

**PUBLISHER AND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

Kristine Chin
(212) 591-7662
krisc@aiche.org

MANAGING EDITOR

Cynthia F. Mascone
(212) 591-7343
cynfm@aiche.org

SENIOR EDITOR

Rita L. D'Aquino
(212) 591-7317
ritad@aiche.org

**PRODUCTION
COORDINATOR**

Karen Simpson
(212) 591-7337
kares@aiche.org

ART & DESIGN

Jesse Gunzel

ILLUSTRATORS

Sean Dagony-Clark

**REGULATORY
EDITOR**

William A. Shirley
(888) 674-2529
envtlaw@charter.net

**PATENT LAW
EDITORS**

M. Henry Heines
(415) 576-0200
mhh@townsend.com

Frank C. Eymard
(504) 585-0449
eymardfc@arlaw.com

**CLASSIFIED
ADVERTISING
AND REPRINTS**

Denise Deluca-Mallon
(212) 591-7170
denid@aiche.org

AIChE

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
CHEMICAL ENGINEERS

THREE PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY
10016-5991
www.aiche.org

AIChE

General Inquiries
1-800-AIChemE
(1-800-242-4363)

Education Services
(212) 591-7770

Career Services
(212) 591-7524

Meetings/Expositions
(212) 591-7324

Member Activities &
Services
(212) 591-7329

AIChExtra

Editor
Sarah Fewster
(212) 591-7257
sarat@aiche.org

**EDITORIAL
ADVISORY BOARD**

William W. Doerr
*Factory Mutual
Research Corp.*

Stevin H. Gehrke
Kansas State University

Dennis C. Hendershot
Rohm and Haas Co.

Robert F. Hoch
Consultant

Laura A. Hofman
*H&R Technical
Associates*

Kenneth Kamholz
Consultant

Stephen P. Lombardo
The Coca-Cola Co.

Jerry L. Robertson
Consultant

Bruce Vaughen
DuPont TeijinFilms

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

John Sofranko
johns@aiche.org

GROUP PUBLISHER

Stephen R. Smith
steps@aiche.org

**Editorial****Engineering****Ethics Survey**

want to thank all of the nearly 4,000 members who took the time to thoughtfully respond to *CEP*'s engineering ethics survey. Despite a technical glitch with the comments box on the electronic survey, many people still tried to respond as concisely as possible.

I am about half way through reading all of the responses from the electronic survey and am still receiving responses from the hard copy version (June 2004; p. 28). One response that I found quite interesting was from an engineer from Texas. Unlike most of the other responses, in which respondents thought that there was no clear-cut answer, this individual felt that the answer was very straightforward. The response is as follows: "In Texas, we have self-disclosure protection that enables a company to report a potential error (as in an original permit application that is found later to have been incomplete) without suffering immediate penalties. In the disclosure, the company can propose a schedule to test the stack and find out the amount and concentration of X and Y, determine how X, if present, can be controlled and at what cost, develop a plan and schedule for resolution of the problem and report all this to the permit authority. In that reporting, the company, if the facts support doing so, proposes a date by which a permit amendment will be submitted."

Another respondent asked whether or not William is a P.E., and if he is, "would he be liable if he does not come forward?" And indeed, he may be. According to the National Society of Professional Engineers' (NSPE) code of ethics, one of the "professional obligations" is: "Engineers shall not complete, sign or seal plans and/or specifications that are not in conformity with applicable engineering standards. If the client or employer insists on such unprofessional conduct, they shall notify the proper authorities and withdraw from further service on the project."

I look forward to reading and continuing to receive the rest of the responses to the ethics survey and will share the final results in the October issue. For those who have not responded yet, please note that submissions will not be accepted after August. Also, if you were frustrated by the lack of space for comments on the electronic survey, please send a lengthier response to me along with your name and contact information, to ensure that responses are not inadvertently duplicated.

On a different topic altogether, *CEP* and AIChE's Government Relations Committee (GRC) have been battling around the idea of creating a bimonthly column on critical issues faced by the chemical engineering industries. Similar to the Critical Issues Series (CIS) that were held at AIChE's Spring and Annual meetings, the intention of this column would be to create an arena for discussing policies on today's key topics (e.g., viability of fuel cells, the impact of outsourcing). I'd like to know what you think about this concept and what topics you would like to discuss. Please email me at krisc@aiche.org.

Kristine Chin
Publisher & Editor-in-Chief
krisc@aiche.org