



## The Order of Engineers and its Accreditation System

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Meeting with ENQA  
MCTES, Lisbon, Portugal, 2 February 2006



### To say what I am going to say...

- ① Engineering Education and the Engineering Profession
- ② The Order of Engineers -  
Legal framework; Organisation; Co-operation; Membership...
- ③ The Accreditation Process Today  
Formal objectives and practical implications; Conceptual model; Procedures; Figures...
- ④ The Accreditation Process - Preparing the future  
New model
- ⑤ The Accreditation Process - What comes next?



## Engineering Education and the Engineering Profession Academic Titles and Professional Titles

☞ Academic titles at present (March 2006) still awarded by Portuguese Institutions of Higher Education :

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| ✓ <i>Bacharel</i>   | a 3 years course  |
| ✓ <i>Licenciado</i> | a 5 years course  |
| ✓ <i>Mestre</i>     | 2 further years of study, after <i>Licenciado</i> , including a course and research |
| ✓ <i>Doutor</i>     | 3 to 4 further years of research, after <i>Licenciado</i> or <i>Mestre</i>          |

☞ Professional Titles are legally protected in Portugal:

- ✓ The professional title of *Engenheiro* (Engineer) is awarded by the Order of Engineers. All *Licenciados* may apply for the professional title of Engineer.
- ✓ The professional title of “Engenheiro Técnico” (Technical Engineer) is awarded by ANET (Associação Nacional dos Engenheiros Técnicos - National Association of Technical Engineers). All holders of a *Bacharel degree* may apply for the professional title of Engenheiro Técnico



## Order of Engineers I - Legal Framework and Mission Statement (I)

- ☞ Order of Engineers is the public association that represents the holders of a *Licenciado* diploma that work as *Engenheiros* (Engineers).
- ☞ Order of Engineers (OE) was created in November 24, 1936 and is ruled by the Portuguese law, decree n. 119/92 of the 30th June, which contains all its legal competencies.
- ☞ Order of Engineers is independent from the State and has administrative, financial, scientific, disciplinary and regulatory autonomy.
- ☞ Order of Engineers is the single largest Portuguese professional association with about 32000 members



## Order of Engineers I - Legal Framework and Mission Statement (II)

☞ Among other competencies:

.....

- ✓ To support and cooperate on the development of Engineering education in order to guarantee a high standard of the Engineering profession
  
- ✓ To promote exchanges with the national and foreign comparable organizations in order to develop any cultural and professional links involving the Engineers in the world.

.....



## Order of Engineers III - Institutional Co-operation and Agreements (I)

OE is worldwide associated (and actively co-operates) with a very significant number of organizations representing engineering:

Just to mention some -

- ☞ CLAIU - Comité de Liaison des Associations d'Ingénieurs de l'Union Européenne;
- ☞ FEANI - Fédération Européenne des Associations Nationales d'Ingénieurs;
- ☞ All partners of EUR-ACE (EC-UK, ASIIN, CTI, CoPi, SEFI, IEI, RAEE, EUROCADRES, UNIFI...)
- ☞ Partners from Portuguese spoken Countries



## Order of Engineers IV - Membership - Conditions of admission (I)

- ☞ For holders of a Diploma of *Licenciado in Engineering* by a Portuguese Institution:  
To obtain the professional title of *Engenheiro*, the Order of Engineers requires the fulfillment of the following further conditions:

- ✓ To have been approved in an admission exam organized and run by Order of Engineer
- ✓ To have gone through an approved period of training and to have attended an Ethics and Professional Conduct course also run by OE



## The Accreditation Process Today I - Formal Objectives, Practical Consequences

- ☞ **Formal**
  - ✓ The accreditation process aims at exempting candidates from the admission exam
  - ✓ A Candidate holding a diploma from an accredited course IS EXEMPTED from the admission exam
- ☞ **Practical consequences**
  - ✓ Far wider consequences
  - ✓ Accreditation is an exercise that leads to significant organisational improvements
  - ✓ Accreditation is perceived by the Society as a stamp of quality of a course offered by an institution



## The Accreditation Process Today II - Conceptual Model

- ☞ **Main reference terms**
  - School Administration
  - Teaching staff
  - Curricular content
  - School enrolment and assessment of students
  - Course structure
  - R&D quality
  - Facilities and resources
  - Administrative procedures
  - Institutional culture
- ☞ **Inspired on ABET and EC-UK criteria of the nineties...**
- ☞ **It is clear that it is Engineering Degree Programs and not Institutions that are accredited**

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## The Accreditation Process Today III - Procedure

- ☞ **National Admission and Qualification Council runs the accreditation process**
    - 24 members ( 2 per College) chaired by a Vice-President
  - ✓ Accreditation Committee of 4-5 members
  - ✓ Analysis of dossier previously submitted
  - ✓ 1-Day Visit
  - ✓ Reporting
  - ✓ Proposal of decision
- ☞ **All steps are regulated in the general procedure approved by the OE's National Board**

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- ☞ The decision may take the following forms:
- a) **Full 6-year accreditation**, subject to revaluation at the end of this period, expecting that recommendations listed in the report will be addressed
  - b) **Limited 3-year accreditation**, the report stating the aspects to be corrected within the indicated period and to be assessed in a new accreditation process
  - c) **Non-accreditation decision**, the report stating the aspects that led to this decision



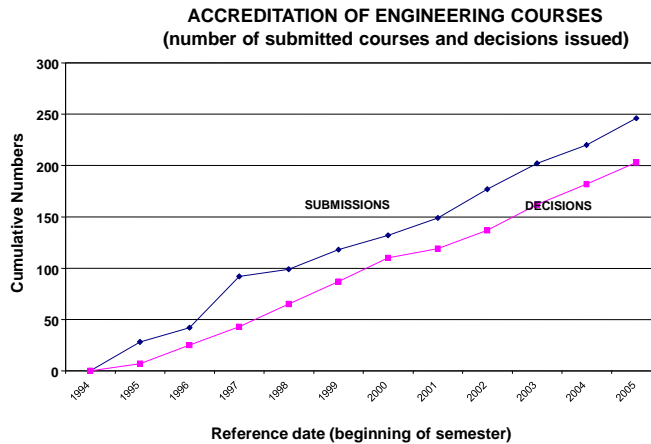
## The Accreditation Process Today V - Accreditations carried out since 1994 (I)

Applications -	246
Accredited -	170
Non-Accredited -	33
In progress -	43



## The Accreditation Process Today

### V - Accreditations carried out since 1994 (II)



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## The Accreditation process - preparing the future

### I - National Activity and International Co-operation

- ☞ **New Accreditation System in testing phase**
  - ✓ 3 pilot projects running
  - ✓ In agreement with EUR-ACE Guidelines
- ☞ **Active participation in EUR-ACE project**
- ☞ **Founder member of ENAEE - European Network for Accreditation of Engineering Education**

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## The Accreditation process - preparing the future II - New Approach and Methodological Guidelines (I)

### ☞ New fresh approach

- ✓ By requisites (16 criteria)
- ✓ Focused to the professional practice
- ✓ Evaluation on the basis of evidence
- ✓ Emphasis on quality improvement
- ✓ Follow-up of the quality plan of programmes
- ✓ Obeying EUR-ACE standards and procedures
- ✓ Seeking accreditation of OE by ENAEE

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## The Accreditation process - preparing the future II - New Approach and Methodological Guidelines (II)

### ☞ The 16 Requisites

REQUISITE 1 - LEGITIMACY OF THE COURSE OPERATION	REQUISITE 9 - STANDARD OF TEACHING
REQUISITE 2 - ORGANISATION OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS	REQUISITE 10 - INVOLVEMENT OF THE TEACHERS IN THE RUNNING OF THE COURSE
REQUISITE 3 - STRATEGY OF THE HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION WITH REGARD TO THE COURSE UNDER CONSIDERATION	REQUISITE 11 - ADMISSION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE STUDENTS
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REQUISITE 7 - CURRICULUM STRUCTURE AND PEDAGOGIC PROGRAMME	REQUISITE 15 - COURSE MONITORING
REQUISITE 8 - DESCRIPTION OF THE THEMES TAUGHT AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES	REQUISITE 16 - EFFECTS OF OTHER EVALUATIONS AND THE QUALITY ASSURANCE PLAN

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## The Accreditation process What comes next?

- ☞ OE is fully committed to Quality Assurance
- ☞ Articulation with the  
**National Accreditation System...**
- ☞ Aiming at fulfilling our Statutory Obligation within this new paradigm of international and in particular European co-operation, of

**Supporting and co-operating on the development of Engineering education in order to guarantee the highest standard for the Engineering profession**



## Order of Engineers and its Accreditation Process

**Full Presentation**



## Engineering Education and the Engineering Profession I - Academic Titles

- ☞ **Academic titles at present (March 2006) still awarded by Portuguese Institutions of Higher Education :**
  - ✓ *Bacharel* a 3 years course
  - ✓ *Licenciado* a 5 years course
  - ✓ *Mestre* 2 further years of study, after *Licenciado*, including a course and research
  - ✓ *Doutor* 3 to 4 further years of research, after *Licenciado* or *Mestre*
  
- ☞ **Academic Titles after the reform, 2006/2007:**
  - ✓ *Licenciado* 6 to 8 semesters of work (full-time equivalent)
  - ✓ *Mestre* after further 3 to 4 semesters or through an integrated programme
  - ✓ *Doutor* after a minimum of 3 years of course and research work

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## Engineering Education and the Engineering Profession II - The Offer of Engineering Education in Portugal

- ☞ **297 Engineering Courses under 126 Designations**
  
- ☞ **64 Schools of Engineering in 44 Institutions of Higher Education**
  - ✓ 30 institutions of the public subsystem
    - 13 Universities with their 18 University Schools
    - 17 Polytechnic Institutes with their 29 Polytechnic Schools
  - ✓ 14 Institutions of the Private and Concordatary subsystem
    - 7 Universities with their 7 University Schools
    - 7 Higher Education Institutions with 10 Polytechnic Schools
  
- ☞ **Out of the 297 courses**
  - ✓ **97 courses are currently accredited by the Order of Engineers, corresponding to 56 different designations**

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## Engineering Education and the Engineering Profession III - Professional Titles and Professional Regulation

- ☞ Professional Titles are legally protected in Portugal:
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  - ✓ The professional title of “Engenheiro Técnico” (Technical Engineer) is awarded to any *bacharel* by ANET (Associação Nacional dos Engenheiros Técnicos - National Association of Technical Engineers)
  
- ☞ The Engineering Profession is partially regulated in Portugal
  - ✓ Some acts, namely in Civil Engineering, but also in areas of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, can only be performed by members of Order of Engineers

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- ☞ Order of Engineers is independent from the State and has administrative, financial, scientific, disciplinary and regulatory autonomy.
- ☞ Order of Engineers is the single largest Portuguese professional association - approx. 32000 members

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## Order of Engineers

### I - Legal Framework and Mission Statement (II)

- ☞ The main purpose of the Order of Engineers is to contribute to the development of the Portuguese Engineering by working with other partners for the improvement of legal frameworks and of the scientific, professional and social level of its members, and by accomplishing codes of professional ethics.
- ☞ **Some competencies:**
  - ✓ To award the professional title of Engineer and to protect it against abuse
  - ✓ To regulate the professional practice and also to protect the professional practice by legal means
  - ✓ To improve Engineers' professional qualification and to ensure the accomplishment of the professional code of ethics
  - ✓ To support and cooperate on the development of Engineering education in order to guarantee a high standard of the Engineering profession
  - ✓ To promote exchanges with the national and foreign comparable organizations in order to develop any cultural and professional links involving the Engineers in the world.



## Order of Engineers

### II - Internal organisation (I)

- ☞ **Territorial, covering all the Country with**
  - ✓ 3 Regions with Delegations
  - ✓ and 2 Sections (Madeira and Azores)
- ☞ **Colleges - 12 Specialties, covering all the engineering areas**
- ☞ **Governance by a National Board of Directors**
  - ✓ President (Bastonário) and 2 Vice-Presidents nationally elected
  - ✓ 6 other members, representing the Regions, elected in each Region
- ☞ **Governance supported by two major Councils**
  - ✓ Admissions and Qualification Council that regulates the admission and qualification of members
  - ✓ Colleges Co-ordinating Council



## Order of Engineers II - Internal organisation (II)

### ☞ Internal organisation in Colleges - 12 Specialties

- ✓ Civil Engineering
- ✓ Electrical Engineering
- ✓ Mechanical Engineering
- ✓ Mining Engineering
- ✓ Chemical Engineering
- ✓ Naval Engineering
- ✓ Geographic Engineering
- ✓ Forest Engineering
- ✓ Metallurgical Engineering
- ✓ Agricultural Engineering
- ✓ Informatics Engineering

### ☞ Each College has its own National Board and Regional Co-ordination Board

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## Order of Engineers II - Internal organisation (III)

### ☞ Specializations (different from Specialties) - more horizontal, or sub-areas within major areas

Energy	Textile Engineering
Food Engineering	Construction Management
Industrial Engineering	Territorial Planning
Geotechnics	Structures
Acoustic Engineering	Transportations
Air Conditioning Engineering	Hydraulics
Sanitary Engineering	Industrial Maintenance
Geographic Information Systems	Automation and Control
Aeronautics	
Safety Engineering	
Telecommunications	

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## Order of Engineers II - Internal organisation (IV)

### ☞ Staff

- ✓ **Headquarters**
  - 16 strong, of which 8 with University Degree
    - Department of Admissions and Qualification
      - 4 members of staff - with University degree
- ✓ **North Region**
  - 16
- ✓ **Center Region**
  - 7
- ✓ **South Region**
  - 18
- ✓ **Sections (Madeira and Azores)**
  - 4



## Order of Engineers III - Institutional Co-operation and Agreements (I)

OE is associated with a significant number of organizations representing engineering:

CLAIU - Comité de Liaison des Associations d'Ingénieurs de l'Union Européenne;  
 FEANI - Fédération Européenne des Associations Nationales d'Ingénieurs;  
 EUCEET - European Civil Engineering Education and Training;  
 ECCE - European Council of Civil Engineers;  
 EUREL - Convention of National Societies of Electrical Engineers of Europe;  
 FEIBEM - Federação Ibero-Americana de Engenheiros Mecânicos;

CEDIA - Confédération Européenne d'Ingénieurs Agronomes;  
 EFCE - European Federation of Chemical Engineers;  
 CEMT - Confederation of European Maritime Technologies;  
 ECG - European Commission of Glass;  
 FIG - Federation of Surveyors;  
 REHVA - Federation of European Heating and Air Conditioning Associations;  
 CFPA - Confederation of Fire Protection Associations;  
 CEAS - Confederation European Aerospace Societies.



## Order of Engineers

### III - Institutional Co-operation and Agreements (II)

- ☞ OE has (or has had) also several partnerships or memorandums of understanding with other European and American Engineering Association (EC-UK, ASIIN, CTI, CoPi, SEFI, IEI, RAEE, EUROCADRES, UNIFI, ABET...).
- ☞ OE further has a close relationship with similar Associations of the CPLP (Portuguese Speaking Community):
  - ✓ CONFEA - Brazil
  - ✓ Order of Engineers of Angola
  - ✓ Order of Engineers of Mozambique
  - ✓ Order of Engineers of Cabo Verde

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## Order of Engineers

### IV - Membership - Conditions of admission (I)

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## Order of Engineers IV - Membership - Conditions of admission (II)

- ☞ For candidates holding a diploma from other countries:
  - ✓ Candidates holding a diploma from a country of the European Union will have their request analyzed according to legislation approved in the Directives for Professional Recognition and its related translation to Portuguese legislation.
  - ✓ Candidates holding a diploma from third countries will have to seek equivalence from a Portuguese University.

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## Order of Engineers IV - Membership - Numbers

- ☞ About 32000 members in the 12 Specialties
 

✓ Civil Engineering (C)	40,8%
✓ Electrical Engineering (E)	21,6%
✓ Mechanical Engineering (M)	13,7%
✓ Mining Engineering (N)	2,0%
✓ Chemical Engineering (H)	8,0%
✓ Naval Engineering (N)	0,3%
✓ Geographic Engineering (G)	0,8%
✓ Forest Engineering (F)	1,3%
✓ Metallurgical Engineering (T)	0,7%
✓ Agricultural Engineering	8,6%
✓ Informatics Engineering	0,7%

- ☞ About 6000 registered trainees

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## The Accreditation Process Today

### I - Formal Objectives, Practical Consequences

#### ☞ Formal

- ✓ The accreditation process aims at exempting candidates from the admission exam
- ✓ A Candidate holding a diploma from an accredited course IS EXEMPTED from the admission exam

#### ☞ Practical consequences

- ✓ Far wider consequences
- ✓ Accreditation is an exercise that leads to significant organisational improvements
- ✓ Accreditation is perceived by the Society as a stamp of quality of a course offered by an institution



## The Accreditation Process Today

### II - Conceptual Model

#### ☞ Main reference terms

- School Administration
- Teaching staff
- Curricular content
- School enrolment and assessment of students
- Course structure
- R&D quality
- Facilities and resources
- Administrative procedures
- Institutional culture

#### ☞ Inspired on ABET and EC-UK criteria of the nineties...

- ☞ It is clear that it is Engineering Degree Programs and not Institutions that are accredited



## The Accreditation Process Today III - Procedure

- ☞ National Admission and Qualification Council runs the accreditation process
    - 24 members ( 2 per College) chaired by a Vice-President
  - ✓ Accreditation Committee of 4-5 members
  - ✓ Analysis of dossier previously submitted
  - ✓ 1-Day Visit
  - ✓ Reporting
  - ✓ Proposal of decision
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- ☞ All steps are regulated in the general procedure approved by the OE's National Board



## The Accreditation Process Today IV - Decision

- ☞ The decision may take the following forms:
  - a) **Full 6-year accreditation**, subject to revaluation at the end of this period, expecting that recommendations listed in the report will be addressed
  - b) **Limited 3-year accreditation**, the report stating the aspects to be corrected within the indicated period and to be assessed in a new accreditation process
  - c) **Non-accreditation decision**, the report stating the aspects that led to this decision



## The Accreditation Process Today

### V - Accreditations carried out since 1994 (I)

Professional Recognition and Qualifications

ORDEM DOS ENGENHEIROS - GABINETE DE QUALIFICAÇÃO							
CONCISE SITUATION OF THE ACCREDITATION OF ENGINEERING COURSES							
RELATED TO February 2, 2006							
Colleges	Applicant courses	Scheduled visits	Completed visits	Completed reports	Accredited courses	n/ accred courses	Decisions
Agricultural	27	24	24	24	22	1	23
Environment	13	12	12	8	6	2	8
Civil	32	30	30	29	20	8	28
Electrical	30	27	27	27	23	3	26
Geographic	6	6	6	6	6	0	6
Informatics	16	13	13	12	9	2	11
Machanical	35	31	31	28	22	6	28
Metal&Mat	15	13	13	10	10	0	10
Mining	16	16	16	15	13	2	15
Naval	2	1	1	1	1	0	1
Chemical	16	14	14	14	13	0	13
Forest	5	5	5	4	4	0	4
Other	33	31	31	30	21	9	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>203</b>

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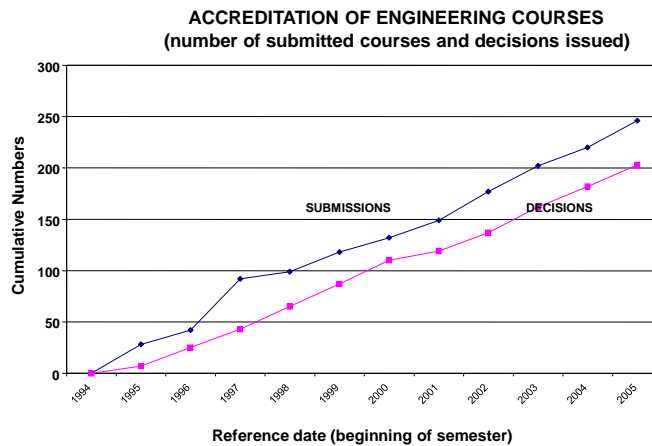
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- ☞ **New Accreditation System in testing phase**
  - ✓ 3 pilot projects running
  - ✓ In agreement with EUR-ACE Guidelines
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## The Accreditation process - preparing the future II - New Approach and Methodological Guidelines (II)

### The 16 Requisites

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