Identifying the Right Mentor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of engineer:</th>
<th>i.e. Civil Engineer</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discipline:</td>
<td>i.e. Structural Engineer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job (be specific as possible):</td>
<td>i.e. Bridge Engineer</td>
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</table>

Review your goals on the previous pages; now try to find an engineer with a job similar to yours who has achieved similar goals. Some places you might look include your company, LinkedIn, professional associations, and alumni groups.

Below is the text for an e-mail template that you can use to reach out to a prospective mentor (feel free to change it to sound more like your own voice). I would recommend that you do not mention the word “mentor” in the e-mail; your objective should be simply to try to set up an initial phone call. Many engineers think mentoring is much more work than it really is, so mentioning it in an e-mail may discourage a response. You can discuss mentoring on the call if it goes well.

E-mail Template:

Hello FULL NAME,

I was referred to you by NAME (or found you through SOURCE) and wanted to talk to you about giving me some engineering career advice.

It looks like you have been very successful in the same engineering discipline that I am looking to thrive in. I was hoping I could ask you some questions about how to advance my own career.

Is there a phone number and a good time that I can call you in the next week?

Sincerely,

Joe Smith
Cell (xxx) XXX-XXXX