



THE IMPORTANCE OF BELONGING TO A PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY

There are many classical reasons for belonging to a professional society such as *networking*, *access to technical and production journals*, *opportunity to stay abreast of new technologies*, and *professional development* just to name a few. These are all valid, legitimate reasons for belonging to a professional society.



But what if you considered belonging to a professional society as a long term investment? An investment that would prepare you to *imagine*, *innovate*, *create*, and *solve problems*, so that when preparation meets opportunity you'll be able to *make a difference*. Would it then be worth it to you to sacrifice your precious *time*? The answer depends on your desire to one day become a leader. John C. Maxwell, a renowned leader himself and author of many leadership books states that "A leader must give up to go up," and that it is "an ongoing process and not a one-time payment."



Obviously, the decision to join a professional society is yours. But before you hastily make a decision, consider what the late Dr. Randy Pausch stated in his one-of-a kind lecture at Carnegie Mellon University available on the Web; "The brick walls are there to stop the people who don't want it badly enough."

