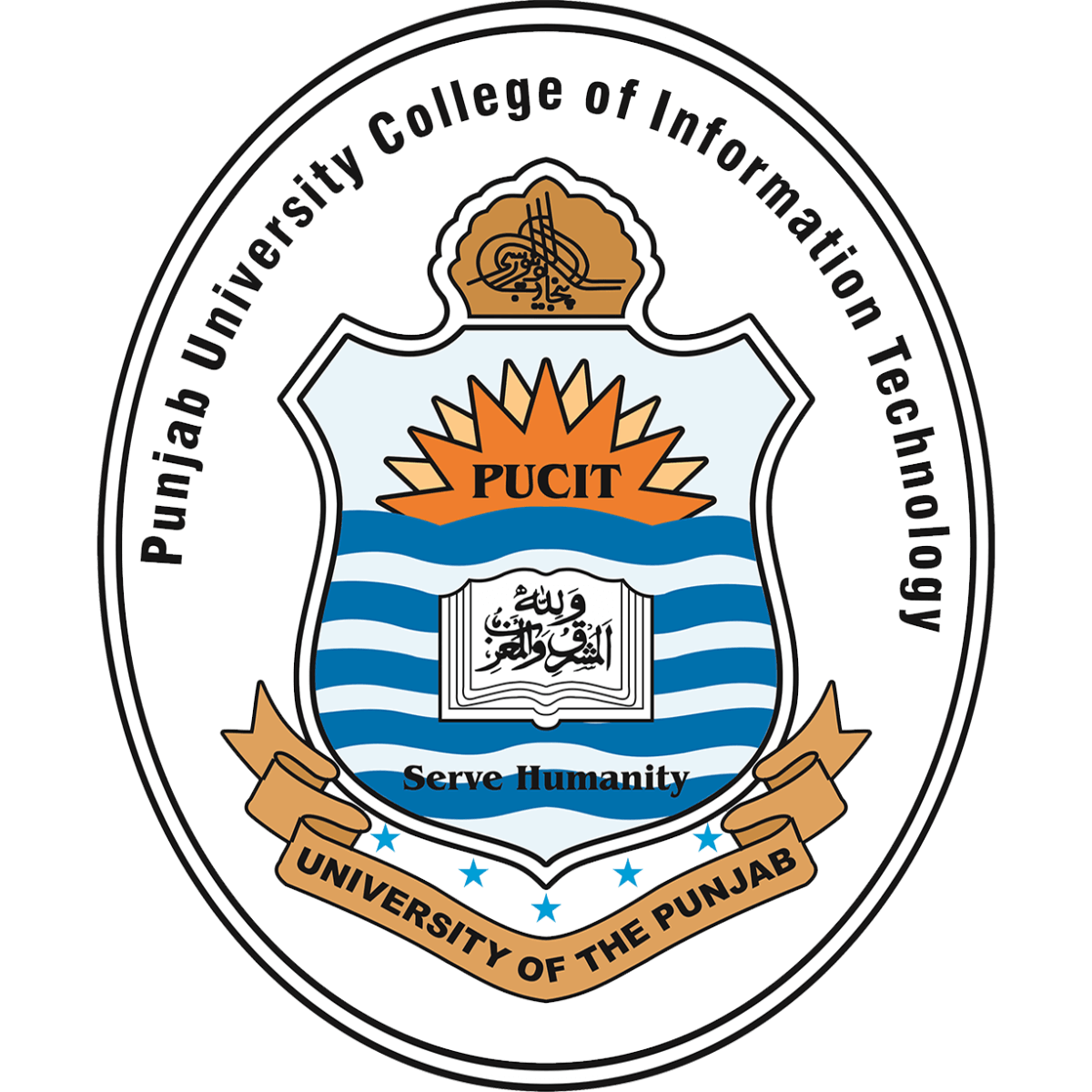
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**Note on Organizational Structure of a Software House and Application of Ethical Principles**

The way a software company is organized is super important. It decides how work is shared, who has the power, and how everyone talks to each other. This structure also manages how software projects are handled and what each person's job is.

Software companies can have different structures, like functional, divisional, matrix, or team-based. The choice depends on things like how big the company is, what kind of software it makes, and its culture. No matter the structure, it's vital to include ethical principles in the company to make sure everyone acts responsibly and sustainably.

Here are some simple examples of ethical principles that a software company can use:

# ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct:

This code talks about being responsible, keeping things private, and making things secure. It helps the company set rules to make sure everyone acts ethically.

1. **IEEE Code of Ethics:**

This one is about being honest, having integrity, and being accountable. The company can ask its employees to follow these rules to build trust and make good decisions.

1. **Agile Manifesto:**

Agile is a way of working in software, and this manifesto talks about working with customers, being flexible, and giving them what they need. The company can use these ideas to make sure customers are happy and keep up ethical standards.

1. **Open Source Initiative (OSI) Principles:**

If the company makes open-source software, it can follow these principles. They're about sharing code, letting people change and share it, and being fair. This helps the company be open and honest.

**To use ethical principles in the company**:

1. **Make a Code of Conduct:**

Write down what's expected from everyone in the company. Teach and remind everyone about it regularly.

1. **Create Ethical Committees:**

Make teams that focus on ethics. They can guide and watch over ethical practices.

1. **Encourage Good Choices:**

Make a work environment where people feel free to make good choices and talk about problems without getting in trouble. Have ways for reporting problems without fear.

1. **Check How Ethical the Company Is:**

Regularly check if the company is following ethical rules. This can be done by the company or by outside experts.

1. **Have Ethical Leaders:**

Promote leaders who make good choices and follow ethical values. They should set an example for everyone else.

To conclude, the way a software company is organized should include ethical principles. This helps the company build a strong ethical base, makes sure everyone acts responsibly, and builds trust with clients and others involved.

**Title: The Ultimate Guide to Preparing a Software Development Agreement**

**Introduction:**

A software development agreement is a contract that both the software developer and the client have to follow. It lays out the rules and conditions for creating and delivering a software product. This guide gives you a complete overview of what you need to think about when making a software development agreement. It helps you understand and protect the interests of both the developer and the client. By following these tips, you can set up a good plan for a successful software project**.**

**Step 1: People and Companies Involved:**

The first step in preparing a software development agreement is to clearly identify the parties involved. Include the legal names, addresses, and contact information of both the software developer or development company (referred to as the "Developer") and the client (referred to as the "Client"). This ensures that there is no ambiguity regarding the entities entering into the agreement.

**Step 2: Describing the Project Scope:**

It's important to clearly define what the software development project will involve. This means describing the goals, functions, and end results of the project. Be specific about any particular requirements or features requested by the Client. This section should give a detailed understanding of what the Developer will create and what the Client wants from the software development process. By doing this, everyone involved will have a clear picture of what needs to be done and what to expect.

**Step 3: Setting the Project Timeline:**

It's important to figure out a realistic schedule for the project. This means setting clear start and end dates for when the work will begin and finish. It's also helpful to break the project down into smaller parts with specific goals or checkpoints along the way. This helps everyone keep track of progress and make sure things are on track. Sometimes, unexpected things can happen that cause delays, so it's a good idea to plan for that too. By doing this, everyone knows when things will happen and can plan accordingly.

**Step 4. Intellectual Property Rights:**

In a software development agreement, the section on intellectual property rights goes beyond just determining ownership. Here are some additional points to consider:

**1. Exclusive or Non-Exclusive Rights:** Specify whether the intellectual property rights granted to the Client are exclusive (meaning no one else can use them) or non-exclusive (meaning the Developer can grant the same rights to others).

**2. Limitations on Use:** Outline any restrictions on how the software can be used or distributed. For example, you may want to restrict the Client from selling or sublicensing the software without the Developer's permission.

**3. Source Code and Object Code:** Determine whether the Client will have access to the source code (the underlying code that the software is built on) or only to the compiled object code (the version of the software that can be run on a computer).

**4. Modifications and Derivative Works:** Clarify whether the Client has the right to modify the software or create derivative works based on it. If so, specify any conditions or limitations on these modifications.

**5. Third-Party Components:** If the software includes any third-party components (such as open-source libraries), address how their intellectual property rights will be handled and whether any additional licenses or permissions are required.

**6. Confidentiality and Trade Secrets:** Include provisions to protect any confidential information or trade secrets shared during the development process. This can include measures like non-disclosure agreements and confidentiality clauses.

It's important to carefully consider and discuss these aspects with legal professionals to ensure that the intellectual property rights in the software development agreement align with the intentions and interests of both parties.

**Step 5: How and When to Pay:**

It's important to have clear payment terms in the software development agreement. This means stating how much the project will cost overall, and how and when payments should be made. You should also include any extra expenses that might come up. Specify the payment method, like bank transfers or online platforms, and any fees or penalties for late payments. It's a good idea to include details about how the payments will be divided into different stages or milestones, and what needs to be done for each payment installment to be approved. By doing this, everyone knows how and when they need to pay, and it helps ensure a fair agreement for both sides.

**Step 6: Keeping Things Confidential:**

To protect sensitive information shared during the project, it's important to include rules about confidentiality and non-disclosure in the software development agreement. This means making it clear that both parties have a responsibility to keep any confidential or proprietary information exchanged during the project a secret. By doing this, everyone understands the importance of keeping things private and knows what actions will be taken if there is a violation of confidentiality.

**Step 7: Warranty and Support:**

In the software development agreement, make sure to talk about how long the software will be guaranteed for. During that time, the Developer will provide help and fix any problems or mistakes. Explain how to report and solve any bugs or errors, and if there are any limits on who is responsible. It's also a good idea to talk about ongoing help and maintenance after the project is done, and if there are any fees or agreements for that.

**Step 8: Dealing with Changes:**

Sometimes, things might need to change during the software development project. It's important to have a way to manage those changes. Talk about how changes will be looked at, decided on, and done, and if there are any extra costs or time needed. This part makes sure that any changes to the original agreement are written down and agreed upon by both sides.

**Step 9: Ending the Agreement:**

Include rules for ending the agreement, like when and how it can happen. Say how much notice is needed and if there will be any money consequences for ending things early. This part protects both sides and explains what to do if the agreement needs to be ended before the project is finished.

**Step 10: Fixing Problems:**

Sometimes, there might be disagreements or problems during the software development. It's important to have a way to solve those problems fairly and quickly. This could mean talking it out, getting help from someone else, or going to a neutral person to decide. Say where this will happen and what rules will be followed. It's a good idea to talk to a legal expert to make sure everything follows the right laws and rules.

**Step 11: Laws and Rules:**

Decide which laws will be followed and where any legal problems will be solved. This makes sure everyone knows which rules to follow and where to go if there are any legal issues. It's a good idea to talk to a legal expert who knows about software development agreements and the laws in that area.

**Conclusion:**

In conclusion, creating a detailed software development agreement is really important for the Developer and the Client to understand each other. By including important things like what the project involves, who owns the software, how and when to pay, keeping things private, and solving problems, both sides can protect themselves and avoid conflicts. It's a good idea to get help from a legal expert to make sure the agreement follows the right laws and says what both sides want. Regular updates and meetings help keep communication clear. Clearly explain the tasks, deadlines, and testing process. Consider limits on responsibility and getting insurance if needed. Describe what documents and things will be given at the end, and include rules for paying if something goes wrong.

**Analysis of "The Ethical Cycle" Research Article and Its Reflection on Ethics**

**Introduction:**

The research article "The Ethical Cycle" by I. van de Poel and L. Royakkers talks about how we make good decisions and solve moral problems. It says that making ethical decisions can be tricky, so it introduces a step-by-step method called the ethical cycle to help us handle these challenges. This report aims to look at the important discoveries in the article and see how they connect to ethics in a way that's easy to understand.

Key Takeaways:

**1.Complexity of Moral Problems:**

The article highlights that moral problems are complex and require careful consideration. These problems arise in different fields such as healthcare, business, and research, each with their own ethical concerns. Solving moral problems is difficult because they involve different viewpoints and conflicting values. Making decisions about these problems means thinking about what is right and wrong based on ethical principles.

**2. The Ethical Cycle:**

The article presents the ethical cycle as a way to handle moral problems. The ethical cycle is a step-by-step method for dealing with these problems. It helps us carefully think about ethical dilemmas and make good decisions. The cycle involves different stages like understanding the problem, finding solutions, and making ethical judgments. It includes thinking about the consequences and considering different ethical principles.

**3. Systematic Approach to Problem Solving:**

The ethical cycle is like a well-organized way to solve problems, especially moral ones. It helps us think about problems in an organized and careful manner. By considering different solutions, it stops us from making quick or unfair decisions. The cycle is like a guide that makes sure we look at all sides of a problem.

It encourages creative thinking and careful judgment. Using the ethical cycle improves our ability to make well-informed and fair decisions. Overall, it's a helpful tool for tackling moral issues in a thoughtful and systematic way.

**4. Role of Ethical Theories:**

According to the article, ethical theories are important in dealing with moral problems and making ethical decisions. These theories provide different perspectives on what is right and wrong, which allows for a range of reasonable opinions. They help us analyze moral problems in a systematic way and think critically about them. In simpler terms, ethical theories give us tools to understand and make choices about what's right and wrong in difficult situations. Essentially, ethical theories act as guides to help us navigate complex moral issues and make well-informed decisions.

**5. Individual Judgment and Collective Deliberation**:

The article recognizes that the ethical cycle mainly focuses on individual moral judgment. However, it also highlights the importance of discussing moral problems as a group. This is called collective deliberation. When we involve more people in the conversation, we get different perspectives and make sure everyone's opinions are heard. This helps us consider a wider range of ideas and make fair decisions. In simpler terms, discussing ethical issues together with a group is important because it helps us see things from different angles and make better choices.

**Reflection on Ethics:**

The study says moral problems are complicated, and we need a careful method to deal with them. It talks about thinking carefully, looking at things from different angles, and considering many viewpoints when making ethical decisions. The ethical cycle is like a step-by-step guide for people to handle moral problems and make good ethical choices. The article mentions that ethical theories are important when figuring out problems and making judgments, recognizing that people have different moral views. It suggests that ethical decision-making should involve both personal thinking and talking about problems with a group to fully understand moral issues.

**Implications and Significance:**

**1. Ethical Decision-Making in Context:**

* The article agrees that making ethical decisions happens in certain situations, like engineering or business.
* These different situations might have their own ethical problems, needing special ethical rules and thinking.
* The ethical cycle can be changed and used in various situations, helping people solve specific ethical problems in those fields.

**2. Moral Acceptability of Technological Risks:**

* The article talks about the author's study on whether we find technological risks morally acceptable.
* This shows that as technology gets better, we need to think about what's right and wrong in how we use it.
* The ethical cycle can help us check and deal with possible risks and ethical problems that come with new technologies.

**3. Rules for Professionals:**

* + The authors studied the rules and ethics that engineers follow.
  + This shows how important it is to have clear rules for acting ethically in jobs.
  + The ethical cycle can help professionals deal with tough choices and stick to the ethical rules they have to follow.

**4. Being Ethical in Design:**

* + The article talks about the author's research on how to be ethical when designing things in engineering.
  + This tells us how important it is to think about ethics right from the start of making something.
  + The ethical cycle can help engineers find and fix ethical problems in their designs, making sure they're doing the right thing.

**5. Ethics in Collaborative Research**:

* -The article delves into the author's investigation of ethics and responsibility within research and development (R&D) networks.
* -This underscores the ethical considerations and responsibilities that arise in collaborative research settings.
* -The ethical cycle is identified as a valuable tool for navigating ethical complexities and fostering responsible conduct within R&D networks.

**6. Interdisciplinary Perspective:**

* The authors have different backgrounds, like philosophy, social sciences, math, and law.
* This mix helps us understand ethics better and use it in different areas.
* The article talks about how it's good to mix different kinds of knowledge to solve ethical problems.

**7. More Research Needed:**

* The authors think the ethical cycle can be made even better.
* We need to see how well it works in different situations and test it out more.
* The article says there should be more studies on ethical ideas, how people decide what's right, and how well the ethical cycle works in real situations.

Overall, the research article offers valuable insights into the complex nature of ethical decision-making and provides a structured approach, the ethical cycle, to address moral problems effectively. The article's discussions on specific research areas and interdisciplinary perspectives contribute to the understanding and application of ethics in various domains.

**Conclusion:**

The "Ethical Cycle" research article talks about how tricky moral problems can be and gives a step-by-step way to make good ethical decisions. It says we should think carefully, use ethical theories, and talk to others when making choices. This helps us consider different ideas and make fair decisions. The article highlights the importance of having a structured and thoughtful process, using the ethical cycle, to handle moral problems. It suggests this can be useful for people in different jobs and teachers teaching about ethics. The research is important for anyone dealing with ethical decisions in their work or education.