

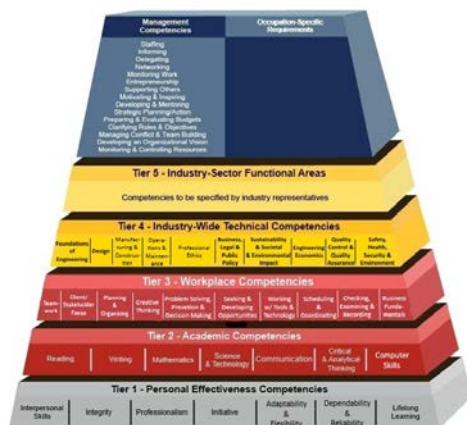
**NEWS RELEASE**

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## Engineering Competency Model developed

*Universal template provides engineering skills essential for success*

As the leading international resource for technical information about mining and related industries, the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Inc. (SME), in collaboration with the American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES), is pleased to announce the release of the [Engineering Competency Model](#). SME members partnered with other society members of the AAES Lifelong Learning Working Group and the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration to build the model and provide a universal template for the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary not only for entering the engineering profession, but also for maintaining competency and proficiency during one’s career.



The [Engineering Competency Model](#) (the Model) is designed to establish a more consistent guideline for the profession. The model is intended for use by:

- **Industry leaders, employers and human resource professionals**, to identify skill needs and assess competencies and performance
- **Educators and academics**, to inform the development of competency-based curricula and training
- **Workforce professionals and career counselors**, to develop resources for career exploration and guidance
- **Current and future engineers**, to gain a clear understanding of the skills and abilities necessary to enter, advance and succeed in the industry

At its core, the Model is a [four-tier model](#) that uses a pyramid to depict the required key competencies including personal, academic, workplace and technical competencies common to the engineering profession. There is an opportunity to adapt the Model and apply additional tiers to include management, discipline and occupation-specific competencies. The model will be expanded by identifying and incorporating industry specific competencies as Tier V.

This powerful tool for the engineering industries will help unite the profession around common skills and competencies that are essential for success. The project was funded by a grant from the United Engineering Foundation. For more information on AAES and its working groups, please visit [www.AAES.org](http://www.AAES.org).

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SME is a professional society (nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation) whose more than 15,000 members represent all professions serving the minerals industry in more than 100 countries. SME members include engineers, geologists, metallurgists, educators, students and researchers. SME advances the worldwide minerals community through information exchange and professional development.

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*SME exists to be the premier resource and advocate for the mining community.  
For further details, see [www.smenet.org](http://www.smenet.org)*