Introduction and Background

The Engineering Council and professional registration
Engineering is a self-regulating profession and the Engineering Council is a collective council of engineering institutions, acting by collaboration and consensus. An Engineers Act to protect in law the title of ‘engineer’ has been proposed and dismissed many times. However, the status of Chartered Engineer, and that of Incorporated Engineer and Engineering Technician, is protected by Royal Charter and policed through the courts under Trading Standards legislation.

Benefits of professional registration
The Engineering Council promotes a range of benefits arising from registering as a Chartered or Incorporated Engineer or Engineering Technician:

• Recognition of expertise and hard work, and the status of joining a technological elite
• High self-esteem and higher earnings potential
• Improved career prospects and greater influence with employer and industry
• Letters after your name and international recognition of your qualifications

Three tiers of professional status are available for registration
As a Chartered Engineer (C.Eng) you must be creative, innovative, able to set standards, able to manage independent teams and able to manage disciplines outside your own specialist field. You should have a sound knowledge of the technology, delivery processes, management principles and legislation associated with your field of work. Above all you should be able to exercise professional judgement.

As an Incorporated Engineer (I.Eng) you must be skilled at delivering high quality services in accordance with industry codes of practice and standards, able to manage teams within your own field and within a management team and be able to exercise independent technical judgement within your own specialist field. You should be highly competent in the application of legislative requirements, analytical processes, delivery processes and management processes involved with your work.

As an Engineering Technician (EngTech) you must be able to solve practical engineering problems. EngTechs have supervisory or technical responsibility, and apply safe systems of working. They contribute to the design, development, manufacture, commissioning, decommissioning, operation or maintenance of products, equipment, processes or services

ICT and the Engineering Council
ICT as an institute is a ‘Professional Affiliate’ of the Engineering Council. This arrangement is subject to review every five years. The Institute’s status was upheld in 2011 and validated to 2016.
Registration Agreements and the registration process

Registration is open only to candidates entered by Licensed Members of the Engineering Council (of which there are currently 35). Professional Affiliates such as the ICT operate through an approved registration agreement with a Licensed Member which, in the ICT’s case, is the Society of Environmental Engineers (SEE). Under this agreement an applicant who is a member of the Institute becomes a ‘Joint Member’ of both ICT and SEE.

The assessment of a candidate – conducted initially by ICT, before submitting an application to SEE – is a two-stage process: an application form with written statement, followed by peer review by personal interview.

The application process will follow one of the following routes:

- **The Standard Route**: This applies to candidates who have obtained an accredited degree or can demonstrate that they have achieved the required educational qualifications.

- **The Individual Application Routes or ‘Non-Standard Routes’**: These apply to candidates who do not have exemplifying qualifications to demonstrate that they have achieved the required knowledge and understanding. This may be demonstrated in other ways, but candidates must be able to demonstrate clearly that they have achieved the same level of knowledge as those who have obtained the exemplifying qualifications. These alternative ways include:
  - Writing a Technical Report, based on their experience and demonstrating their knowledge and understanding of engineering principles.
  - Taking Engineering Council (EC(UK)) Examinations
  - Following an assessed work-based learning programme
  - Taking an approved academic programme
  - Any combination of the above

All routes to registration are completed with a Professional Review interview.

The choice of which route is to be followed is the decision of the ICT/SEE and not the candidate. The most appropriate route will be established after the candidate has submitted an initial application for registration.

**Routes to Registration**

- **Exemplifying Academic Qualifications**
  - Yes
  - **Standard Route**

- **No**
  - **Individual Application Route**
  
    “Applicants who have not followed one of the exemplifying academic pathways may submit their career history and education and training record to a licensed institution. The institution shall assess the career profile and, where appropriate, advise the applicant on the nature and extent of any remaining evidence of knowledge and understanding required.” (Ref UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC, para 36).

The package of requirements may include:

- EC examinations
- academic programme specified by the SEE
- assessed work-based learning programme
- a Technical Report
- any combination of the above

Candidates with a non-accredited engineering degree, or with cognate qualifications (eg physics, chemistry etc.) plus engineering experience, may be assessed by the SEE Education Committee as being able to proceed directly to Professional Review Interview. Under these circumstances, the interviewers will need to address any areas of concern in greater detail.

**Please note:**

- Registration with the Engineering Council is void if Institute membership lapses
- CPD is a requirement of registration. Records of application & registration must be retained.
Documentation

Candidates are advised to read the Engineering Council’s standard guidance:

- **UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence: Engineering Technician, Incorporated Engineer and Chartered Engineer Standard (UK-SPEC)**
  - download from [www.engc.org.uk](http://www.engc.org.uk)

and to request application documents from the Institute’s Executive Officer:

1. **Initial Assessment** for registration with Engineering Council
2. **SEE / ICT Joint Membership Application Form** (including **Statement of Competences**, ref MD79a)
3. **SEE / ICT Self-Assessment Form**
4. **Guidelines for the Technical Report Option**
5. **Schedule of Fees** for the current year
  - available from [ict@concrete.org.uk](mailto:ict@concrete.org.uk)

The steps

**Initial application** – apply to ICT with a form, experience report, academic certificates, and appropriate fee.

**Guidance** – will then be offered as to the most appropriate route, following the next SEE committee meeting.

**The Standard Route** – suitably qualified candidates are invited to, and prepare for, their Professional Review.

**The ‘Non-Standard’ Routes** – The single most likely Non-Standard Route is by submission of a technical report as evidence of professional competence. The route is summarised below, but full guidance is set out in Doc 4 above.

**The ‘Technical Report Option’ (TRO) Route to Registration**

- **Candidate application and fee**
  - Competence & commitment considered by SEE and ICT
  - Advice offered as to deficiencies
  - Invited to complete TRO to registration
  - Candidate identifies Mentor
  - Submission of synopsis

- **Report sent to Panel of Assessors for review**
  - Satisfactory?
  - Advice offered as to deficiencies
  - Accepted into joint SEE/ICT membership after payment of fee
  - Registration

**Professional Review** – All candidates are invited to interview, which an ICT officer may attend as an observer.

**Membership** – Successful applicants are accepted into joint membership on payment of the fee.

**Registration** – names of newly chartered or incorporated engineers are entered on the Engineering Council’s Register and published in the *Daily Telegraph*.

**Fees**

SEE charge for administering the registration process
Administration fee payable to Engineering Council on registration
ICT, SEE and EngC.

Given that one of the purposes of the ICT is to raise the professional status of concrete technologists in general and the Institute’s members in particular, registration with the Engineering Council to secure the coveted designation, ‘chartered engineer’, has been a natural aspiration.

In 2000 it was announced that ICT would seek admittance as a Professional Affiliate of the Engineering Council. That status was duly awarded and a certificate presented to the then ICT President, Mike Connell (right), at the Annual Convention in 2001. The Institute then entered into partnership with the Society of Environmental Engineers in order to offer a route to registration, and between 2003 and 2005 developed a ‘Mature Candidate’ route based on submission of a technical report. Arrangements with SEE were further ratified in 2010.


Case studies

CEng

Graham True was recommended for registration with the Engineering Council as a Chartered Engineer (CEng) following a professional interview on 8 August 2012 at which Peter Hewlett was present to represent ICT. Graham thus becomes the first ICT member to achieve CEng status as a result of the Institute’s arrangement with the Society of Environmental Engineers.

EngTech

A year earlier, in 2011, Neil Jackson was successful in gaining EngTech status.

Contacts

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(Enquiries, submission of application, contact with EngC and SEE)

Jill Waite, Hon.FSEE  
Secretary, The Society of Environmental Engineers  
(Administrator processing applications at SEE and from whom candidates will hear)

EngC website  http://www.engc.org.uk  
SEE website  http://www.environmental.org.uk  
ICT website  http://ict.concrete.org.uk