E²G INDUSTRY INSIGHTS

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EQUITY ENGINEERING PRACTICES
AN INTRODUCTION TO A BEST ENGINEERING PRACTICES COLLECTION MAINTAINED BY US AND CUSTOMIZED BY YOU
In today’s environment, where industry expertise is diminishing and safety standards are increasing, knowledge transfer and sharing becomes paramount to success as companies operate leaner. Managing risk is more important than ever as companies continue to buy and sell facilities, and the discussion of Best Practices continues to grow. When companies seek a solution for how to handle Best Engineering Practices, they typically consider a few options:

- creating and maintaining a set of standards internally by starting from scratch or writing overlays to outdated legacy standards;
- purchasing a set of Best Engineering Practices off the shelf; or relying on the standards provided by contractors offering large project support. The typical issues companies find are that engineering standards are difficult and expensive to maintain internally, and standards require a significant amount of their most seasoned industry veterans’ time because the information is experience-based.

Off-the-shelf Best Practices are a quick solution to put requirements in place, but how does a company manage and document variances from these requirements over time? Finally, standards provided by contractors may be kept evergreen, but do they have the long-term reliability concerns as their primary driver, or is the focus on upfront savings for the current project?

To help solve this difficult issue, E²G has developed and maintains a customizable set of Best Engineering Practices that incorporates the best aspects of the typical considerations. Our industry experts keep the documents evergreen, but any document can be modified as needed to align with a company’s preferences. Thus, clients receive the benefit of customization.
that an internally maintained collection offers, a Recognized and Generally Accepted Good Engineering Practice (RAGAGEP) collection currently utilized by 16 different companies throughout the industry, and a collection that focuses on the company’s long-term reliability concerns.

The Equity Engineering Practices (EEPs) include more than 600 Engineering Standards, 225 pre-engineered piping classes, and a management system consistent with OSHA 1910.119 PSM and CFRs 192 and 195 safety requirements, tailored for each client’s desired level of document control.

All of this is provided via an access-controlled, customized website to support product delivery and document control. Originally written by industry experts to support the refining industry, the collection was overhauled in 2013 to include additional requirements specific for midstream and pipeline applications. Today, the EEPs clientele are among the refining, petrochemical, chemical, renewable energy, pipeline, and midstream industries. With the customized management system, the EEPs benefit clients ranging from single sites to large corporations with sites and terminals across the country.

Customization allows clients to capture corporate memory. Thus, as knowledge evolves, clients are able to capture lessons learned and company preferences in one common location for all employees to utilize. This becomes more important as experienced employees continue to retire and responsibilities are passed along to less experienced employees. Customization also enables companies to manage risk (consequently improving safety) as they are able to set their company requirements at or above current industry standards and Best Practices. Finally, these benefits are offered for less than the price of two experienced site engineers initially and less than half the cost of one engineer per site in subsequent years.
The EEPs are updated by E2G industry experts and consultants as well as client-driven revision requests. Non-proprietary client-revision requests are reviewed by E2G’s experts and, if agreed upon as a Best Practice, are presented to all clients for consideration in their collections. At that time, each client may choose to accept with modification, or reject the proposed modification. Upon approval, E2G’s documentation team finalizes the revised document, posts it to the website for use, and if requested, notifies the client when the updated standard is available. Our clients’ engineers benefit from the knowledge that many other companies use similar standards and that decisions made are not out of the industry norm.

Offering Best Practices to clients for more than a decade, E2G finds that most clients do not struggle from a lack of information but rather a lack of evergreen information. Clients often have legacy collections - sometimes multiple legacy collections - that employees are familiar with, but are not in alignment with current industry Best Practices and standards. E2G works with each client on how best to implement the EEPs on site and how to incorporate this legacy knowledge. While E2G recommends modifying documents over time, as we believe this method is most valuable for cost and time, we can also support consolidation efforts as needed to align the EEPs with a client’s legacy collection. In addition, E2G engineers perform piping cross-references to align legacy piping classes with E2G piping classes, thus eliminating the need to update all of the site’s drawings.

One of the most recent product improvements is the hyperlinking of referenced industry standards in the EEPs to the actual industry standards in IHS without further required login information. E2G is able to accomplish this due to the Reference-Linking tool IHS offers, which authenticates users via a computer IP address when a user clicks on a hyperlinked industry standard within the EEPs. We see this as a vital new addition to the EEPs as it directly links the EEPs with the industry standards and provides an easy transition between the documents, reducing time spent searching for additional information.

The EEPs offer a unique solution to the Best Engineering Practices dilemma. We believe the ability to customize your collection, combined with the technical support of E2G’s industry experts, the knowledge-sharing capabilities of our ever-growing subscriber base, and the recent addition of linking referenced industry standards provides a viable solution for your
Engineering Practices needs. The customizable management system is tailored to your corporate structure and the overall emphasis on the life-cycle management of equipment makes the EEPs a cost-effective investment with long-term returns. With a full-time dedicated business unit and staff for this product, E²G is eager to work with you to implement the new system, train your staff, and continually align our Best Practices collection to your specific needs.
PRACTICES

FAST FACTS

MAINTAINED BY US AND CUSTOMIZED BY YOU

All standards are customized to meet your company requirements and preferences, while also capturing lessons learned to help retain and transfer knowledge. This helps to promote safety by minimizing risk and creating consistency while saving time and allowing for flexibility as needed.

DECADES OF USE

The EEPs have been used for over two decades on numerous capital projects by a number of major refining, petrochemical, chemical, midstream, and pipeline companies.

INDUSTRY EXPERTISE

The standards are written and maintained by the same engineers who help develop industry standards and training course instruction for groups such as API and ASME. You can contact these recognized industry experts directly as their contact information is included with the section of documents they maintain.

ENGINEERS SUPPORT THE EEPs
HERE’S WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT OUR PRODUCT

- Promotes safety and improves reliability
- Captures our Corporate Memory from lessons learned
- Transfers knowledge
- Gives us access to the SMEs who author the EEPs
- The ability to customize is invaluable
- Frees up time to spend on other job priorities