



International Federation of  
Consulting Engineers (FIDIC)

# The importance of profession updating for Young Professionals

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The last decades have seen the labor market split into two: on the one hand the young professionals, highly suited to the technological side and launched towards a computerized dimension of project and profession, on the other the old generation that bases its professionalism on an important experiential baggage, based on experience accumulated during years of activity. The new generation will experience, and with a few years of work will be able to fill the preparation gap that separates them from the old generations. The new technologies, for example the Building Information Modeling systems, are supplanting the old way of working, and young professionals will be more and more requested because they are better able to meet the growing computerization needs that our profession requires.



But we must be careful: what we must continue to focus on is our state of preparedness. Professional updating will be an element that we will never lose sight of, which must always accompany us in our evolution and growth. We should not fall into the presumption of being satisfied with the concepts learned during university studies, but understand that our growth depends on the comparison with peers and other professionals.

In Italy, as in many other European countries and not, enrollment in the professional register requires a minimum number of credits to be acquired each year. Often this prescription is seen as an imposition: it must instead become an opportunity. Opportunities to discover new cultural and professional paths; opportunities to actively approach the life of professional register; opportunities to consolidate or extend our network of contacts. We, young professionals, must not be tied to stereotypes or pre-set paths: we must be able to build our future in an increasingly changing working environment.

The real challenge of training is in the ability to enhance our features of young professionals, requiring the overcoming of the rigidity of the training paths that mortify creativity and intellectual liveliness that is proper to us. Our peculiarities, consisting of having open minds, resilient tools, sometimes audacious visions capable of imagining what is not yet fully accomplished, must accompany our formative journey, in order not to lock ourselves in the certainties reached and always aim at obtaining the best. The richness of our profession, in fact, lies in the scientific method that gives us resilience and versatility: it is the method of science, the self-corrective approach that allows us to expose theses and refute them.

FIDIC provides us with a considerable amount of training, the opportunity to participate in courses both online and face to face: an entire page of the site is dedicated to training, with a wide choice of topics.

For the Young Professionals, manager of tomorrow, it is also expected the Young Professional Management Training Programme: an intensive management training

programme based on case studies and discussions of management issues within an international team of participants and mentors.

Furthermore, participation in the countless scheduled conferences and above all the FIDIC international infrastructure conferences, allows us to broaden knowledge, deepen topics and enter the world of work and management.

As Stephen Hawking teaches us *"the greatest enemy of knowledge is not ignorance, it is illusion of knowledge"*.

