**1. Ethical Dilemma Response: Quality vs. Deadlines**

In a high-stakes engineering project, I had a chance to experience one of the best ethical dilemmas that most engineers and tech leaders have to contend with: choosing to meet a fixed deadline or forego quality assurance tests. The project was also under some time pressure, and some members of the team were suggesting that it was possible to skip final reviews of code to save time in the project. Being a team leader, I had to make decisions based on whether to deliver quality or meet deadlines. I chose to be strategic about the course of action and its impact on long-term sustainability. Sacrificing quality to meet deadlines often leads to unwarranted rework, client dissatisfaction, and low levels of team morale.

I demanded a thorough review process, even though it was necessary to have a slight extension. I explained this openly to stakeholders and highlighted the dangers of sending out a substandard product. This was based on the principles of being vastly impartial, answerable, and firmly ethical in the long run. It has caused a temporary strain in our schedule, but the product has undergone thorough user testing, and our client's trust is strengthened. It is similar to Tesla Gigafactory challenges wherein an overdependence on automation in its Model 3 production has caused delays and inefficiencies that no one would predict (Schöttle,2024). In yet another related case, leadership has been forced to reverse decisions and reinstate human checkpoints in a bid to provide stability in production, which has led to prioritizing speed over quality standards.

Another incident that can be used as a reference to this effect is the Samsung Galaxy Note 7 debacle, which involved the company in hastily releasing a product to gain a competitive edge over others. The urgency to shave off time in schedules led to compromised battery safety testing, resulting in explosions of the devices, mass recalls of the devices, and a tarnished reputation. The incident underscores the dire effects that can befall an organization when quality assurance is not done diligently (Wibowo et al., 2025). Moral leadership sometimes requires the wisdom to take a slower pace, guard quality, and defend stakeholder trust even when this requires saying no to taking a shortcut.

**References**

Schöttle, H. S. (2024). *Are Tesla’s Gigafactory and autonomous driving technology, automotive industry disruptors?* (Master's thesis, UniversidadeCatolica Portuguesa (Portugal)).<https://search.proquest.com/openview/df6c238936d61e64344b6930699b31b0/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=2026366&diss=y>

Wibowo, J. A., Fauzan, R. A., Thamrin, D. S., &Lubis, M. L. (2025). Galaxy Note 7 Crisis: Analysis of Compensation Strategy, Knowledge Management, and Innovation Transformation of Samsung. *International Journal of Technological Innovation for Society*, *1*(3).<https://journals.telkomuniversity.ac.id/ijtis/article/view/9294>