



## **Erik Denkinger**

*Technical Manager*

Erik Denkinger is the chief operating officer of the National Licensing Association. His position in NLA centers around the corporations long term planning and development, scheduling, work flow distribution, and employee management. Erik also leverages his multimedia background in the management of NLA's corporate identity, brand development and national website management. Additional contributions include key editorial input in curriculum development and technology advising and implementation.

A long time artist, Erik graduated from the Art Institute of Seattle in the summer of 1999 with an Associates of Arts in computer animation. His education included comprehensive training in industry standard media applications such as Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Flash, Premiere, Acrobat and others. Traditional art skills were developed as well, which included drawing, design, typography, along with video, audio editing and production. Through the course he also developed his own set of (corporate identity and) promotional materials, which included business cards, logo, letter head, and an interactive CD that doubled as a website.

During his education at the Art Institute, Erik worked as a guard for Allied Barton Security services and was later promoted to supervisor and account manager positions. As a supervisor Erik was responsible for the training of all new employees, some records management and employee scheduling. As an account manager his responsibilities grew dramatically. Here he was not only responsible for all employee training materials, management and scheduling but also payroll, archiving and accounting. Managing Communication (and negotiation) between the parent company (Allied Barton) and the client was another extremely important portion of the job that taught him to deal with heated, high pressure situation in a calm and open fashion.

Erik then used this experience to manage his own small company. Together with contacts made at the art institute he developed and distributed periodicals sold in Washington, Oregon and California. Erik's responsibilities ranged from project conception and management, sales, vendor acquisition, print production as well as team management and written contributions to the periodicals. Erik left his position at Allied Barton to further pursue his education. Erik attended Seattle Central community college and completed his associates with an emphasis in education. Here his training focused on the application of current trends in education as well as curriculum development and psychological development.

Shortly after graduation Erik was recruited by CEO David Minasyan to join in the development of NLA. The prospect to develop widely accessible comprehensive online educational material for licensing purposes, with the goal of instilling socially conscious behavior that goes above and beyond the base requirements of the teaching materials is a unique and exciting opportunity. Erik assumed his role as the COO of NLA in the fall of 2007.