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Survey Protocols to Investigate the Information Habits and Needs of Engineering and Engineering Technology Students and Practicing Engineers

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Engineering and Engineering Technology Students' Research and Information Use Survey

Thank you for participating in the Engineering and Engineering Technology Students' Research and Information Use survey. There are 14 questions that should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. For Q1-Q6: Think about a recent engineering project you have worked on.

Q1. Please briefly describe the project you are thinking about and the year it took place:

Q2. When you were working on the project, what did you need to learn to complete the project that you didn't already know? (This could be some skills you needed to learn, some information you had to find, etc.)

Q3. How did you go about acquiring the information, skills, or abilities you needed to complete the project?: Choose all that apply.

- Searched Google or similar search engine
- Talked to my instructor/TA
- Consulted a peer
- Utilized Purdue Libraries resources
- Watched online videos (YouTube, etc)
- Visited online forums
- Other: _____

Q4. List your top 3 frustrations with information gathering or use pertaining to this project:

Q5. Were there any information resources to which you did not have access to that you would have liked to have for this project?



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Q6. With this project in mind, consider the following statements:

	Not True of Me - 1	2	3	4	5	6	Very True of Me - 7
I know where to look for different kinds of information (e.g. patents, standards, or industry norms).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I identified what information I most needed to successfully complete the project.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I talked to others to gain a variety of perspectives about the project.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I used the information I found to make important decisions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I had a highly effective method for organizing my information sources.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I assessed the credibility of the sources I found.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I considered how I could better utilize information in future projects.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



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Q7. In your time at Purdue, which of the following resources have you used?

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Annually	Never
Electronic Journals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Standards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Databases (e.g. Engineering Village, SAE Mobilus, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ebooks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Books	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Consultations with Librarians	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
AskaLib Email reference	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library space (e.g. studying)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q8. How do you keep abreast of new developments in your field/major?

Q9. Please share here any additional comments you have about finding or using information for your engineering projects.

Q10: Semester standing (select from drop down menu):

- First-year
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
- Graduate student
- Non-degree seeking student

Q11: Sex:

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to answer



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Q12: Are you an international student?

- Yes
- No

Q13: Major:

- Mechanical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering Technology
- Electrical Engineering Technology
- Other: _____

Q14: Have you completed an internship, co-op, or work experience related to your major?

- Yes
- No



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Caterpillar Engineers' Research and Information Use Survey

The purpose of this survey is to learn more about strategies you use to gather and use information during engineering projects.

For Q1-Q4:

Think about a recent engineering project you have worked on. Answer the following questions with this one project in mind.

Q1. How did you go about acquiring the information, skills, or abilities you needed to complete the project? Check all that apply:

- Google or similar search engine
- Talked to my supervisor
- Consulted a peer or coworker
- Took a course
- Utilized Technical Information Center (TIC)
- Attended a conference
- Other: _____

Q2. List your top 3 frustrations with information gathering or use pertaining to this project:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Q3. Were there any information resources to which you did not have access to that you would have liked to have for this project?



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Q4. With this project in mind, consider the following statements:

	Not True of Me - 1	2	3	4	5	6	Very True of Me - 7
I know where to look for different kinds of information (e.g. patents, standards, or industry norms).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I identified what information I most needed to successfully complete the project.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I talked to others to gain a variety of perspectives about the project.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I used the information I found to make important decisions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I had a highly effective method for organizing my information sources.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I assessed the credibility of the sources I found.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I considered how I could better utilize information in future projects.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



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Questions about the Technical Information Center (TIC)

Q5. For any aspect of your work, which TIC Services or resources have you utilized? Check all that apply:

- Electronic Journals/Articles
- Standards
- Databases
- Ebooks
- Books
- REDI
- Training services
- Personal research assistance
- TICRef email reference
- Interlibrary loan/Document Delivery
- TIC Physical Space
- Knowledge Capture/Management
- I have not utilized any TIC Services

Q6. What other services or resources would you like information specialists (librarians) in the TIC to provide? Check all that apply:

- TIC overview upon hire
- Knowledge Management (knowledge capture, storage, organization and sharing strategy)
- Competitive analysis on technology
- Citation management tools (Mendeley, Endnote, etc)
- Information analysis
- Better search tools
- Copyright guidance
- File/Folder organization strategy (Share Drive, Box, etc)
- Other: _____

Q7. How do you keep abreast of new developments in your field?

Q8. Please provide any additional comments here:



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Q9: Years with Caterpillar (select from drop down menu):

- 1-3
- 3-5
- 5-10
- 10-15
- 15-20
- 20-25
- 25+

Q11: Highest Education Level (select from drop down menu):

- High School
- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Masters
- PhD

Q11: Job Title: _____

Q12: Undergraduate Major, if applicable: _____

Q13: Region:

- Peoria Area
- Central & South America
- North America
- Asia Pacific
- Middle East
- Africa
- Europe



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