Time Commitment for SPE Directors

Being an SPE Director will require commitment, probably 10-20% of your time for actual Board work, plus additional time for stakeholder engagement. However, most Directors agree that the benefits far outweigh the time and costs involved with being a Director. In the course of your 3 years on the Board, you will expand your professional network and development in ways often difficult to quantify.

The SPE Board meets three times per year. It is very important that each director commit to attending all three meetings. One Board meeting is held in conjunction with the Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition, usually held in September or October. The other two meetings are held in locations around the world chosen for strategic reasons by the SPE President. One is usually held in March and another in June.

Each Board meeting lasts up to three days, and efforts are made to avoid disruption of more than one work week. Many Directors try to line up other business when they travel for a Board meeting.

Each Board member serves on two Board Committees: either Member Programs or Engagement and Development; and either Training and Events or Knowledge Repositories. Some Board members will also serve on other committees such as Audit, Finance, Compensation, or Nominating.

The Board Committees may hold occasional conference calls between the three regularly scheduled Board meetings. Some Board members may serve on special task forces that might also require occasional conference calls. In addition, the Board uses email and a web portal called BoardEffect® to discuss issues, vote on mail ballots, access board documents, and conduct routine business between regular Board meetings.

An SPE Board Member Travel Reimbursement Policy is in place to enable Directors to participate in Board meetings and effectively serve their regions or technical specialty constituencies without financial hardship. The reimbursement policy applies to eligible expenses that neither the Director nor his/her company is in a position to pay. The need for financial support should ideally be declared at the time of acceptance of the nomination to serve as a Director of SPE.