RATE CARD

Scoped to the work — not billed by the binder.

Cingilek Precision is a principal-led consultancy. Most engagements are fixed fee or monthly retainer; hourly is available but rarely the right shape for the work clients hire us for. This rate card covers our advisory rates, engagement shapes, applied-AI engagements, and — new in 2026 — our Operational Forensics practice for boards that suspect operational capture.

Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned · Operations & Logistics **Operational Forensics** · Federal Contracting · QMS · Metrology

PUBLISHED ADVISORY RATES

Rates by engagement type

STANDARD ADVISORY	RUSH · EXPERT WITNESS	FEDERAL PRIME / SUB
$525 / hr	**$650 / hr**	**$325 – $425 / hr**
Quality, metrology, federal-contracting, or operations advisory by the principal.	Less than 10 business days lead time, expert-witness work, or live board / executive engagements.	GSA-equivalent advisory rates for federal customers and prime contractors. FAR-compliant T&M; or fixed-fee.

LONG RETAINER	APPLIED AI — OPERATOR HOUR	OPERATIONAL FORENSICS
$425 / hr	**$650 / hr**	**$775 / hr**
Reserved for 6+ month retainers prepaid quarterly or annually. Equivalent blended rate.	Direct principal hours on applied AI and SI design, system connections, approval controls, and train-the-trainer delivery. Most AI work is fixed-fee; see engagement shapes below.	Base rate for board-directed operational forensic work. Rush and expert-witness at $950/hr. See dedicated section on next page.

ENGAGEMENT SHAPES

How most Cingilek work is scoped

Diagnostic — **$7,500 – $15,000**

FIXED FEE · 2–3 WEEKS

Focused assessment against the standard you operate under — QMS, metrology, federal-contracting posture, or operations. Written gap-and-priority report and a clear path forward.

Program Design — **$25,000 – $75,000**

FIXED OR PHASED · 4–12 WEEKS

Build or rebuild the system itself — remote-operations playbook, federal-contracting strategy, QMS architecture, or calibration program. Delivered with procedures, training, and the audit story that goes with it.

Fractional / Retainer — **$6,000 – $14,000 / MONTH**

8–20 HRS

Standing advisory capacity. Predictable monthly hours, single point of contact, and a working relationship that compounds. Common as fractional ops advisor, federal-contracting counsel-of-record, or QA director.

Federal Prime / Sub — **CONTRACT-BOUND**

GSA-EQUIVALENT

Direct support to a federal customer or teaming partner — as a service-disabled veteran-owned small business or via affiliated 8(a) / ANC vehicles.

NEW · 2026

OPERATIONAL FORENSICS & SHAREHOLDER PROTECTION

A domain-level review that no department can gate-keep.

Fraud and operational capture rarely show up in the books first. They show up in the operational seams — the process gaps that stay open on purpose, the vendor contracts written to be unenforceable, the reporting channels that funnel through the wrong people, the “we’ve always done it that way” that nobody has audited in a decade. Cingilek Precision engages at that layer. We are not a forensic accountant, and we are not a private investigator. We are a domain-level operator who has done the work at three tiers — U.S. Army Special Forces, ANC subsidiary CEO, and ISO/IEC 17025 accredited lab operator — and can see the whole system as a machine.

Diagnostic Domain Review — **$25,000 – $45,000**

FIXED FEE · 3–6 WEEKS · BOARD-AUTHORIZED

Board-authorized deep-dive across operations, IT, legal, and finance. No department off-limits. Written findings with preserved chain of custody, actionable remediation plan, and prioritized closure roadmap.

Embedded Engagement — **$28,500 / MONTH**

90-DAY MINIMUM · BOARD-DIRECTED ONLY

Presented to the organization as an operational-consultant or interim-role hire; the board of directors and General Counsel are the only informed parties. Weekly encrypted findings to a designated board sub-committee. 30-day mutual notice after the initial 90-day term.

Standing Shareholder Protection Retainer **$12,000 – $18,000 / MONTH**

12-MONTH TERM

Continuous operational review with quarterly domain deep-dives, an independent reporting channel routed away from suspected gatekeepers, and a certified annual report delivered to the full board.

Native Corporation Experience **INCLUDED**

ANCSA · ANC GOVERNANCE · 8(A)/ANC · BUY INDIAN ACT

Direct executive service as President & CEO of an Alaska Native village corporation, adopted by the Yup'ik people of Emmonak. Fluent in ANCSA (43 U.S.C. § 1601 *et seq.*), ANC governance and shareholder fiduciary obligations, SBA 8(a)/ANC set-aside vehicles, and Buy Indian Act pathways. Operational competency and cultural fluency for Native corporation clients.

Independent by design. Fees are fixed or time-based and are never contingent on findings, recoveries, or outcomes, so the work holds up if it ever reaches litigation. Every engagement is defined in a signed letter approved by the board's attorney of record, setting scope, deliverables, evidence handling, and fees.

ENGAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Who authorizes this work

All operational-forensics work is executed under an engagement letter that names the **board of directors or a designated board sub-committee** as the client, with a written scope authorized by counsel of record. Cingilek does not accept operational-forensics engagements from executive management alone. Findings are delivered through a channel that bypasses any level of the organization the board designates as potentially compromised.

CASE PATTERN — ANONYMIZED

What operational capture actually looks like

Digital-products firm · Director-level operational role. In a prior role at a high-margin digital-products firm (revenue mid-eight figures, gross margin ~80%+), the principal was hired into a director-level community and operations role with broad cross-functional access. Because the role was not siloed to a single department, the principal was able to reconstruct the operational picture across sales, IT, legal, and finance — a view no individual department head held. That view surfaced three linked patterns: (a) commercial contracts drafted with deliberate defects that left ownership able to argue "no contract was ever formed" if a customer sued, effectively insulating the firm from breach exposure; (b) revenue that flowed through affiliated non-profit accounts in a manner that raised material tax-exempt-use and inurement questions; and (c) an internal legal and IT posture powerful enough to deter individual customers from pursuing litigation, which prevented the discovery process that would ordinarily surface the underlying practice. A prior finance and operations executive had raised the same concerns and was terminated shortly afterward. When the principal proposed remediation — closing the contract defects, cleaning the reporting channels, and rebuilding the internal-controls posture — the recommendations were declined at the ownership level because the defects served ownership's interests. The principal was subsequently exited. The pattern is common where **the operating conditions that make the fraud possible are the same conditions ownership relies on for insulation**.

Why boards hire this kind of review. The case pattern above illustrates a structural point: when capture reaches the executive layer, the organization's own compliance, legal, and audit functions become part of the problem rather than the solution. A board-directed operational forensic review sits outside that structure and answers directly to the board. It is the only reliable path to a complete picture in that scenario.

APPLIED AI

AI engagement shapes

Applied AI — Workflow Design

$15,000 – $35,000

FIXED FEE · 3–6 WEEKS

Map a specific workflow in operations, federal contracting, QMS, or metrology. Deliverables include the systems the agents will touch, what they may do on their own, what waits for an approver, the evidence trail, and a deployment plan.

Applied AI — Build & Govern

$40,000 – $120,000

FIXED OR PHASED · 6–16 WEEKS

Connect the agents to your systems with the least access that does the job, wire in previews, approval gates, logs, and rollback, and deploy on infrastructure you own. Train-the-trainer included; certifies your designated operators to extend the system.

Applied AI — Fractional

$10,000 – $18,000 / MONTH

10–25 HRS

Standing AI-architect-of-record for a regulated program. Includes system upkeep, access and approval reviews, and audit-trail checks.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

All advisory rates include

• Direct work by the principal — Jason Wagner, MRED, DML, U.S. Army Major (Ret.). Bronze Star Medal (×2). Served with U.S. Army Special Forces: SF Regimental Distinctive Insignia and K9 Special Operations Logistician ASI. No bait-and-switch onto junior staff.

• All preparation, research, and analysis time required to produce the deliverable.

• Reasonable revisions of written deliverables within the agreed scope.

• Standard NDA and mutual confidentiality on every engagement.

• Engagement letter and statement of work; no work begins without a signed scope.

WHAT'S BILLED SEPARATELY

• Pre-approved travel and lodging at GSA per-diem; client-arranged or reimbursed at cost.

• Third-party fees (accreditation bodies, testing labs, filing fees, software subscriptions).

• Material expansion of scope, surfaced in writing before the work begins.

• Expert-witness engagements: deposition, report, and trial time at the rush or operational-forensics rate as applicable.

• Operational-forensics engagements: covert-communications infrastructure, legal-hold storage, or third-party investigator/counsel coordination when required by the engagement letter.

TERMS

INVOICING	Bi-monthly for time-and-materials. Milestone-based for fixed-fee. Monthly in advance for retainers.
PAYMENT	Net 15 for commercial. Net 30 for federal customers and prime contractors. ACH preferred; check accepted.
RETAINERS	Minimum three-month term for standard retainers. Twelve-month term for Shareholder Protection retainer. 90-day minimum for Embedded Engagement. Notice period specified per engagement type.
PRIVACY	Mutual NDA executed per engagement. Client materials returned or destroyed on close-out. No data retained beyond engagement scope. Operational-forensics engagements include additional chain-of-custody and evidentiary-preservation clauses.
CONFLICTS	Cingilek sells advice, not product. No referral fees, no inventory, no white-labeled deliverables from other firms. Independence is enforced. Operational-forensics work is declined where a material conflict exists with an ownership interest.
FEDERAL	Service-disabled veteran-owned. SBA VetCert application in progress. Teaming available with ANC-owned and other prime contractors.
FEDERAL IDENTIFIERS	Cingilek Precision, LLC · UEI YFNBBB5SZJS5 · CAGE 15Z41 · EIN 39-3517381.