The Engineering Professional Card
Contribution to its Success

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Roundtable on European Professional Cards for Mobility
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Background

- The Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs, March 2000
  - A strategy based on Knowledge and Transnational Co-operation
  - A strategy for cohesion through Mobility

- The Bologna Process
  - Framework for qualifications comprising short cycles and three main cycles
  - Standards and guidelines for quality assurance in the EHEA
  - Recognition of degree and study periods, including informal learning

- The Directive for Recognition of Professional Qualifications
  - Relation between study levels and qualifications
Keywords
MOBILITY, CO-OPERATION, TRUST AND ACCREDITATION

‘We should not treat as equal what is different’

✓ MOBILITY requires TRUST
✓ TRUST requires transparent and readable structures and professional qualifications
✓ Transparency and Readability mean understanding and making the differences visible –
   ➢ both in quality levels and profiles
✓ Such requires Quality Assurance Standards and Procedures - ACCREDITATION through recognised Agencies

The proposed Engineering Professional Card may be very useful for Mobility in as much as it is linked to concise and transparent information.

Qualifications Framework and the Directive for Professional Recognition
I - Qualification linked to Short Cycles - Art. 11, c) of Directive

➢ Level of Qualification: Art. 11, c)
   ➢ 1 year of post-secondary course work +
      Professional Training >= Z, with Z=1

➢ At least for the time being, in most countries, not leading to a recognised competence group of Engineering, though they are vital for the ‘Engineering Act’...

➢ Let’s identify them as Technicians
Qualifications Framework

and the Directive for Professional Recognition

II - Two main levels of qualification - Art. 11, d) and e) of Directive

LEVEL 1 - Art. 11, d): (3-4)U + Professional Training \( \geq Y \), with \( Y = \frac{3}{4} \)

- First Cycle Degrees are the basis for achieving the qualification of Associate Engineer, or equivalent European designation

LEVEL 2 - Art. 11, e): \( \geq 4U + \text{Professional Training} \geq X \), with \( X = \frac{3}{4} \)

- Second Cycle Degrees are the basis for achieving the qualification of Engineer, or equivalent European designation

III - Two Profiles

Two main engineering profiles

- More Theoretically oriented
  - Programmes with a stronger emphasis on basic and engineering sciences in the first years
  - Generally linked to Second Cycle degrees

- More Applications oriented
  - Designed to qualify after First Cycle, independently of pursuit of studies through Second Cycles, be it directly or through bridging programmes
Qualifications Framework and the Directive for Professional Recognition

IV - Routes for the different qualification levels (I)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification Level</th>
<th>Professional Designation</th>
<th>Variable in Europe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1 (Art. 11 d)</td>
<td>1st cycle degree in Engineering + Training</td>
<td>1st cycle degree in Engineering + Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2 (Art. 11 e)</td>
<td>2nd cycle degree in Engineering + Training</td>
<td>Associate Engineer ?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Route T
Route A

IV - Routes for the different qualification levels (II)

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<th>Professional Designation</th>
<th>Variable in Europe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1 (Art. 11 d)</td>
<td>1st cycle degree in engineering science (not leading to professional recognition)</td>
<td>1st cycle in Engineering + Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2 (Art. 11 e)</td>
<td>2nd cycle degree in Engineering + Training</td>
<td>Engineer ?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Route T
Route A
The ENGCARD
Proposal for improvement of its contents (I)

- Ensuring recognition of qualifications is the basis for
  - Enhancing mobility and... through that gaining in credibility
- The current general design of ENGCARD looks positive in summarizing information
- ENGCARD should however lead to more detailed information with reference to qualifications framework and quality assurance
  - Level of qualification, including learning outcomes and related workload
  - Profile
    - Training in practical and applications engineering
    - Training in conceptual engineering
  - Accreditation labels received
  - Specialization areas
  - Etc.......

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The ENGCARD
Proposal for improvement of its contents (II)

- A possible improvement should be to include information directing the interested User to a database.
- A code field could be inserted in ENGCARD for each line of the engineering degrees awarded to the card holder, for identification of the degree programme through a code with appropriate structure (a 5-digit code seems to me would be enough and appropriate).
- FEANI should create and maintain a database of academic courses and degrees, identified by these codes, to be accessed with a password through the Internet,
  - where these courses/degrees would be concisely characterised (in profile, outcomes, ECTS dimension, basic contents, type of accreditation awarded, etc.).

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Routes for the Future

- Europe will progress through transnational co-operation and mobility.
- Transnational co-operation and professional mobility require TRUST.
- The mechanisms to build and consolidate such TRUST are indeed slowly, but steadily, being implemented in our professions - THE ENGCARD IS ONE SUCH EXAMPLE.
- Within the diversity of our cultures and traditions, and with the corresponding healthy difficulties, the common future of Europeans is being built...