

1. Mohamed Sameer Hoosain (corresponding author)

sameer.hoosain@gmail.com

University of Johannesburg

2. Saurabh Sinha

ssinha@uj.ac.za

Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research and Internationalization at the University of Johannesburg

3. Funding Sources – IEEE

4. Key Words - EPICS-in-IEEE; vertical integration; workplace culture; social innovation; service learning; professional development; engineering education.

5. Plagiarism declaration: I acknowledge in submitting this manuscript to the journal that I have included all relevant citations and references. I further acknowledge that this manuscript presents my own original work, and does not copy, borrow from, or represent other published research in a way that would constitute academic plagiarism.

The submission has not been previously published, nor is it before another journal for consideration