

Doing the Right Thing

Lecture 7

The Citycorp Center Case

This case shows how admitting to a mistake can be beneficial.





01

Citycorp planned for a new headquarters that would take an entire block including a church



02

Citicorp agreed to demolish the
old church and build a new
freestanding church



03

A student of LeMessurier found errors showing the wind forces can be 40% larger than predicted



04

The extra stress should not be a problem according to the plan



05

However, during construction, the
welded joints had been replaced
with bolted joints



06

A storm with sufficiently strong winds to tear the joints apart could be expected once every 16 years



07

The joints could be secured by welding two-inch-thick steel plates. This is expensive but essential



08

The lawyers, inspectors and chiefs of Citicorp was informed about this problem and proposed solution



09

Citycorp was very supportive and
provided all necessary resources
for the changes



10

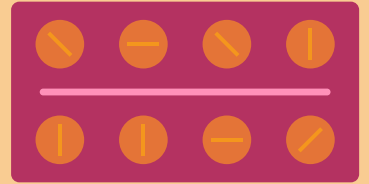
After completion, the building was
arguably the most structurally
sound building in the city



11

Citycorp sued LeMessurier and
settled for \$2 million which was the
limit of his malpractice insurance

**If the ethical solution
is known, why don't
engineers follow it?**



Impediments to ethical behaviors

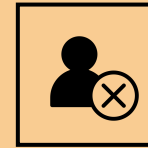
There are three common responses given for not choosing the right path:



That's not my
problem



If I don't do it,
someone else will



I can't foresee
everything that
will happen



Time for some **Homework**

The Sealed Beam Headlight Case

Thanks!

No Questions? Great!