

Prospectus

Title:	Accreditation Management System
Sponsor:	Colin Brown, Vice-President, Operations
Initiative Lead:	Lynn Villeneuve, LL.B., Practice Lead, Accreditation

Purpose:

To leverage new technology to improve the accreditation process for all stakeholders.

Problem / Opportunity Statement:

The collection and review of data required for accreditation is performed with tools that include manual methods, custom spreadsheets and other individual systems. The workload to prepare for and conduct accreditation visit is significant. Using technology to streamline the accreditation process and alleviate the workload of HEI's and of accreditation volunteers and staff.

Benefits:

Contributing to Engineers Canada Goals

- Canadian engineering programs that meet the academic requirements for licensure are accredited (E-1.1).
 - More efficient accreditation system
- Information, systems and agreements to facilitate the assessment of foreign credentials are available and promoted (E-1.3).
- AB has the inputs required to perform assessments of undergraduate engineering programs, and to provide information needed for the Engineers Canada Board to make decisions on matters relating to engineering education and accreditation both in Canada and in other countries (GP-9.5)

Contributing to HEIs

- Streamlines and standardizes the data collection processes
- Incorporates the data collection process into ongoing course preparation and assessment
- Increased quality of submissions to accreditation visit teams and to the AB

Vision:

- To offer a web-based solution to HEI and accreditation volunteers that will increase efficiency in the accreditation process
- To provide HEI and Engineers Canada with an efficient, fully integrated data management system that permits HEIs to upload data on a continual basis.
- All users contribute to and maintain the integrity of their data.
- Accreditation operations are more efficient.

Principles:

1. The quality of data available for accreditation decisions meets the requirements of Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board.
2. The accreditation software is developed through effective consultation to ensure that the needs of HEIs, Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board, visiting teams and Engineers Canada staff are realized.
3. Workflow, and how users share and manage data, is clearly understood and incorporated.
4. Optimize investment in existing systems and available resources.
5. Data is current, comprehensive, verifiable, and only available to authorized persons.
6. Resources are available for operations, maintenance, and ongoing enhancements.
7. Project updates are shared and communicated in a clear, transparent, consistent and timely manner.

Stakeholders

Collaboration Engineers Canada
Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board

Counsel HEIs
National Council of Deans of Engineering and Applied Science through their Deans' Liaison Committee

Risks

1. The broad scope might involve many initiatives. An effective system to prioritize them is needed.
2. Limited buy-in by the HEIs; limited availability of HEI personnel to collaborate/consult.
3. Incompatibility of solution with some HEIs' current data collection systems
4. Ineffective communications could lead to a perception of limited value to the desired groups of stakeholders.
5. Cost may limit possible solutions

Consultation Results

Business needs currently being analyzed by external consultant. Once complete, consultation will be initiated.