EPEC/VDV Academic Integrity Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism

At NAED we believe that honest work builds self-esteem, knowledge, and skills. Although we would like for you to collaborate with other EPEC/VDV students, we expect you to still maintain separate work, including original module work and cut packages.

EPEC and VDV are both opportunities to develop several qualities, including: learning new skills, demonstrating creativity, improving flexibility, seeking solutions, and expanding your leadership abilities. Only by pushing yourselves during your training and submitting your own work do you have the opportunity to learn and develop from the critiques of our reviewers. You will not learn anything from the reviewers' comments if it is not your work being reviewed.

Discussing EPEC or VDV with your colleagues, suppliers, and customers is encouraged, as long as you do your own work. Any submitted written or copied work, including all submitted modules and cut sheets and packages, that is not one's own and has in fact been copied in whole or in part from the work of another person or persons will result in disciplinary action by NAED.

Should we detect any signs of cheating or plagiarism, we reserve the right to contact the management of the student(s) involved, request re-work and re-submittal of any modules, assignments, or final exam, and/or deny the EPEC graduation of any student found to have cheated, committed plagiarism, or to have aided another student in cheating or plagiarism.

Definition of Cheating

Cheating is defined as obtaining or attempting to obtain, or aiding another to obtain credit for work, or any improvement in evaluation of performance, by any dishonest or deceptive means.

Examples of Cheating include, but are not limited to the following:
- Copying answers from another's original work, including modules, either in part or in whole
- Copying another's project, including any and all cut-sheet submittals
- Discussion at any time of answers or questions on the final examination, unless such discussion is specifically authorized by NAED
- Taking or receiving copies of the final examination without the permission of NAED
- Allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent the student either in work submissions, including modules, or the final examination.

Definition of Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as the act of using the ideas or work of another person or persons as if they were one's own without giving proper credit to the source.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to the following:
- The submission of a work, including modules, either in part or in whole completed by another
- Failure to give credit for ideas, statements, facts or conclusions which rightfully belong to another
- Failure to use quotation marks when quoting directly from another, whether it be a paragraph, a sentence, or even a part thereof
- Close and lengthy paraphrasing of another's writing without credit or originality
- Use of another's project or part thereof without giving credit. This includes making any copies of another's cut-sheet submittal(s) and submitting them as one's own.

Such an act is not plagiarism if it is ascertained that the ideas were arrived through independent reasoning or logic or where the thought or idea is common knowledge. Acknowledgement of an original author or source must be made through appropriate references; i.e., quotation marks, footnotes, or commentary.