

The EUR-ACE Accreditation Framework

**Ian Freeston
ENAAEE Label Committee**

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EUR-ACE is an acronym for
EURopean **A**ccredited **E**ngineer

What is EUR-ACE?

- Framework of accreditation standards for European accreditation agencies
- Meta-accreditation
- Based on Programme Outcomes
- Applies to 1st and 2nd cycle programmes and to integrated programmes

Framework

- Programme outcomes classified under six headings:
 - Knowledge and Understanding
 - Engineering Analysis
 - Engineering Design
 - Investigations
 - Engineering Practice
 - Transferable Skills
- Requirements include contents, standard and resources.

Standards

- Engineering analysis, Engineering Design, and Investigations are
‘consistent with level of knowledge and understanding’
- 1st Cycle: *‘coherent knowledge of their branch of engineering including some at the forefront’*
- 2nd Cycle: *‘a critical awareness of the forefront of their branch’*

Progress so far

- Framework agreed and published March 2006
- ENAEE established to implement Framework using Label Committee
- EUR-ACE Label can be awarded to UK programmes accredited after 16 November 2006; apply to EC^{UK}

What Happens Next?

- EC^{UK} letter to HEI schools of engineering
- Label committee is conducting detailed evaluation of the six founding agencies.
- ENAEE is inviting applications from other agencies
- ENAEE is considering how to operate beyond 2008 when EC funding ends

Conclusions

- Internationally recognised education for professional engineers
- Internationally recognised quality label.
- Fee for accredited programmes to use the EUR-ACE label

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Appendix.

Background Information.

1. Historical Information.

September 2000: European Standing Observatory for the Engineering Profession and Education (ESOEPE) founded.

September 2004: EUR-ACE 1 project launched to develop framework.

February 2006: European Network for the Accreditation of Engineering Education (ENAAEE) founded.

March 2006: EUR-ACE1 completed, and ESOEPE wound up.

September 2006: EUR-ACE 2 project launched to implement EUR-ACE Framework.

July 2008: EC funding for EUR-ACE 2 ends.

2. ENAAEE Membership.

FEANI, SEFI, EUROCADRES, CLAIU, ECUK, CTI (France), ASIIN (Germany), OE (Portugal), CoPI (Italy), EI (Ireland), RAEE (Russia), IDA (Denmark), BBT (Switzerland), MÜDEK (Turkey).

3. Membership of Label Committee.

Iring Wasser, (ASIIN, Germany) Chairman

Oleg Boev (RAEE, Russia)

Antonio Salgado di Barros (OE, Portugal)

Ian Freeston (EC^{UK})

René-Paul Martin (CTI, France)

Denis McGrath (EI, Ireland)

4. Further Information.

Information about both EUR-ACE 1 and EUR-ACE 2 projects and about ENAAEE is on the FEANI website (www.feani.org).