

Geoscience and Professionalism

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Abstract

A Professional Geoscientist is expected to choose an area of specialty within the rather broad group of activities and pursuits contained in Section 5(1) of the Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act that fits that person's academic training and professional experience, in short, the practitioner's competence. If a practitioner strays outside that envelope, the outcome can be dire for public health and safety.

Competence is not a static entity, however, and as a Professional grows in both academic learning and the hands-on version of knowledge known as "experience," the scope of practice envelope grows with it.

Progressive geoscientists enthusiastically, but skeptically and gradually, adopt the new ways as their confidence and competence with them grows to the point where it can be safely used for routine work.