

# Agenda

<b>Intellectual Property Essentials for Engineers</b> Novelty, or “how not to blow your patent rights” You can patent it, but you might not be able to make it Shhhhh . . . It’s a secret! - Developing and protecting trade secrets What your boss does and does not own . . . usually	<i>J. Maenner</i>
<b>Practical Ethics Workshop</b> Reviewing the NSPE Code of Ethics for engineers Quality control issues: can quality issues be ethics issues? Environmental/climate best practices: do we have moral/ethical duties? Transparency in communication: how much is required and with whom? Conflicts of interest: how to prevent them Gifts and favors: what can I offer/accept?	<i>R. Bowman</i>
<b>An Overview of the Legal Process - For Pennsylvania Engineers</b> Forums for relief Theories of recovery Understanding the process Discovery issues explained Experts and expert retorts Alternative dispute resolution	<i>J. Lippl</i>
<b>Preventing and Defending Professional Liability Claims</b> Reviewing the grounds for professional liability claims Identifying who can bring a claim Examining common sources of professional liability claims Reviewing defenses to liability claims Determining damages Obtaining Insurance coverage for professional liability claims	<i>V. Greene</i>
<b>Recognizing Your Rights, Responsibilities and Risks under Contracts</b> Reviewing the necessary elements of any contract Determining performance What constitutes a breach of contract Defenses to breach and enforcement of contracts Damages and remedies for contract breach Making changes to contracts Important terms in contracts for design professionals Interplay between contracts on a project Liability-shifting contract provisions – warranties, indemnification, contribution, and additional insured status Dispute resolution provisions in contracts	<i>B. Sprout</i>
<b>Developments in Federal and Pennsylvania Environmental Law</b> Reviewing recent changes to and enforcement of: • Pollution prevention • Water quality enforcement • Stormwater permitting • Watersheds, wetlands, lakes and streams Reviewing recent and anticipated developments at the US EPA, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and local agencies	<i>R. Burns, Jr</i>

## Current Issues for Pennsylvania Engineers

Live, Interactive Webinar - Tuesday, November 28, 2023

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HalfMoon Education Inc.  
PO Box 278  
Altoona, WI 54720-0278



## Learning Objectives

### You’ll be able to:

**Understand** how to obtain patents and learn how to protect patent rights and trade secrets from infringement.

**Get** practical tips on complying with the NSPE Code of Ethics.

**Get** an overview of the litigation process and discuss the engineer’s role in it.

**Prevent** and defend professional liability claims.

**Explore** the necessary elements of contracts, and define what constitutes a breach of contract.

**Examine** developments in federal and Pennsylvania environmental law.



### HalfMoon Education Live Webinars

# Current Issues for Pennsylvania Engineers

Live, Interactive Webinar - Tuesday, November 28, 2023



**Explore** the ins and outs of intellectual property for design professionals

**Examine** issues of engineering ethics, from quality control to acceptance of gifts and favors

**Discuss** how to prevent and defend professional liability cases

**Learn** about the intricacies of contracts

**Analyze** the impact of federal and Pennsylvania environmental law on engineering

### Continuing Education Credits

**Engineers**  
7.0 PDHs  
(Including 1.0 Ethics Hour)



# Webinar Information

<b>Log into Webinar</b> 8:00 - 8:30 am EST	<b>Break</b> 11:45 am - 12:15 pm EST
<b>Morning Session</b> 8:30 - 11:45 am EST	<b>Afternoon Session</b> 12:15 - 4:30 pm EST

**Tuition**  
\$319 for individual registration.  
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# Faculty

**Joseph E. Maenner, Esq.** is a registered patent attorney and founded Maenner & Associates, LLC, in 2011 after practicing in intellectual property boutique firms and general practice firms, as well as serving as in-house counsel for a small high-technology startup company. Mr. Maenner graduated from the Dickinson School of Law (now part of the Pennsylvania State University) in 1996 and began actively practicing intellectual property law in 1998. Prior to attending law school, Mr. Maenner earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Drexel University in 1986. He had a seven-year career as an engineer, working for the U.S. Department of Defense at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, located in Philadelphia. Additionally, Mr. Maenner has experience in counseling clients in the selection and use of trademarks and in obtaining federal trademark registrations. While in law school, he served as an intern in the U.S. Trademark Office. Mr. Maenner frequently provides seminars on intellectual property to local university and high school students and has conducted CLE courses on intellectual property for local bar associations. Mr. Maenner is also an adjunct professor at Lehigh University, teaching a class in Intellectual Property Law for a graduate program in Technical Entrepreneurship. Mr. Maenner is a member of the bar of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as well as the Middle District of Pennsylvania, and is admitted to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

**Rebecca Bowman, Esq., P.E., D.F.E.** is a sole proprietor, practicing in dispute resolution, estate planning, civil engineering, real estate, legal services, strategic development, and training. She is experienced in dispute resolution, estate planning and administration, engineering design and forensic analysis, construction/project management, real estate, small business start-up, employment law, and nonprofit support. She is a registered professional engineer and a certified arbitrator and mediator. Mrs. Bowman writes a column for the *PE Reporter*, "Risky Business," and she lectures for the Community College of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania State University, the Washington County Bar Association, the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers and others. She earned her B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of North Dakota, her M.B.A. degree from Oklahoma University, and her J.D. degree from Duquesne University. She just completed her Certificate in Sustainability Policy from Penn State and has recently joined the National Society of Professional Engineers as their Senior Director of Ethics and Professional Practice.

**John E. Lippl, P.E.** is both a licensed attorney and a registered professional engineer. He received a bachelor of science degree in Civil Engineering from the Penn State University College of Engineering and a juris doctor degree from the University of Tennessee College of Law. Mr. Lippl has worked as a project manager for major general contractors, as an attorney with several law firms and as general counsel for a contractor, before beginning his current practice focusing on the legal aspects of the construction process. He is a trained and experienced arbitrator and mediator and frequently lectures at both legal and construction related conferences. In his spare time, Mr. Lippl served as an officer with the United States Navy Civil Engineer Corps. His work as a civil engineer with the Navy took him to multiple countries, several continents and two tours of duty in Iraq – as a structural engineer on an anti-terror team and as executive officer of a Naval Mobile Construction Battalion.

**Vittoria D. Greene's** practice is focused on representation of architects and engineers in breach of contract, professional negligence, and tort claims, as well as contract negotiation and licensing. Prior to joining Milber Makris Plousadis & Seiden, she was a deputy attorney general for the State of New Jersey, where she handled complex litigation arising out of construction projects and provided claims avoidance advice to the New Jersey Department of Transportation and other state agencies. She received a B.A. degree in History and Political Science from Loyola University in Maryland in 2008, and a J.D. degree from Villanova University School of Law in 2011. While attending Villanova Law, she wrote for the *Villanova Law Review* and handled immigration and worker's compensation cases for the Civil Justice Clinic.

**Bradley N. Sprout, Esq.** is a shareholder with the Harrisburg office of Pion, Nerone, Girman, Winslow & Smith, P.C. He concentrates his practice primarily in the areas of transportation law, products liability law, construction law, and complex civil litigation. With regard to his construction law practice, Mr. Sprout has represented owners, contractors and design professionals in a variety of disputes, including but not limited to: payment disputes; delay, inefficiency, acceleration, and escalation claims; design and construction defect claims; and lien claims. Mr. Sprout regularly litigates cases in state and federal courts throughout Pennsylvania, as well as in proceedings before the American Arbitration Association. He also regularly advises his clients in the prevention, investigation, and mitigation of catastrophic losses. Mr. Sprout is a graduate of Dickinson College and Penn State - Dickinson School of Law.

**Robert L. Burns, Jr., Esq., LEED AP** is a member of the firm's Energy, Environmental and Natural Resources Section, and he focuses his practice on environmental law and its intersections with natural resources, development, construction, commercial transactions, litigation, manufacturing, and waste. In his construction practice, he provides counsel regarding the financing, development and construction of construction projects, including related construction, design, engineering and architectural agreements, and concerning the purchase, remediation, construction and development of brownfields and "green" buildings. Mr. Burns holds two engineering degrees and is certified as an accredited professional under the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standard issued by the U.S. Green Building Council.

# Credit Information

This webinar is open to the public and is designed to qualify for 7.0 PDHs, including 1.0 ethics hour, for professional engineers in Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists does not provide preapproval for any continuing professional competency activities, courses or providers.

Attendance will be monitored, and attendance certificates will be available after the webinar for those who attend the entire course and score a minimum 80% on the quiz that follows the course (multiple attempts allowed).