



## 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  $\geq Z$ , 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=?**
  - **First Cycle Degrees are the basis for achieving the qualification of Associate Engineer, or equivalent European designation**
  
- ☞ **LEVEL 2 - Art. 11, e):  $\geq$  4U + Professional Training  $\geq$  X, with X=?**
  - **Second Cycle Degrees are the basis for achieving the qualification of Engineer, or equivalent European designation**



## Qualifications Framework

### and the Directive for Professional Recognition

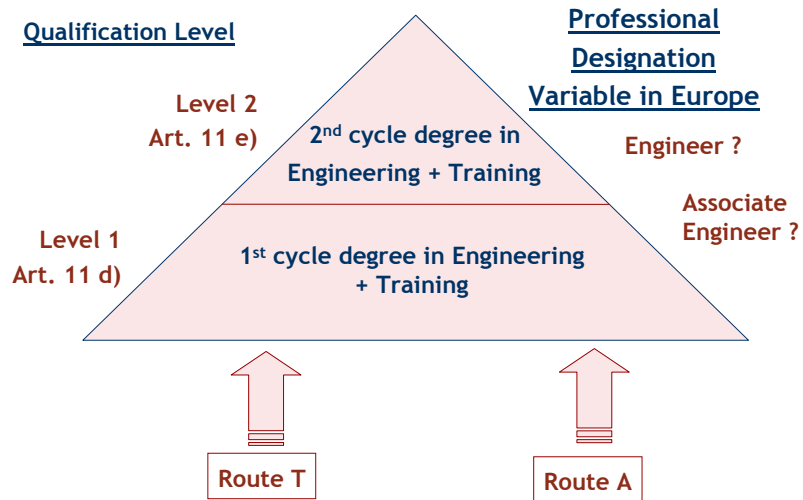
#### III - Two Profiles

- ☞ **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



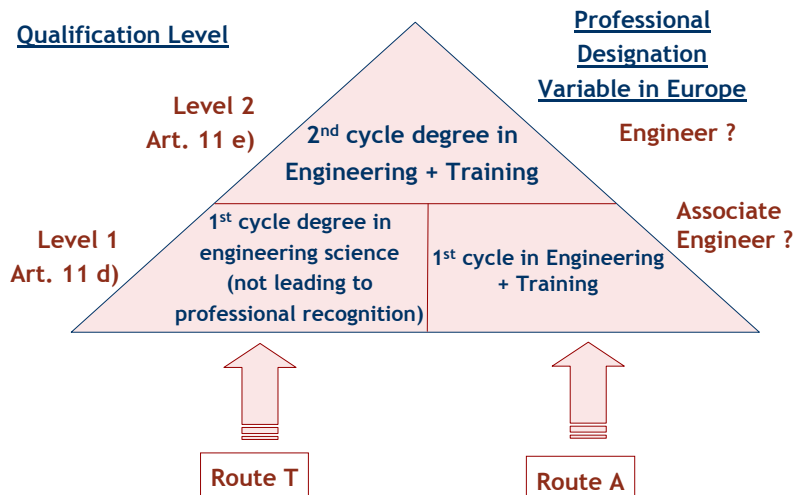
## Qualifications Framework and the Directive for Professional Recognition

### IV - Routes for the different qualification levels (I)



## Qualifications Framework and the Directive for Professional Recognition

### IV - Routes for the different qualification levels (II)

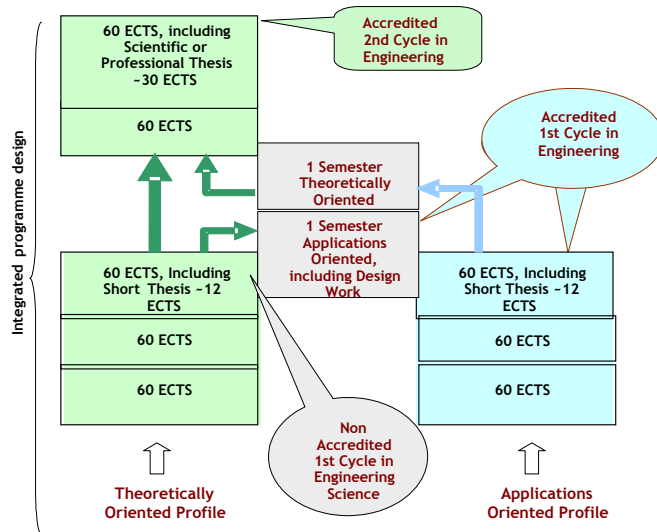




## Qualifications Framework and the Directive for Professional Recognition

### V - Routes with Bridging Programmes

Engineering Professional Card  
Contribute for Success



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## The ENGCARD Proposal for improvement of its contents (I)

Engineering Professional Card  
Contribute for Success

- ☞ 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.).



## 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...