GENG5505 – Tutorial activity WK10

Case study 1

Engineers are always constrained by budget. What responsibility does an engineer have regarding the design of safe structures in a developing country, where funds are usually not available to engineer structures to standards common in more developed nations? How does an engineer ethically develop a design when the budget is so severely constrained?

Case study 2

An engineer leaves a company and goes to work for a competitor.

a) Is it ethical for the engineer to try to lure customers away from the previous employer?
b) Is it alright for the engineer to use proprietary knowledge gained while working for the previous employer at the new job? How would the answer to this question change if the new job wasn't for a competitor?
c) At the new job, is it acceptable for the engineer to use skills developed during his previous employment?

Cases adapted from C. B. Fleddermann, 2012