3. **Be Aware of External Restraints & Expectations**
4. **Assess and Share The Risks**
5. **Define The Critical Terms**
6. **Test Processes Against Project Scope**
7. **Attribute Contributions By Others**

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Some Ethical Value Differences.....

- **Truth v Loyalty**
- **Individual v Community**
- **Justice v Mercy**
- **Justice v Fairness**
- **Rights v Needs**

.....and the Golden Rule.....
....."do unto others....."

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A Dilemma:

You are a GIS specialist employed by a company which supplies GIS expertise to Local Governments. Your task is to create a Utilities Management System. All above and below ground services are to be included, as well as land interests (cadastre). The work is going well. You find the defined position of a high pressure gas main falls some metres outside its defined easement. You check the source data and conclude it is reliable. You understand the nature of high pressure gas!

You advice your immediate manager (who is also a director of the company) of your concern. He tells you that your concern is outside the scope of the contract; and to "humour" the gas line into the easement.

What will you do?