










LIMA ACCORD

Introduction:

The Lima Accord is a multilateral agreement amongst Latin American and Caribbean organizations that are responsible for the accreditation of undergraduate engineering programs within their respective jurisdictions. This affiliation accord is voluntary. Signatories are committed to the development and recognition of good practices in the delivery of engineering programs and have decided to work together so that once their programs obtain accreditation, the substantial equivalence of these programs can be recognized amongst the signatory agencies and thereby enabling the mobility of engineering professionals and the mutual recognition of the engineering qualifications under the current scenario of the globalization of careers.

Therefore, signatories agree to the following:

1. That accredited engineering academic programs are a key foundation for the practice of engineering at the professional level in each of the jurisdictions covered by the Accord. Therefore, the signatories agree to work together to achieve the following:
 - a. That the criteria, policies and procedures used by the signatories in accrediting academic programs in engineering are comparable;
 - b. That the accreditation decisions rendered by signatories are independent and are acceptable to the other signatories, who will so indicate it by publishing statements in this regard in an appropriate manner;
 - c. The implementation of best practices in accreditation is identified and encouraged, as agreed time to time amongst the signatories, to ensure the best academic preparation of engineers at the professional level and;
 - d. Continued mutual monitoring and information exchange by whatever means deemed most appropriate, including: regular communication and sharing of information concerning their accreditation criteria, systems, procedures, manuals, publications, and lists of accredited programs; invitations to observe accreditation visits; and invitations to observe meetings of any boards or committees responsible for implementing key aspects of the accreditation process, and meetings of the governing bodies of the signatories.
2. This Accord applies to the recognition of programs accredited by signatories within its territorial boundaries (jurisdiction).
3. That each signatory will make its best effort to promote that the bodies responsible for registering or licensing professional engineers to practice in their jurisdiction, accept the substantial equivalence of engineering programs accredited by the signatories of this Accord.
4. The management of the Accord, on first instance, will be facilitated by a Committee consisting of a President and a Vice-President elected by the majority of the signatories until the Rules and Procedures that will define the operation of the Accord are established.

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5. Admission to the Lima Accord is limited to Latin America and Caribbean territories and countries. While the rules and procedures that will define the operation of the Accord are established, the admission of new signatories to the Accord will require the approval of two-thirds of the existing signatories, following submission of a formal written request.
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6. To establish Rules and Procedures so that this Accord will be implemented in a satisfactory and expeditious manner. The adoption or modification of these will only be binding through the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the signatories.
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7. To generate a timetable for the establishment of the Rules and Procedures of the Accord, as well as to review and update the accreditation criteria to be applied for the mutual recognition of substantially equivalent programs. This is to be completed no later than five (5) years after the initial Accord is instituted.
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8. There shall be an annual general meeting of the representatives of the signatories to review the Rules and Procedures, effect the amendments deemed necessary and consider applications for admission.
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9. Any signatory can opt out of the accord by giving at least one year's notice. The obligations generated as a result of membership will remain for one year following the withdrawal of the signatory.
10. The Accord will remain in effect, for so long as it is acceptable and desirable for the signatories.
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11. The Accord has been prepared in Spanish, English and Portuguese. In the event of any inconsistency, the Spanish version shall apply and be binding upon the signatories.
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Signed on behalf of each agency:

Agencia Acreditadora Colegio de Ingenieros
de Chile (Acredita CI S.A.)



Agencia de Acreditación de Programas de Ingeniería
y de Arquitectura (AAPIA),
Costa Rica



Agencia Centroamericana de Acreditación de
Programas de Arquitectura y de Ingeniería (ACAAI)



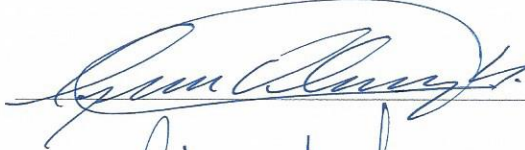
Caribbean Accreditation Council of Engineering and
Technology (CACET)



Consejo de Acreditación de la Enseñanza de la
Ingeniería Superior, A.C. (CACEI), México



Instituto de Calidad y Acreditación de Programas de
Computación, Ingeniería y Tecnología (ICACIT),
Perú



Sistema Nacional de Evaluación, Acreditación y
Certificación de la Calidad Educativa (SINEACE),
Perú



Lima, 6th of September 2016

GLOSSARY

1. Qualification:

A generic term that usually refers an award granted for the successful completion of a study program, in accord to the standard set by an institution of education in a particular field of study. A qualification is important in terms of what it signifies: competencies and range of knowledge and skills. Sometimes it is equivalent to a license to practice.

2. Comparable:

Having features in common with something else to permit or suggest comparison.

3. Jurisdiction:

The territory, country, economy or region throughout which an organization undertaking accreditations is regarded as having the uncontested right to conduct such accreditation activities as the acknowledged professional authority.

4. Undergraduate engineering programs:

Academic education that ensures that graduates of the program have sufficient skills to perform professionally, as stated in the Graduate Profile (Program Educational Objectives).

5. Signatory:

An organization entitled to fully participate in the Lima Accord, enjoying the same rights and obligations as all other signatories. Signatories must be independent of the academic institutions delivering accredited programs within their jurisdiction.

6. Substantial equivalence:

Achieving outcomes that whilst not individually identical to those of the standard or exemplar of that standard, taken cumulatively achieve the same overall outcome.