



ETA KAPPA NU

Electrical and Computer Engineering Honor Society

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Career Synopsis

After leaving Picker International where He was engaged in the design of military x-ray systems, Brian joined Rockwell Automation's Reliance Electric Drive Systems Division, where he was responsible for developing control system designs, and training programs for the Systems Engineering group. He also functioned as a corporate resource for systems modeling and analysis.

After leaving Rockwell to form ApICS LLC, Brian and the ApICS LLC team have enjoyed great success in custom engineering control systems for many fortune 500 companies. Brian has also done considerable work as an expert witness in federal Patent cases. He received his B.E.E in 1990 and M.S.E.E. in 1992 from Cleveland State University, he also holds a B.A from the University of the State of New-York. He has authored many journal and conference publications in industrial control systems design and analysis and related disciplines.

Career Highlights

What do you view as the highlights of your career? These can be in terms of greatest challenges, most satisfying achievements, or most enjoyable projects.

- 1) Forming and growing ApICS LLC - an industry recognized leader in Industrial Control System Consulting Engineering
- 2) Solving customer's production quality and productivity problems, thereby saving jobs for hard working American families. I do this by finding workable solutions to difficult problems in various control applications for manufacturing industries. Many of these solutions are either in the Patent process, or protected by NDA's.
- 3) The most satisfying career achievement: Designing a model based integrated control solution for the USS Lorain, Tube-works Rotary Rolling Mill process that decreased pipe scrap by 90%, significantly impacting a senior management decision to keep the plant open.

Education and Career

Relate your education to your career and current responsibilities. What part of your formal education has proven most useful to your professional success?

Without the cultivation of a solid work ethic, and a desire to make a difference in the lives of those with whom, and for whom, you work, you cannot find true fulfillment in your engineering career. Discipline and participation in professional societies during your education is fundamentally important in the acquisition of these attributes.

The most useful aspect of my formal education can be summed up as the "development of the rational mind", the ability to think clearly and rationally, and to identify problem solving strategies. This ability is acquired through the problem solving required in the many and varied engineering disciplines that the student is exposed to in college, each and every one of which has significance in the acquisition of this skill.



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Advice to Engineering Graduates:

What specific advice would you offer to engineering students as they complete their education and prepare to launch their careers?

Specific to engineering: It is paramount to ensure that you understand *everything* a professor says during a lecture, whether it be Mathematics, Science or Engineering. Often this requires study and collaboration with other students. This collaborative process is part of developing engineering maturity. It is also paramount to acquire a creative interest, to enjoy problem solving, and explore multiple paths to a given problem solution.

It is also important to develop social and leadership skills. Leadership skills should not be confused with "bossiness". Leadership skills are best displayed through example in team environments, where all parties are treated with respect, and each member is provided with a set of responsibilities that ensures both the success of the team, and personal fulfillment.