It is **imperative that engineering regulators embrace the licensing of high technology engineering disciplines** – aeronautical, software, etc. to ensure ongoing commitment to public safety, ethics, and accountability.

Consider, for example, the recent grounding of Boeing 737-9 Max jetliners due to door failure on an Alaska Airlines flight has renewed safety concerns calling for increased regulation and oversight by the FAA and NTSB. Unfortunately, regulation here can only mitigate losses – **proactive measures are far more effective**.

In this case, the root of the problem lies within Boeing itself with its apparent focus on manufacturing schedules and cost, rather than quality control (loose bolts) and good judgement (inadequately tested and verified software, internal decision-making).

High technology manufacturers could take note that licensed <u>professional</u> engineers (not 'just engineers') have an ongoing commitment to public safety and ethical behaviour that take precedence over schedule and cost concerns. Furthermore, professional engineers that have transitioned into higher management roles will make decisions prioritized on good judgement, public safety and ethics that are proactive and less costly in the long run. Had this been the case, Boeing's reputation, stock value, and concerns about flying on Boeing planes would not be in the headlines.

Eighty years ago, the focus of engineering regulation was on bridges and structures collapsing. Today, the fundamentals in our high technology society remain the same - an engineering mindset for problem solving founded on the licensed professional engineer's commitment to ethics and public safety.

I encourage PEO Council to engage strategic initiatives that embrace the licensing of high technology disciplines to the benefit of public safety in our modern world.

I am asking for your vote to represent the interests of the engineering profession on PEO Council.

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