



**American International University- Bangladesh (AIUB)**  
**Faculty of Engineering (EEE)**  
**Subject: Engineering Ethics**

<b>Course Name:</b>	Engineering Ethics	<b>Course Code:</b>	EEE 3107
<b>Semester:</b>	Spring 2022	<b>Item:</b>	<b><u>Midterm Assignment -1</u></b>
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<b>Department:</b>	CSE	<b>Section:</b>	I

**Marking Rubrics (to be filled by Faculty)**

Category	Proficient [4]	Good [3]	Acceptable [2]	Unacceptable [1]	Secured Marks
<b>Explanation of issues</b>	Issue/problem to be considered critically is stated clearly and described comprehensively, delivering relevant information necessary for full understanding.	Issue/problem to be considered critically is stated, described, and clarified so that understanding is not seriously impeded by omissions.	Issue/problem to be considered critically is stated, but description leaves some terms undefined, ambiguities unexplored, boundaries undetermined.	Issue/problem to be considered critically is stated without clarification or description.	
<b>Influence of context and assumptions</b>	Thoroughly (systematically and methodically) analyzes own and others' assumptions and carefully evaluates the relevance of contexts when presenting a position.	Identifies own and others' assumptions and several relevant contexts when presenting a position.	Questions some assumptions. Identifies several relevant contexts when presenting a position. May be more aware of others' assumptions than one's own (or vice versa).	Shows an emerging awareness of present assumptions (sometimes labels assertions as assumptions). Begins to identify some contexts when presenting a position.	
<b>Student's position (perspective, thesis/ hypothesis)</b>	Specific position (perspective, hypothesis) is imaginative, considering the complexities of an issue. Limits of position (perspective, hypothesis) are acknowledged. Others' points of view and assumptions are synthesized within position (perspective, hypothesis).	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) considers the complexities of an issue. Others' points of view and assumptions are acknowledged within position (perspective, hypothesis).	Specific position (perspective, hypothesis) acknowledges different sides of an issue.	Specific position (perspective, hypothesis) is stated, but is simplistic and obvious.	
<b>Innovative Thinking or uniqueness (of idea, claim, question etc.)</b>	Extends a novel or unique idea, question, format, or product to create new knowledge or knowledge that crosses boundaries.	Creates a novel or unique idea, question, format, or product.	Experiments with creating a novel or unique idea, question, format, or product.	Reformulates a collection of available ideas.	
<b>Conclusions and related outcomes (implications and consequences)</b>	Conclusions and related outcomes (consequences and implications) are logical and reflect student's informed evaluation and ability to place evidence.	Conclusion is logically tied to a range of information, including opposing viewpoints; related outcomes (consequences and implications) are identified clearly.	Conclusion is logically tied to information (because information is chosen to fit the desired conclusion); some related outcomes (consequences and implications) are not clear.	Conclusion is inconsistently tied to some of the information discussed; related outcomes (consequences and implications) are oversimplified.	
<b>Comments:</b>	Total Marks (Out of 20):				

**Case 1:**

Dylan is a manager at a leading consumer electronics company. In his role, he must frequently interact with industry partners and customers. One day, Dylan met with a customer of one of his company's custom products. The custom product was a special chip for an electronic appliance that was currently in its final stages of review before market release. During the meeting, the customer wanted to know the method of making the chip, a process which was not specified in the given datasheet. The client claimed this information was needed to ensure that the chip would function properly when it was integrated with electronic appliances.

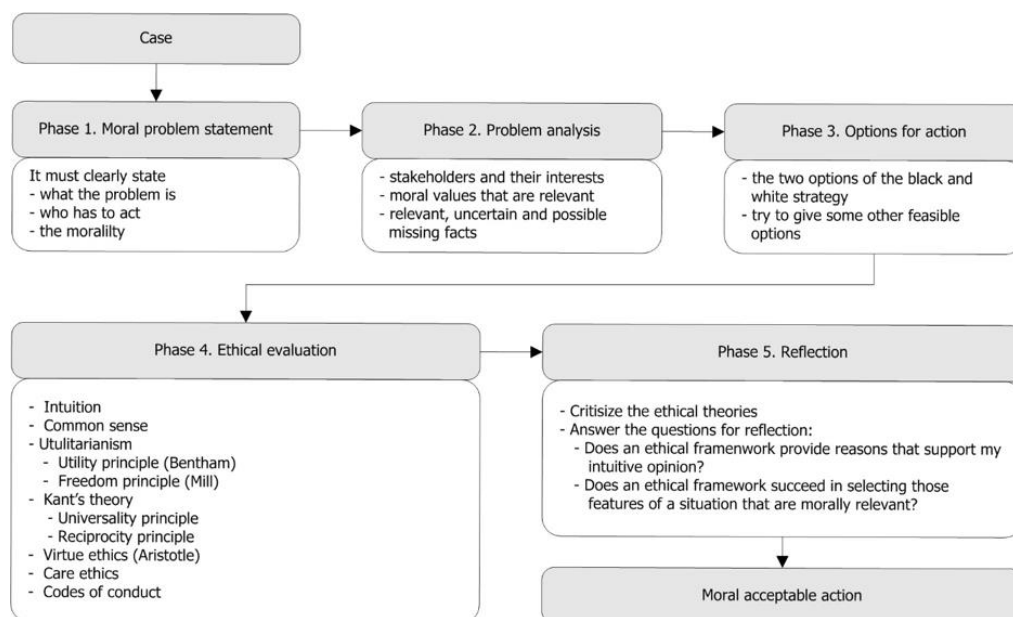
At first, Dylan was uncertain. He wanted to give his customer more details if it was for the benefit of his client's final product, but, at the same time, was concerned because the requested information was protected under his company's non-disclosure agreement (NDA).

Dylan decided to discuss the matter with his supervisor; however, Dylan's manager was overseeing many projects and, knowing that Dylan was capable and experienced, entrusted him to take care of the situation. When he returned to work the next day, Dylan received an email from his customer. The message stated that, if the chip's manufacturing methodology was not disclosed, the customer would cease further investments in the product.

Shocked, Dylan believed that if the customer could not abide by the NDA, he should tell the contract should be broken off. However, doing so would mean losing a significant amount of profit they had intended on garnering from selling the chip. On the other hand, sharing confidential information with his customer could cause negative repercussions, especially if his company were to discover the legal breach.

Although it is highly unlikely that the extra chip information would be used by Dylan's client for malicious purposes, its disclosure could potentially affect his company's reputation, lead to mistrust in the company and compromise Dylan's position. What should Dylan do?

**Briefly discuss the above case and provide the options following the subsequent steps in resolving the Ethical Dilemma.**



**Moral Problem Statement:**

1. The Manufacturing Information, which was protected by the company's non-disclosure agreement (NDA), was requested by the customer.
2. The issue could not be discussed by Dylan with his supervisor, as it would have a negative impact on his professional image. The supervisor had trusted him to handle such situations.
3. If the manufacturing methodology was not provided to Dylan's client, further investment in the product would be ceased.
4. The information could be used for malicious purposes by Dylan's client.

**Problem Analysis:**

1. Disclosing Manufacturing Information violates NDA. as a result ,Dylan's profession image will be in risk.
2. Not giving Manufacturing Information to Dylan's client can cause Financial loss for his company and Dylen can lose this trustworthiness and job.
3. If Malicious activity happens Dylan would be responsible for all of these.

**Options:**

1. If profit is high, Dylan can violate NDA and disclose the information wanted by the customer & carry forward the process of deal.
2. Dylan can refuse to give information, Accept the loss, protects NDA and retrain the Company Reputation.
3. Dylan can inform the legal department to take advice for possible negotiations.
4. If Dylan's office has open communication environment, He can discuss these issue with experienced colleagues.
5. Dylan can aware the codes of conduct to his customer and convince him with limited information and carry forward the deal.
6. Convince Legal department to add solve for these type of issue.
7. Dylan can prepare a overall analysis of this situation to supervisor and takes the suggestion from supervisor

**Ethical Evaluation:**

1. For point 1 in Options:
  - Professional Image in risk
  - Job in risk
  - Safe from loss
2. For point 2 in Options:
  - Professional Image will be clean
  - Job in less risk
  - Not safe from loss
3. For point 3 in Options:
  - Professional Image will be clean
  - Less possibility of resolving issue
  - Job in less risk
  - safe from loss
4. For point 4 in Options:
  - Professional Image will be clean
  - Less possibility of resolving issue
  - Job in less risk
  - safe from loss
5. For point 5 in Options:
  - Professional Image would be significantly enhanced

- Less possibility of resolving issue
  - Job in less risk
  - safe from loss
6. For point 5 in Options:
- Professional Image could be negatively impacted.
  - High possibility of resolving issue
  - Job in less risk
  - safe from loss

**Reflection:**

In my opinion, the best option is Option 5. Cancelling the deal is not desirable as it goes against the company's goals. Moreover, as a professional, it is duty of a employee to provide the best possible solution. While these decisions may have some negative consequences, handling the situation effectively can also result in positive impacts on the company's reputation and profits.