NEW HORIZON COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

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Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering
ALUMNI TALK REPORT

1. Event Details

Title	From Classroom to Corporate: The Core Engineer's Playbook
Date	17th September 2026
Time	01:30 PM – 02:30 PM
Venue	Tejas Seminar Hall
Resource Person	Mr. Manu K
USN	1NH20EE063
Department	Electrical and Electronics Engineering
Coordinator	Dr. B Gunapriya, Professor – EEE
Convenor	Dr. S Sujitha, HoD – EEE
Principal	Dr. Manjunatha
Organized by	Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering & Alumni Association, IEEE NHCE Student Branch and IEEE Transportation Electrification Council (TEC)

2. Introduction

The **Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE), New Horizon College of Engineering**, in association with the **Alumni Association**, organized an Alumni Talk titled **"From Classroom to Corporate: The Core Engineer's Playbook"** on **17th September 2026** at Tejas Seminar Hall.

The session was delivered by **Mr. Manu K**, an alumnus of the EEE Department bearing **USN 1NH20EE063**. The programme was designed to provide students with practical insights into the transition from engineering education to the professional world, with particular emphasis on **core engineering careers, workplace expectations, technical competency, employability skills, and professional development**.

The session formed part of the department's continuing efforts to strengthen **alumni–student interaction** and provide students with first-hand exposure to professional experiences beyond the classroom.

3. Objectives of the Alumni Talk

The major objectives of the programme were:

1. To provide students with practical insights into the **transition from college to corporate life**.
2. To create awareness about **career opportunities available to core engineering graduates**.
3. To help students understand the difference between **academic learning and industrial requirements**.
4. To highlight the importance of strong **technical fundamentals** for building a successful engineering career.
5. To develop awareness of essential **professional and interpersonal skills**.
6. To guide students on preparing for **placements, interviews, internships, and entry-level engineering roles**.
7. To encourage students to make effective use of their undergraduate years for **skill development and career preparation**.

4. Event Proceedings

The Alumni Talk commenced at 1:30 PM at Tejas Seminar Hall. The session brought together students and faculty members for an interactive discussion on the journey from an engineering classroom to the corporate environment. The speaker shared practical observations from his professional journey and discussed how engineering students can systematically prepare themselves for the expectations of the workplace. The session emphasized that academic knowledge provides the foundation for an engineering career, while practical exposure, communication, teamwork, adaptability, and continuous learning play an important role in professional growth.

5. Major Topics Covered

5.1 Transition from Classroom to Corporate

A major focus of the session was the transition that students experience when they move from an academic environment to a professional organization. The speaker explained that corporate environments require employees to apply classroom concepts to practical problems while working within deadlines, teams, organizational processes, and quality requirements. Students were encouraged to understand that the transition should be viewed as a continuous learning process rather than simply the completion of an engineering degree.

5.2 Importance of Core Engineering Fundamentals

The session highlighted the importance of developing strong fundamentals in Electrical and Electronics Engineering. The speaker emphasized that a strong conceptual foundation enables engineers to understand practical systems and learn advanced technologies more effectively.

5.3 Understanding the Core Engineering Career Path

The talk introduced students to the different possibilities available to engineering graduates within the core engineering sector. Students were encouraged to identify areas matching their interests and gradually develop specialized skills.

5.4 Technical Skills and Practical Knowledge

The speaker emphasized that theoretical knowledge should be complemented by hands-on learning. Students were encouraged to gain practical exposure through:

- Laboratory experiments
- Mini-projects
- Major projects
- Internships
- Industrial visits
- Technical competitions
- Workshops and certification programmes

The importance of understanding how theoretical concepts are implemented in real-world engineering systems was highlighted throughout the session.

5.5 Placement and Interview Preparation

Another important component of the talk was career and placement preparation.
Students were guided to begin their preparation well before the placement season. The speaker discussed the importance of:

- Preparing a concise and technically relevant resume
- Revising core EEE subjects
- Practising aptitude and logical reasoning
- Developing problem-solving skills
- Preparing for technical interviews
- Improving communication skills
- Understanding the organization and job profile before an interview

Students were encouraged to be able to explain their academic projects clearly, including the problem statement, methodology, technologies used, results, and their individual contribution.

6. Importance of Soft Skills

The speaker explained that technical knowledge alone may not be sufficient for professional success. Engineers also need effective communication and interpersonal skills.
The session highlighted:

- Communication skills
- Teamwork
- Leadership

- Presentation skills
- Time management
- Problem-solving
- Adaptability
- Professional etiquette
- Collaboration

Students were encouraged to actively participate in technical presentations, team projects, seminars, and extracurricular activities to improve these abilities.

7. Role of Internships and Projects

The importance of internships and industry-oriented projects was discussed in detail. Students were advised to select projects that demonstrate their ability to apply engineering concepts to practical problems. Rather than focusing only on completing a project for academic requirements, students were encouraged to understand the underlying technology and be able to communicate their work effectively during interviews.

The session also highlighted the value of internships in providing exposure to:

- Industrial work culture
- Professional tools
- Engineering practices
- Team-based problem solving
- Documentation
- Workplace communication

8. Continuous Learning and Upskilling

The speaker emphasized that engineering careers require continuous learning because technologies and industry practices continue to evolve.

Students were encouraged to regularly update their knowledge through:

- Online courses
- Technical certifications
- Professional organizations
- Industry webinars
- Technical journals
- Workshops
- Hands-on projects
- Open-source learning resources

The importance of developing a habit of learning beyond the prescribed curriculum was particularly emphasized.

9. Interactive Session

An interactive discussion was conducted as part of the Alumni Talk. Students actively participated and sought guidance regarding their career preparation and professional development.

The discussion covered areas including:

- How to prepare for core engineering placements
- Skills expected from fresh engineering graduates
- How to improve technical knowledge
- Selection of projects and internships
- Resume preparation
- Technical interview preparation
- Developing confidence for corporate environments
- Opportunities for EEE graduates in different industries

The speaker responded to the queries by sharing practical suggestions and experiences, making the session useful and relatable to the students.

10. Key Takeaways for Students

The important takeaways from the session included:

- Strong fundamentals are the foundation of a core engineering career.
- Students should begin career preparation well before graduation.
- Practical knowledge should complement theoretical learning.
- Projects and internships should be used to demonstrate technical competency.

- Communication and teamwork are important workplace skills.
- Students should continuously update their knowledge and learn emerging technologies.
- A professional attitude, discipline, adaptability, and willingness to learn contribute to long-term career development.
- Alumni interaction can provide valuable practical perspectives that complement classroom education.

11. Outcomes of the Programme

The Alumni Talk resulted in several positive learning outcomes:

1. Students gained a better understanding of the transition from engineering education to corporate life.
2. Participants became more aware of career opportunities in core engineering domains.
3. Students understood the importance of strengthening their technical fundamentals and practical skills.
4. The session provided useful guidance on placement and interview preparation.
5. Students recognized the importance of internships, projects, certifications, and continuous upskilling.
6. Participants gained awareness of the importance of communication, teamwork, adaptability, and professional etiquette.
7. The programme strengthened the alumni–student relationship and created an opportunity for students to learn directly from an alumnus.
8. The session encouraged students to take a more structured approach towards career planning and professional development.

12. Relevance to Student Development

The programme contributed to the holistic development of students by connecting academic learning with professional expectations. The interaction provided students with an opportunity to understand the practical realities of engineering careers and the competencies required to successfully enter and grow within the corporate environment. Such alumni interactions also provide students with exposure to real career journeys and encourage them to make informed decisions regarding skills, internships, projects, placements, and higher professional development.

13. Conclusion

The Alumni Talk “From Classroom to Corporate: The Core Engineer’s Playbook” was successfully conducted on 17th September 2026 at Tejas Seminar Hall, New Horizon College of Engineering. The session by Mr. Manu K, alumnus of the EEE Department, provided students with valuable practical insights into the transition from an engineering student to a professional engineer. The discussion on technical fundamentals, practical exposure, internships, projects, placement preparation, communication skills, and continuous learning provided students with a structured perspective on preparing for their professional careers. The Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering expressed its sincere gratitude to Mr. Manu K for sharing his experiences and interacting with the students. The department also acknowledged the support of the Alumni Association, NHCE, and the institutional leadership in facilitating the programme. The event concluded successfully with active student participation and meaningful interaction, reinforcing the importance of alumni engagement in enhancing students' career awareness, professional readiness, and industry orientation.