Bringing British Education to You
www.nccedu.com

Professional Issues in IT

Topic 2:
Applying IT Standards & Issues

V1.0   © NCC Education Limited

Applying IT Standards & Issues Topic 2 - 2.2

Scope and Coverage

This topic will cover:

- Applying social, ethical, legal and professional standards and issues to the IT profession and projects;
- Analysing effects of such issues and standards on the IT industry.

Bringing British Education to You
www.nccedu.com

V1.0   © NCC Education Limited

Applying IT Standards & Issues Topic 2 - 2.3

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this topic students will be able to:

- Identify issues affecting IT professionals;
- Explain professional issues;
- Apply social, legal and professional issues to a scenario;
- Analyse, conclude and report findings.

Bringing British Education to You
www.nccedu.com

V1.0   © NCC Education Limited

Applying IT Standards & Issues Topic 2 - 2.4

Professional Issues in IT

- As an IT professional, many issues will be relevant to you:
  - Individual
  - Organisational
  - Professional Institutes

- Professional responsibility must be taken seriously.

- Professionals are accountable for their actions.

V1.0

NCC Bringing British Education to You www.nccedu.com

© NCC Education Limited

Applying IT Standards & Issues Topic 2 - 2.5

Professional

- What is a professional?

  "person who has attained an acclaimed level of proficiency."

  "person formally certified by a professional body of belonging to a specific profession….whose competence can usually be measured against an established set of standards"

  Source: www.businessdictionary.com/definition/professional.html

V1.0

NCC Bringing British Education to You www.nccedu.com

© NCC Education Limited

Applying IT Standards & Issues Topic 2 - 2.6

Professional Bodies - 1

"A *professional body* is a group of people in a learned occupation who are entrusted with maintaining control or oversight of the legitimate practice of the occupation."

Source: http://www.qualityresearchinternational.com/glossary/#p

V1.0

NCC Bringing British Education to You www.nccedu.com

© NCC Education Limited

Professional Bodies - 2

- There are many professional bodies for the IT industry:
  - Specialists within IT umbrella
  - BCS Chartered Institute for IT has gained a reputation as a world leader
- No legal industry requirement
  - However, they are recommended in terms of belonging to a community and for professional development
- All have codes of conduct (ethics)

NCC Bringing British Education to You
www.nccedu.com
V1.0   © NCC Education Limited

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Institute Codes of Conduct

- Codes of conduct (ethics)
  - BCS Chartered Institute for IT
    - http://tinyurl.com/3b6mhuo
    - Association for Project Management (APM)
    - http://tinyurl.com/6hyfc2s

NCC Bringing British Education to You
www.nccedu.com
V1.0   © NCC Education Limited

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Health and Safety

- Varies between countries
- Very important
  - Individual's wellbeing
  - Healthy work environment
- Legislation heavy
- IT and IT industry specific
- Failure to conform
  - May lead to paying out compensation
- Excessive?

NCC Bringing British Education to You
www.nccedu.com
V1.0   © NCC Education Limited

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Applying IT Standards & Issues Topic 2 - 2.10

Display Screen Equipment

- Health & Safety Display Screen Equipment Regulations (1993)
- Reducing associated risk
  - Analysing working environment to identify and reduce risks
  - Ensure work environment meets minimum requirements
  - Plan work to ensure variety and breaks
  - Provide eyesight tests
  - Training

V1.0
© NCC Education Limited

Applying IT Standards & Issues Topic 2 - 2.11

Ergonomics

- Efficiency of working environments
  - Human factors
  - People first
  - Physical and psychological
  - Equipment, tasks and environment
- Take personal responsibility
- Linked to health and safety
  - Display Screen Equipment Regulations
  - Furniture
  - Equipment

V1.0
© NCC Education Limited

Applying IT Standards & Issues Topic 2 - 2.12

Standards - 1

- Vital in aiding an IT professional
- Standards exist for everything!
  - Software standards
    - Software production
    - Software deployment*
    - Software usage
- * Topic 5

V1.0
© NCC Education Limited

Standards - 2

- International Standards → In-house standards
- International standard organisations
  - International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO)
    - 1947
- National standard organisations
  - National Institute of Standards & Technology
  - British Standards Institution
- In-house standards

Anti-Discrimination - 1

- Anti-discrimination laws exist worldwide
  - With varying degrees of protection and success

- Examples of anti-discrimination laws:
  - Promotion of Equality & Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act 2000 (South Africa)
  - European Union Directive 2006/54/EC
  - Disability Discrimination Act 2005 (UK)

Anti-Discrimination - 2

- Discrimination can be on grounds of:
  - Disability
  - Gender
  - Age
  - Nationality
  - Ethnic origin
  - And many more

Applying IT Standards & Issues Topic 2 - 2.16

Anti-Discrimination - 3

- Included under professional issues because, regardless of the legal protection afforded to you by the country you work in, there is also a element of personal responsibility:

  - Awareness of any discrimination occurring around you
  - Treat others as you wish to be treated
  - Act if you encounter discrimination in the workplace

V1.0   © NCC Education Limited

Applying IT Standards & Issues Topic 2 - 2.17

Code of Ethics/Conduct

- The constant throughout this topic and Topic 1 has been a code. That is, a code of ethics/conduct. Contained in this one document can be everything that you, as an IT professional working within the industry, require to guide you through your working life.
  - Socially
  - Legally
  - Professionally
- Have your own Code

V1.0   © NCC Education Limited

Applying IT Standards & Issues Topic 2 - 2.18

References

- www.iso.org
- Quinn, M. (2011). *Ethics for the Information Age*. Pearson.
- Hall, P & Fernandez-Ramil, J. (2007). *Managing the Software Enterprise*. Thomson.
- Reynolds, G. (2010). *Information Technology for Managers*. Course Technology Cengage Learning.
- Schwalbe, K. (2006). *Introduction to Project Management*. Thomson.

V1.0   © NCC Education Limited

Topic 2 – Applying IT Standards & Issues

Any Questions?

Bringing British
Education to You
www.nccedu.com

V1.0   © NCC Education Limited