

Interview of Professional

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1 Introduction

I interviewed Bryan Evans, Senior Director Technical Resources Mine Engineering at Newmont Mining. Bryan manages a group of engineers at Newmont's main corporate office, in Greenwood Village. His group supports company projects, operations, and mergers, and acquisitions. His group also provides corporate governance for mining operation guidelines.

2 Current Writing

Currently, Bryan spends approximately 2.5 hours per day writing and another 4 reading other people's work. Additionally he spends about 4 hours per week editing documents that other people write. Currently, Bryan does not receive help from secretaries or technical writers as he writes, but some of the people that work for him do. The types of documents that Bryan writes at his current job include the following:

- **Studies:** Efficiency, Research, Development, and Analytical
- **Standard Reports:** Inspection
- **Corporate:** Executive Summaries
- **Guides:** Procedures
- **Special Reports:** Recommendation and Trip
- **Technical Reports:** Feasibility
- **Interoffice:** Memos, Letters, Updates, Announcements, and Minutes

At previous positions, Bryan has written a variety of other documents including manuals and marketing material.

3 Career Development with Respect to Writing

During his career, Bryan has changed roles from a consultant to a manager. In his managerial role he does more peer reviewing of other people's work rather than writing technical documents himself. Through his career, Bryan has had to develop his writing skills, but, overall, Bryan's writing skills have helped him advance his career. In his current managerial role, he has read documents from people with exceptional writing skills which has caused him to develop a better appreciation for good writing skills.

When asked about the importance of clear writing, Bryan explained that clear writing skills are always critical for engineers so they can effectively communicate technical and work information. He also has seen that people with poor writing skills are disadvantaged in the workplace.

4 Summary

Since Bryan is my father, I had a general idea of the types of writing that he does at work, but by interviewing him, I gained a greater understanding of the breadth of the writing that he does. I was especially surprised at the amount of interoffice communication and studies that he writes. Bryan gave a few examples of people with exemplary writing skills and how those skills have helped their career development. Those examples helped illustrate the importance for engineers to have good communication skills.