Response journal 2 (ethics)



Response Journal 2 In the story Adventure of the Engineer's Thumb by Doyle, Mr. Hatherley, a hydraulics engineer, was conveyed by a man supposed to be Colonel Lysander Stark to work on a hydraulic press for a fuller's-earth. On the house of his client, where he checked the machine, he pointed out exactly the problem of which his client's machine is experiencing. He answered several questions to help his client out. "I took the lamp from him, and I examined the machine very thoroughly... I knew at once by the whishing sound that there was a slight leakage, which allowed a regurgitation of water through one of the side cylinders... and I pointed it out to my companions...When I had made it clear to them, I returned to the main chamber...It was obvious at a glance that the story of the fuller's-earth was the merest fabrication, for it would be absurd to suppose that so powerful an engine could be designed for so inadequate a purpose...and saw the cadaverous face of the colonel looking down at me." (Doyle, p. 15). It appears that Mr. Hartherley, being passionate to his career, has been practicing his profession ethically. He had given appropriate advices to his clients. On the other hand he had been very keen about the purpose of the machine he is attending to, for he knows that ethically, he will be liable for all damages that the machine would give to the community and the environment as well. Thus, as stated in on the Code of Ethics for Engineers under Professional Obligations 1b: "Engineers shall advise their clients or employers when they believe a project will not be successful." And on the Fundamental Canons nos. 1 and 6: "Hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public" and Conduct themselves honorably, responsibly, ethically, and "Conduct themselves honorably, responsibly, ethically, and lawfully so as to enhance the honor, reputation, and usefulness of the

profession" respectively. References: Doyle, Arthur C. "The Adventure of The Engineer's Thumb." 2010. 13 June 2011. National Society of Professional Engineers. "Code of Ethics for Engineers." NSPE. July 2007. 13 June 2011.