



Please join us on the 9th INCOSE/GfSE Webinar

When

Wednesday, July 6th, 2022 from 11:00am-12:00pm EST
(4:00pm-5:00pm UTC, 5:00pm – 6:00pm CET)

Topic

How to learn Systems Engineering

Speakers

Michael Gainford
René King



Abstract

Many individuals and organizations seek to grow their Systems Engineering (SE) skills and capabilities in order to tap into the well-substantiated benefits of SE - see for example [Elm and Goldenson \(2012\)](#). During this webinar Michael Gainford and René King will explore how people can best learn Systems Engineering (or indeed any other topic).

They will lay out a number of adult learning principles, illustrating them with examples as they go. Some of the principles are:

- Learners need to have a sense of progress towards their objectives;
- Learners need to participate actively;
- Learning should be related to the learner's experience and knowledge;
- Getting ideas wrong can be a valuable aid to developing understanding;
- Time must be allowed for reflection.

It is important that both the "learner" and the "learning facilitator" understand the principles, especially as people's learning preferences vary. There are many contexts in which learning takes place, so the facilitator might for example be described as a teacher/lecturer, coach, mentor, or colleague.

In an effective learning environment, there is a bi-directional relationship between facilitator and learner; each influences the other, and in fact both become learners. If there are multiple learners, they take additional benefit from influencing each other. It is a very important principle that the learner takes responsibility for learning (rather than seeing it as a service provided by the facilitator), which is why it is important that **learners learn about learning**.

They will refer to parts of Bloom's taxonomy to describe the progression that may occur during a "learning event". At the end of the event, can the learner remember, understand, explain, or apply the new knowledge? Beyond that, do things stagnate, or is there further growth through continuing professional development and structures such as the [INCOSE Competency Framework](#)? They will also relate this to John Maxwell's coaching model: "I do it; I do it with you; you do it with me; you do it; you do it with someone else". Most organizations can't afford to send everyone to a learning event, so those that participate must feel a responsibility for compounding the benefit going forwards.

Take-Away Key Message

- If you have ever struggled with "learning seen as a service provided by a trainer", this webinar will help you to understand learning as "an on-going process involving learners and learning facilitators".
- Asking yourself how to get the most benefit from a learning experience, this webinar will help you to understand that you as a learner must take ownership of your learning outcomes and learn more about learning.

Biography

Michael Gainford MAEng FRAeS CEng MSc ESEP MINCOSE (presenter) is a life-time systems engineer with particular interests in process improvement frameworks, product line strategies, project management, and systems thinking. Since 2015 he has learnt about learning through working as a course presenter with Project Performance International (PPI) and Certification Training International (CTI). For CTI he presents INCOSE Systems Engineering Professional (SEP) courses. He set up the INCOSE UK Energy Systems Interest Group and volunteers as a certification reviewer for INCOSE CSEP and ESEP applications.

During the webinar, Michael will be supported by **René King MSc Eng ASEP**, a senior systems engineer at Project Performance International (PPI) and Managing Director of its daughter company, Certification Training International (CTI). René is currently the PPI Project Lead for the joint INCOSE-PPI Systems Engineering Tools Database (SETDB). Michael and René have jointly developed CTI's SE-ZERT® (Levels B and C) course.

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<https://www.incose.org/systems-engineering-certification/certification-faqs>

Regards,
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