

JANET ROCHESTER

Janet Rochester, BSc., MS, MBA, is a Senior Member of the IEEE. She retired in 2004 from Lockheed Martin Maritime Systems and Sensors – Moorestown, NJ, from the position of Lead Member of the Engineering Staff in the Radar System Engineering group. Most of her work consisted of writing and editing computer hardware and software specifications for the radar system of the Aegis radars installed on Navy ships, but she also saw these documents through the publication process, in paper format and electronically.

Janet has been active in the IEEE Professional Communication Society. She has presented papers at Society for Technical Communication, at PCS and Professional Activities Council for Engineers conferences, and at S-PACs.

Janet has been a member of the Board of Governors of the Society on Social Implications of Technology since 1999, currently serving as the coordinator of the Distinguished Lecturer Program, Awards Committee Chair, and Society Vice-President. She has also served as Chair of the Publications Committee. She was the Chair of the Philadelphia Section of the IEEE in 2003, the Section's centenary year, having previously served as Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice-Chair.

She has received company team and personal business excellence awards and an IEEE-USA Divisional Professional Leadership Award.

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BECOMING A PROFESSIONAL

The extensive education undertaken by engineers prepares them for entry into the profession, but it does not make them professionals. Engineers become professionals by exemplifying the attributes of a profession; for example, education, authority, community sanction, ethics, culture, and service orientation. These attributes have been defined with the independent practitioner in mind rather than the engineer working in industry. This presentation views the attributes of a profession with the engineer in industry in mind and shows how engineers can demonstrate these attributes appropriately in an industrial setting. In doing so, engineers enhance their professionalism and their profession.