USA

IEEE
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for Humanity

IEEE Career Fair (USA)

Virtual | October 30, 2025 | 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM ET

Pre Event Workshop

Future Ready Engineers

Essential Skills and Networking Strategies to Stand out at a Career Fair

October 16th, 2025 | 12 pm - 1 pm ET

Speaker **Shaibu Ibrahim**

SENIOR ELECTRICAL ENGINEER @ACCIONA

The Pre Event Workshops are Exclusively for Registered IEEE Career Fair Participants!

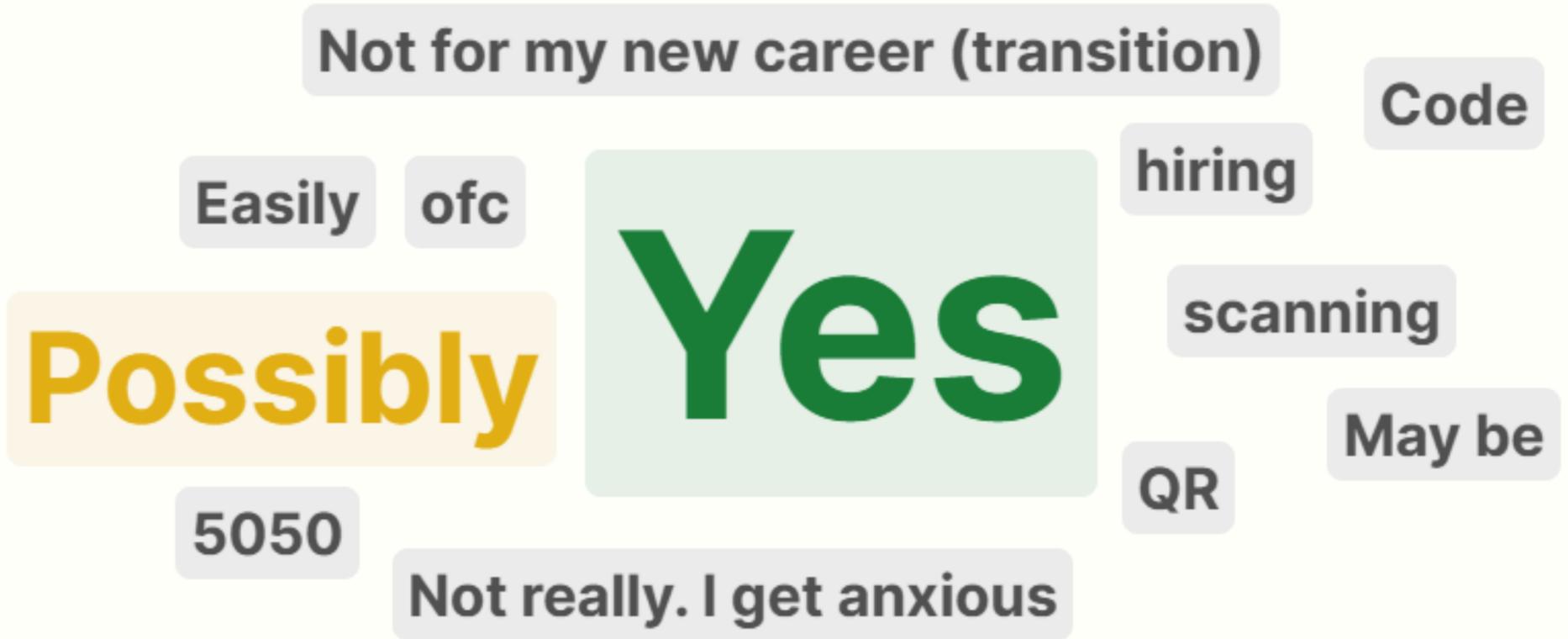REGISTER NOW:

careerfair.ieee.org/attend

IEEE Industry Engagement Committee
IEEE Technical Activities
IEEE students
IEEE young professionals
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IEEE★USA

Please scan the QR code

for 3 questions

Join at
slido.com
#2229 609

Do you feel confident that you could walk into a career fair today and make a strong impression on a recruiter or hiring manager?

SL.

Not for my new career (transition)

Code

Easily   ofc   hiring

scanning

Possibly   Yes   May be

QR

5050

Not really. I get anxious

When you think about the next five years, do you believe AI and automation will create more engineering jobs or replace them?

SL.

It will create more opportunitopportunities .

engineering

Replace

existing

AI

50/50

Create more jobs

Replace them

create

jobs

different

They will create more

Create more jobs for AI developers and designers.

Have you ever attended a career fair, talked to a recruiter, and later realized you weren't sure what to say or ask? What will you do next?

Try to explore more about the company to understand more

Yes, looknup their company to understand them better

Yes. Tried to ask open ended Qs

Yes. Often

networking

Google search

ChatGpt

time

Yes

tips

fair

Mock networking practice

fresher

career

Yes I did, prepare more

Yes. Often research companies

Yes, follow up with the recruiter on their feedback

SL.

Each year, U.S. universities award over

100,000+ engineering bachelor's degrees

and

30k - 40k of master's

a few thousand PhD

data by

The American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE)

National Science Foundation (NSF)

engineers today

leaders tomorrow

Shaibu Ibrahim, PE, PMP, NABCEP PVIP

SL.

SHAIBU IBRAHIM
PE, PMP, NABCEP PVIP, LEED GA

in the COVID-19 era, I had my first virtual career fair in 2020.

Do you remember the lockdown era?

a lot of companies and opportunities ...

but

I made mistakes ...

poor preparation

thought it was just another show ...

acciona energía

A global leader in 100% renewable energy: offering solutions for hydropower, wind, solar, biomass, battery storage and green hydrogen - Global Team.

ADVANCED SOLAR PRODUCTS

A Leading Renewable Energy Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) Firm - U.S.A.

KARPOWERSHIP

A Multinational Offshore Thermal Power Generation Company - Ghana.

PUREPOWER ENGINEERING

A Leading Renewable Energy (SOLAR & BESS) Engineering Company - U.S.A.

aksa ENERGY

A Multinational Onshore Thermal Power Generation Company - Ghana.

The Largest Power Distribution Company - Ghana.

ELECTRICITY COMPANY GHANA LTD

Companies don't just hire skills

You have learn a lot great !!!

congratulations

Is time to land your dream job
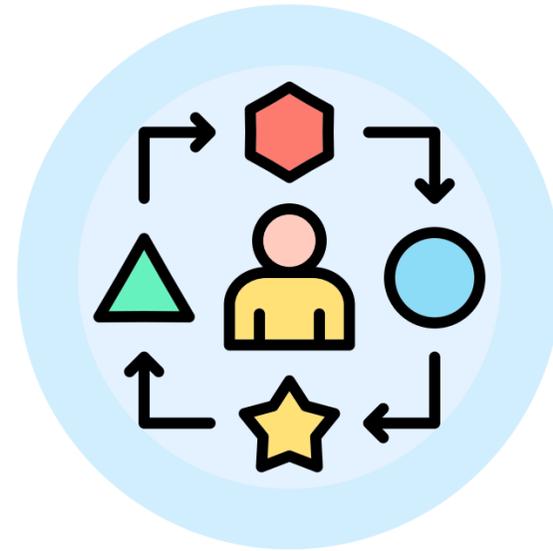
Shaibu Ibrahim, PE, PMP, NABCEP PVIP

SL.

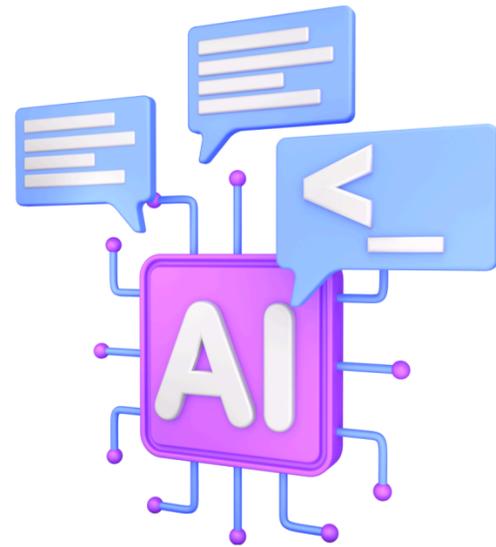# Companies hire people who can

grow

adapt

team

Shaibu Ibrahim, PE, PMP, NABCEP PVIP

Future Ready Engineers

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a lot of change, every sec and day

with automation

digital transformation

artificial intelligence

We can only
- **prepare**
- **learn**
- **adapt**

automation could displace **400-800 million** jobs globally by 2030

about **375 million** workers likely to switch jobs

25% of jobs in the USA are likely to be **disrupted** in the next 10 years

national security concerns

Source: McKinsey & Company

IEEE USA Insight

How can you be ready?

First, we should identify present skills in demand

code generation   modeling simulation   data processing   design

interpretation   refine systems

for engineers,   Do you think technical skills are enough to shield us?

Organizations look far beyond that

SL.

Essential Skills

SL.

What are the most critical skills?

To better appreciate the question

Why do companies **exist?**

And why do companies want to **continue** to exist?

Shaibu Ibrahim, PE, PMP, NABCEP PVIP

JOBS

companies do not exist because of **jobs**

but jobs are a **by-product** of companies existence

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CAREER

great it's called a career fair

SL.

Key Skills Employers Value

SL.

1 **Communication:)**

clear ⟶ avoid ambiguity

confident ⟶ less self doubt

concise ⟶ brief but detailed

responsive ⟶ respond even if you don't have the answer

timely feedback ⟶ don't over delay feedback

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the next 5 - 10 years will come with a lot unknowns

2 **Adaptability:)**
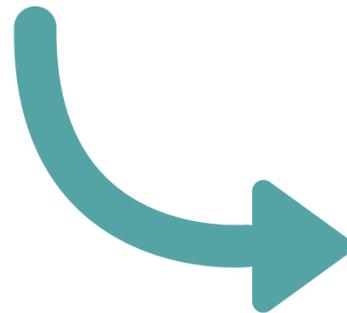
changing environments
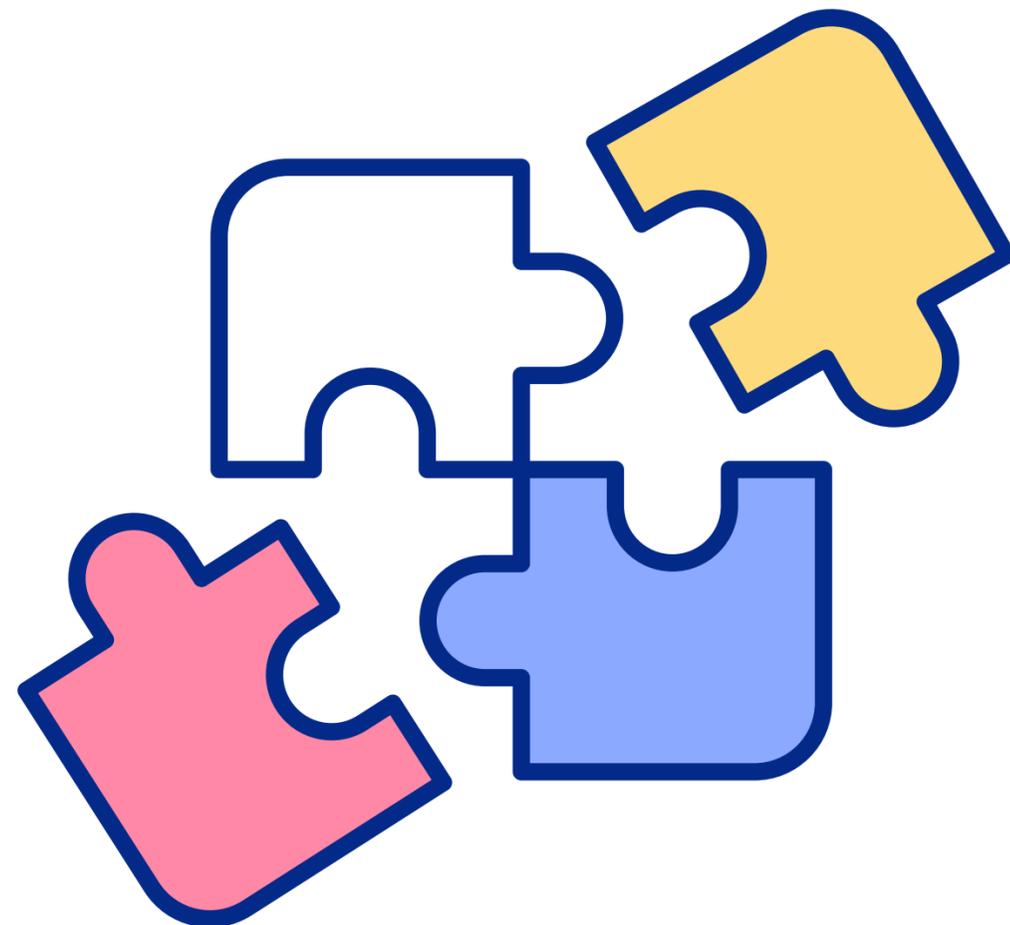
build hybrid skills - "general specialist"

networking and personal branding

Blend technical skills with human skills

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3 **Teamwork & Collaboration**

Understand workplace diversity

merits

less or avoid

errors

delays

misunderstandings

electrical

software

mechanical

civil

environmental

HR

business developers

financial

attorneys

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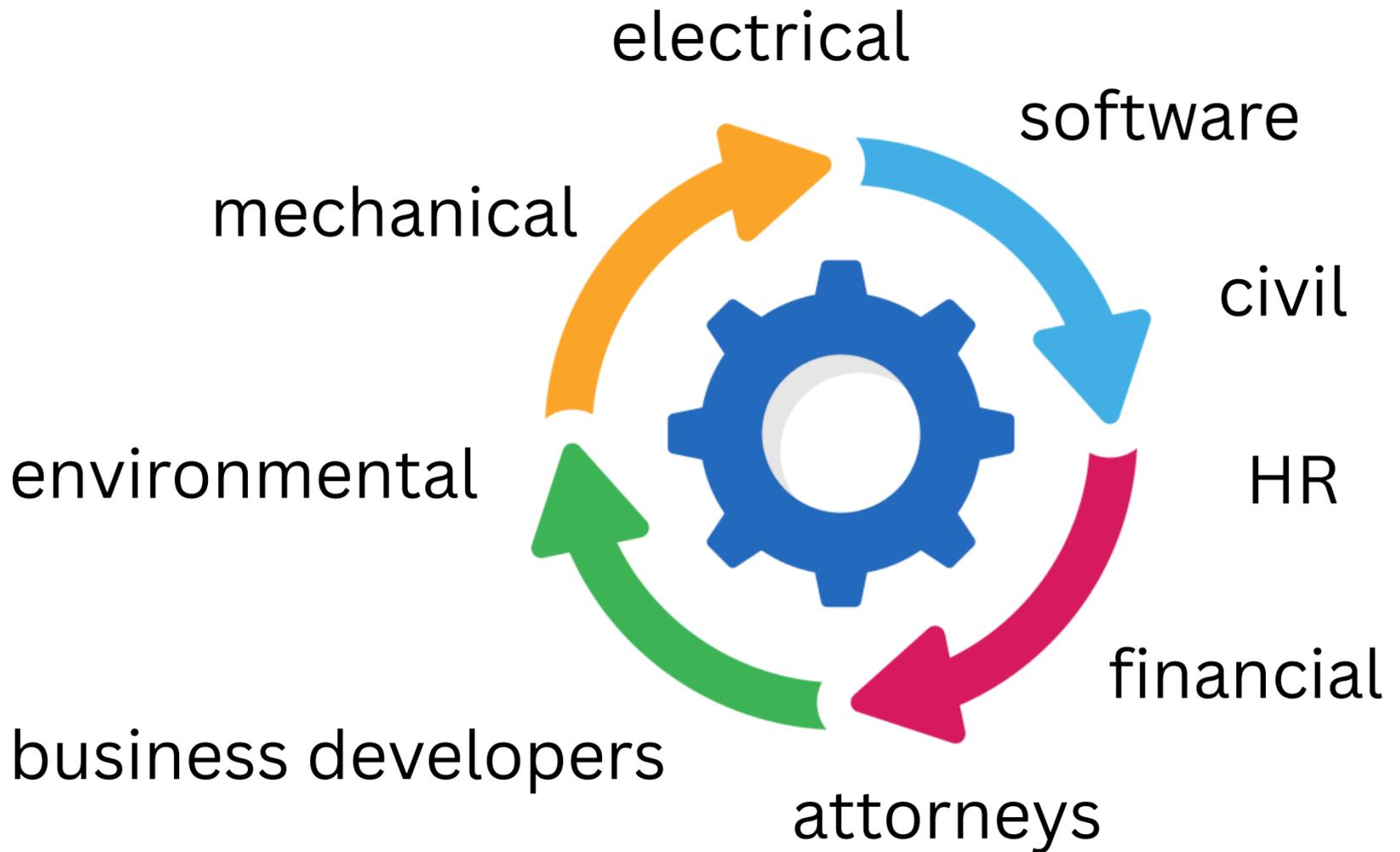
4 **Leadership & Initiative**

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✓ open to help others

✓ provide clarity and direction

✓ provide adequate resources

✓ want to see your team succeed

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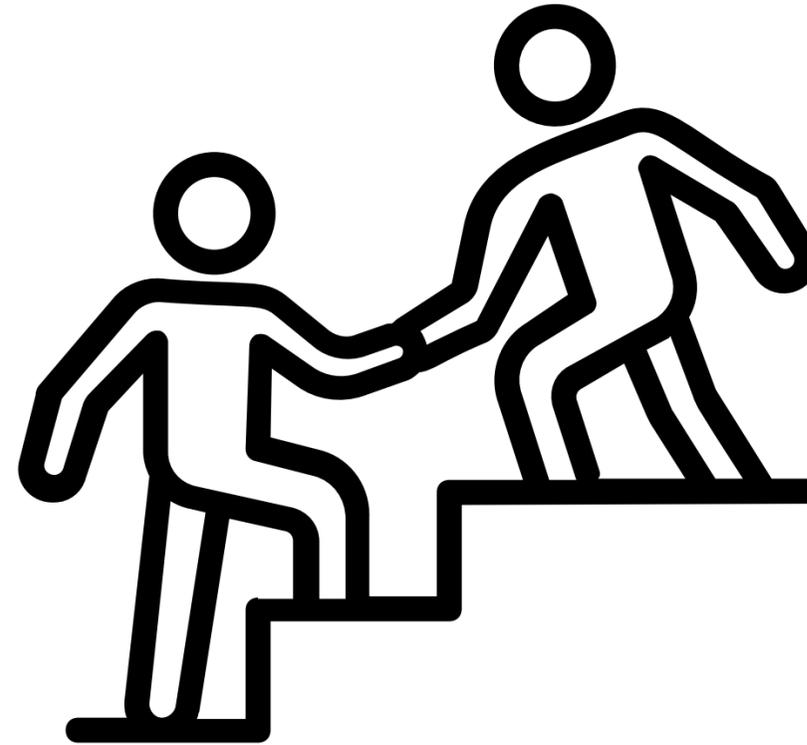
do you understand your team?

✓ self-awareness

✓ empathy

✓ active listening

✓ Say thank you

know your **strengths** and **weaknesses**

let you see others **perspectives**

listen to **understand** and **not to respond**

celebrate small **wins**

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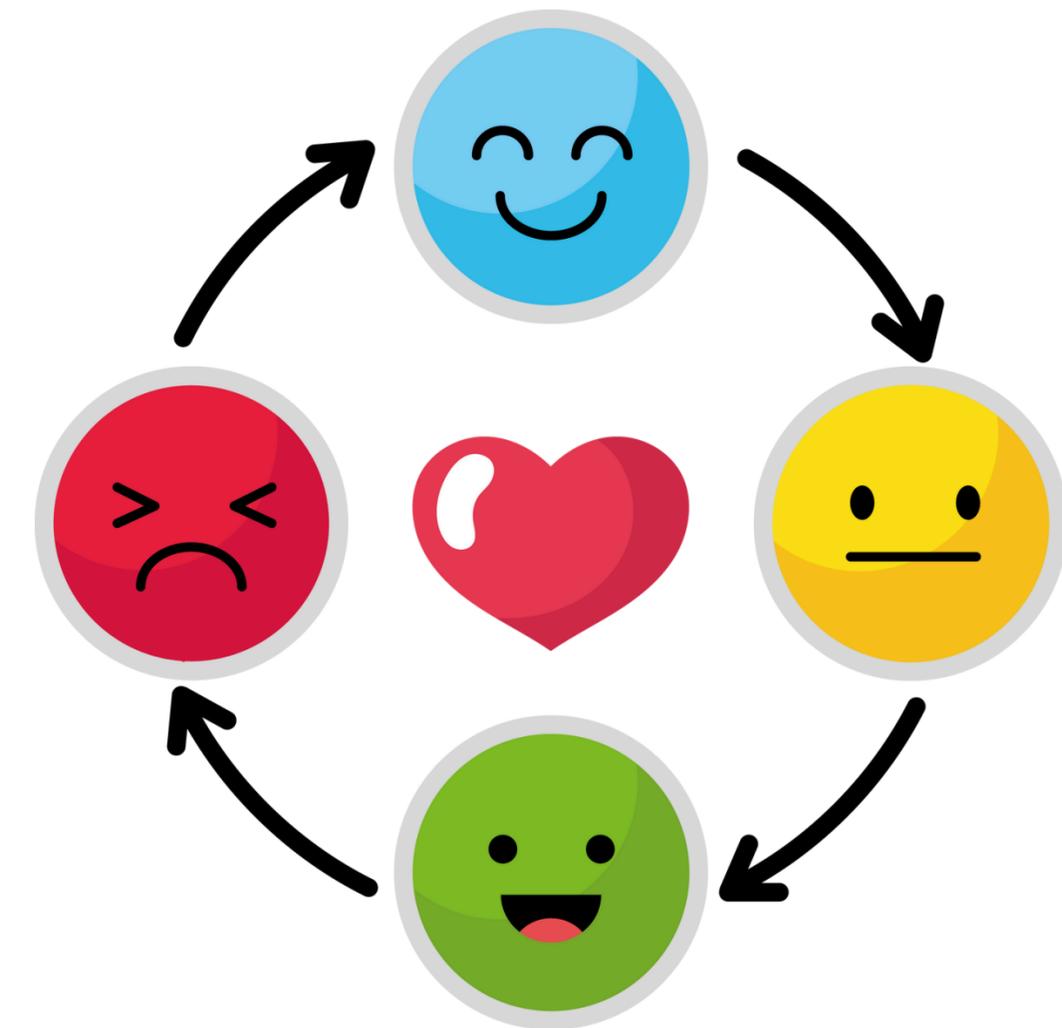
SL.

Is a journey each step is important

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Networking Strategies

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How can you stand out?

do you have a list of your top 5?

Review the list of participating companies in advance.

Research their:

projects
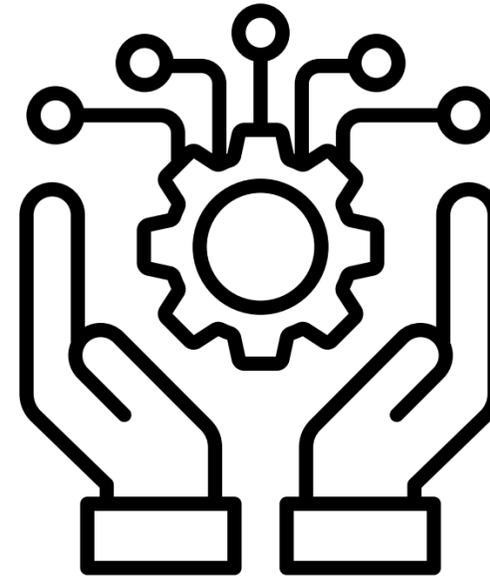
technologies

core values, especially those in your field

top 5, preferred

SL.

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before you join

Test your tech setup:)
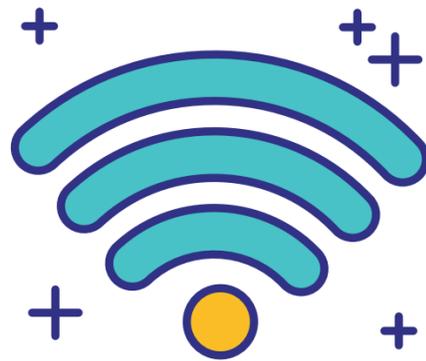
target your top 5 employers

audio

lighting

prepare customized:)

webcam

internet

talking points or questions.

at least a day before the event.

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Perfect Your Virtual Elevator Pitch

In a virtual setting,

first impressions are formed within seconds

Practice your elevator pitch
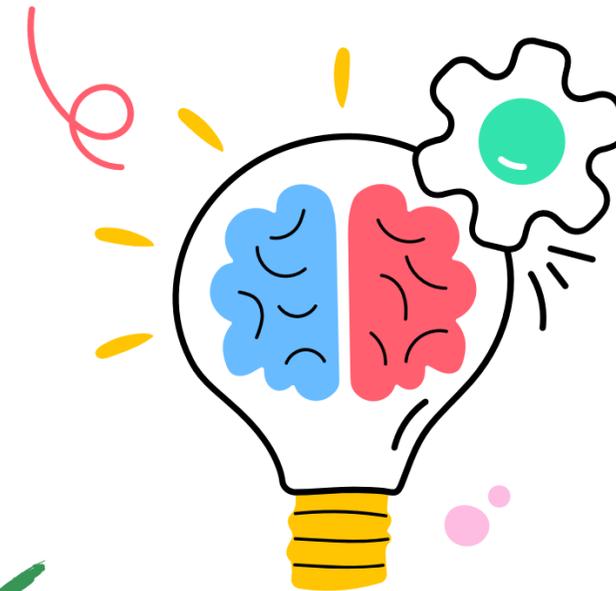
SL.

1 **Who you are:)**

name

major

school

2 **What you do:)**
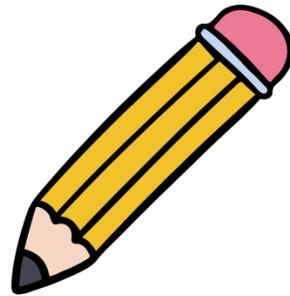
key project

skill

research area

3 **What you're looking:)**

internship

mentorship

entry-level role

✓ mention similar problems you have solved

(if any)

and/or your significant achievement

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Engage Actively During Live Chats or Video Booths
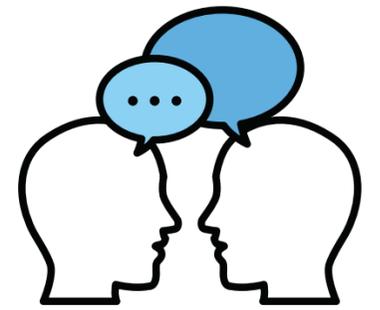
✓ **show genuine curiosity**
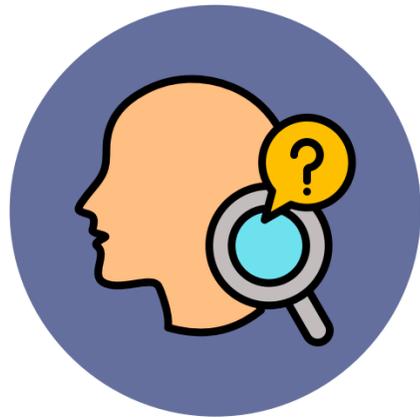
by

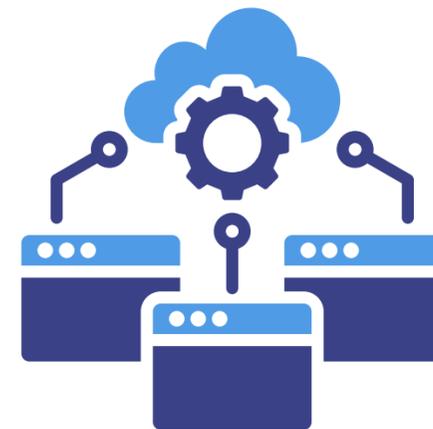✓ **Asking specific, meaningful questions like**

- How would you describe a **successful** project?

- How does your company **integrate** .... in its engineering projects?

- What **3 skills make new hires successful** in your engineering teams?

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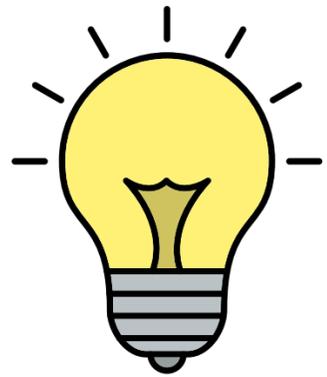
what you should avoid

SL.

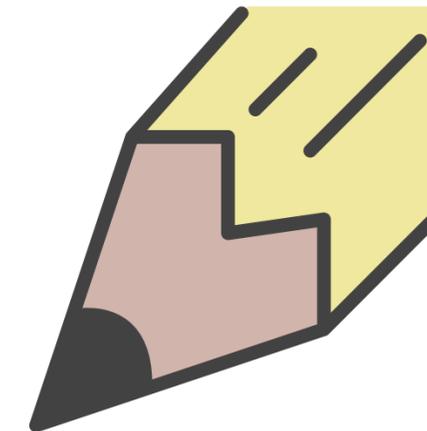**Avoid** generic questions like

What does your company do?

that's already on their website.

If the recruiter or hiring team shares:)

resources or
advice,

you can mention them later in your follow-up.

take notes

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Follow Up Within 24–48 Hours

How should you treat a career fair?

consider it as an open-source interview

it provides similar opportunities to land a **role** with your **prospective** employers

Send a short thank you:)

email   **linkedIn**

make a reference to something specific that was discussed

attach sample report or work along with your message

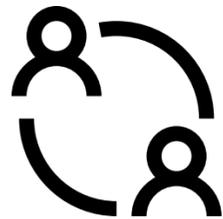Shaibu Ibrahim, PE, PMP, NABCEP PVIP

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Maintain connections

virtual career fairs shouldn't

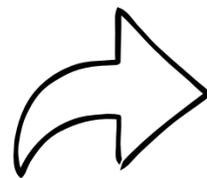with the event

as people, we cherish long term relationship

connect   like   comment   share
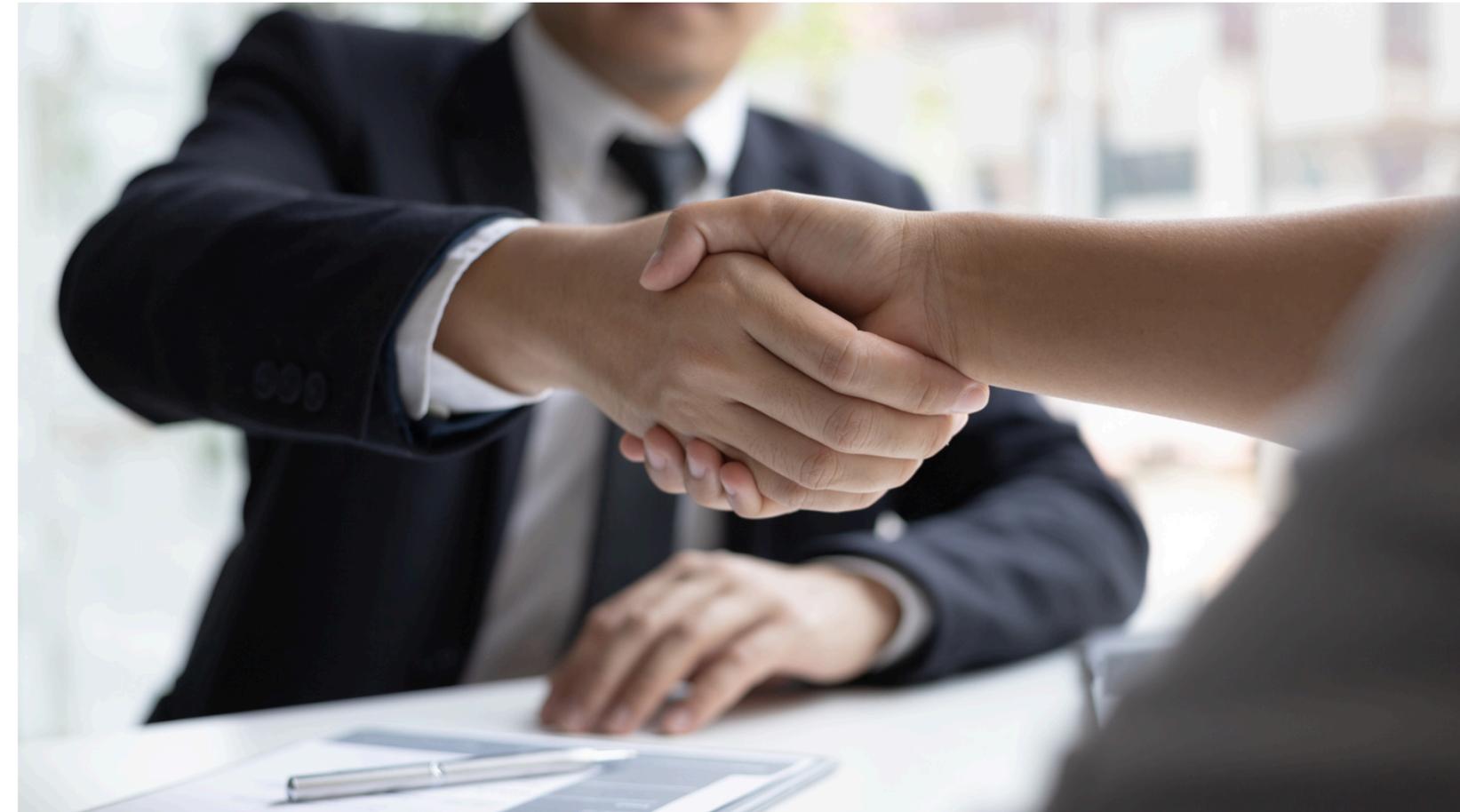
💡 Think long-term: today's recruiter might be tomorrow's colleague, mentor, or hiring manager.

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THANK YOU

IEEE

IEEE Career Fair

IEEE Industry Engagement Committee

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Everyone
Go for your shine!!!

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