

Principles for development of a regulatory regime for granting engineering technologists independent practice rights

Preface

Whereas:

- Academic and experience requirements for engineers are different and more extensive than the academic requirement and experience requirements for engineering technologists and
- Education and training in first principles means that engineers are qualified to conduct work that engineering technologists may not be qualified to do and
- Utilizing the minimum number of professional regulators to regulate professional activities avoids confusion and inconsistent/potentially conflicting regulatory standards that could be caused by the introduction of another regulator,

Therefore, the development of a regulatory regime for granting engineering technologists independent practice rights must **incorporate all of the four principles stated below**.

Principles

1. All work that falls within the definition of the practice of engineering* should be regulated by a single government-designated regulator whose mandate includes regulating the practice of engineering in the public interest.
2. Individuals who have acquired the necessary competencies by virtue of their academic training and professional experience, who can be held accountable for their work and who have met all of the licensing requirements set by the provincial/territorial regulators can be authorized to practice engineering either within a full or limited scope of practice.
3. In cases of overlapping practice of engineering with members of other regulated professions (eg. foresters, agrologists, architects) the respective regulators must work together to ensure the public welfare is protected.
4. Defined scopes of practice (for the purpose of limited licences) within the broad range of engineering activities must be prepared by engineering regulators and must be understandable and enforceable.

* For information - Engineers Canada's definition of the practice of engineering is:

Any act of planning, designing, composing, evaluating, advising, reporting, directing or supervising, or managing any of the foregoing that,

- a. requires the application of engineering principles; and***
- b. concerns the safeguarding of life, health, property, economic interests, the public welfare or the environment.***

The definition has three elements:

- i. any of various particular intellectual activities or combinations of them;
- ii. the application of engineering principles, and
- iii. safeguarding societal interests.