

My husband, Don Doerres, and I gave a two-part presentation entitled, “Soft Skills for a Hard World” at the 2007 Annual Embedded Systems Conference in San Jose, California. We received a letter from Jennifer Steele, the Conference Coordinator, about our evaluation results. She wrote:

Thank you for presenting at the Embedded Systems Conference Silicon Valley 2007. We appreciate the amount of effort that is required to produce a quality presentation. Your contribution to this successful event is extremely valued. As you know, we ask all attendees to evaluate the classes that they attend. This enables us to assess which classes and subjects are best received and to make suggestions about potential future presentations. The questions are rated on a scale from 1 to 6.

We had 38 attendees in the first session. Ratings are based on a scale of 1.0 being completely unsatisfied and 6.0 being very satisfied. Our average rating was 5.6 for the first session and 5.6 for the second session. The following chart shows our scores for five attendee evaluation questions in comparison to the average for all Embedded Systems Conference speakers:

Category	Session One	Session Two	All Speakers
1. <i>Overall satisfaction with course content</i>	5.1	5.3	4.87
2. <i>Value of information presented</i>	5.0	5.5	4.85
3. <i>Overall satisfaction with course instructor</i>	5.4	5.5	5.07
4. <i>Knowledge of subject matter</i>	5.8	5.8	5.37
5. <i>Ability to communicate subject matter</i>	6.3	5.7	5.11