Chapter 14 : Management at Work

1. Explain the role of an ethics officer as a specialized managerial position. In your opinion, what are the benefits to an organization of specialization in performing the job of an ethics officer? What are the limitations?

In 1991, the Ethics & Compliance Officer Association (ECOA)—originally the Ethics Officer Association (EOA)—was founded at the Center for Business Ethics (at Bentley College, Waltham, MA) as a professional association for those responsible for managing organizations' efforts to achieve ethical best practices. Ethics officers may hold a wide range of responsibilities. The roles of an ethics officer as a specialized managerial position are ensure that company practices adhere to legal and ethical standards. Their duties may include every aspect of this process, including creating a code of ethics, establishing penalties for violating ethical codes and educating employees about the organization's ethical principles. They also help the company make changes to its code to reflect changes in business practices or public opinion. Ethics officers need a solid understanding of business practices, industry standards and law.

An ethics officer ensuring that ethical procedures and practices are installed and consistently adhered to throughout the organization and then ensure ethics compliance. They can help their employers develop codes of ethics so that a clear standard is created, and they also establish clear consequences for violations of these codes, so that everyone at a company understands that he or she will be held ethically accountable. Ethics officer needs to examine the stated values, mission, and goals of an organization and to determine whether the organization's behaviour is supports to the ethical standard. The ethics officer may also be empowered to undertake investigations into specific employees or activities to confirm that