

MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENT

Between

Agency for Qualification of Professional Engineers (in this document abbreviated by AQPE), herewith lawfully represented by Josep Canós, Vice President; Asociación de Ingenieros Profesionales de España (in this document abbreviated by AIPE), herewith lawfully represented by Baldomero Segura, Vice President

and

Agencia Nazionale per la Certificazione Volontaria delle Competenze degli Ingegneri (in this document abbreviated by ANCVCI), herewith lawfully represented by Gaetano Nastasi, President

Hereafter together to be referred to as: 'Parties'.

I Preamble

1. Considering that Parties
 - subscribe to upholding standards for professional engineers, in order to promote the quality of the engineering profession and safeguard society;
 - have developed similar processes and procedures, following the ISO/IEC 17024 standard for personnel certification, within their organisations to ensure accordingly;
 - are satisfied about the quality assurance of the processes and procedures in each organisation;
 - intend to engage into a lasting and fruitful cooperation with each other.
2. Parties therefore wish to establish a Mutual Recognition Agreement, with the purpose to:
 - Uphold standards for the engineering profession across borders;
 - Reduce barriers between engineers and exercising the engineering profession between their respective countries;
 - Support mobility and recognition of competent engineers in their respective jurisdiction.

- Encourage knowledge exchange between the engineering communities in Spain and Italy;
3. The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a principle of mutual recognition of the professional attributes of engineers who legally exercise their profession according to the relevant laws in force in the jurisdiction of each Party and to regulate the conditions in which such attributes will, upon request, be fully recognised and registered at an equal level by any of the other Parties.
 4. All the above shall be within the frame of the national laws and the limits of the legal capacities of each of the Parties. Therefore, under no circumstances this Agreement can be used or interpreted to waive the norms regulating the legal conditions of exercise of the profession of engineer in force in the jurisdiction of each Party.

II Articles

Parties have therefore agreed to the following:

Article 1.

The professional engineers referred to in this Agreement will be of the following level of qualification:

- AQPE/AIPE Professional Engineer (in this document abbreviated by PE), in its three levels:
- o Professional Engineer (minimum 4 years of professional experience)
 - o Professional Engineer Senior (minimum 8 years of professional experience)
 - o Professional Engineer Expert (minimum 16 years of professional experience)

- ANCVCI CERTing, in its two levels:
- o CERTing (1st level, minimum 4 years of professional experience)
 - o CERTing Advanced (2nd level, minimum 7 years of professional experience)

Article 2.

Engineers registered as CERTing and in good standing in the ANCVCI system, should submit their application for admission as a member of AQPE to secretaria@aqpe.org or for admission as a member of AIPE to secretaria@ingenierosprofesionales.com

§ 1 - Professionals to which this article refers will be admitted to AQPE/AIPE as:

- Professional Engineer for CERTing 1st Level¹
- Professional Engineer, either as level Senior or Expert for CERTing Advanced¹, depending upon their years of working experience and to be decided by AQPE/AIPE, whilst maintaining all their professional attributes granted to them by ANCVCI, in accordance with the certificate issued by ANCVCI.

Italy ¹	Spain
CERTing	Professional Engineer
CERTing Advanced	Professional Engineer or Professional Engineer Senior or Professional Engineer Expert

§ 2 – According to the requirements of the accredited “*certification scheme PE*”, AQPE/AIPE will establish if the applicant, asking for the certificate as Professional Engineer, will or will not be submitted to admission exams mentioned in the procedures of AQPE/AIPE or any other regulation containing such requirement whilst this Agreement is in force.

¹ For obtaining the PE in AIPE, professionals to which this article refers have to be engineers with at least 5 years university degree in engineering. If they have a degree with less than 5-years, they have to apply for PE in AQPE.

At the end of the process of mutual recognition, a CERTing Engineer already registered in the ANCVCI system will achieve the certificate PE only if AQPE/AIPE could have positively checked his full conformity to the requirements of the "certification scheme PE". In this case his name will be put by AQPE/AIPE in the official list of the certified engineers PE, with a suitable specification according to Preamble – par. 4. Preamble.

If not, his name will be placed in a separate list of CERTing engineers, whose professional competences are declared by AQPE/AIPE to be "equivalent" to a pre-defined category of PE Engineers.

Article 3.

Engineers registered as PE and in good standing in the AQPE/AIPE system, should submit their application for admission as a member of ANCVCI to segreteria@cni-certing.it.

§ 1 - Professionals to which this article refers will be admitted to ANCVCI as:

- CERTing 1st Level for Professional Engineer
 - CERTing Advanced for Professional Engineer Senior or Professional Engineer Expert
- whilst maintaining all their professional attributes granted to them by AQPE/AIPE, in accordance with the certificate issued by AQPE/AIPE.

Spain	Italy
Professional Engineer	CERTing
Professional Engineer Senior or Professional Engineer Expert	CERTing Advanced

§ 2 - According to the requirements of the accredited "certification scheme CERTing", ANCVCI will establish if the applicant, asking for the certificate as CERTing, will or will not be submitted to admission exams mentioned in the procedures of ANCVCI or any other regulation containing such requirement whilst this Agreement is in force.

At the end of the process of mutual recognition, a PE Engineer already registered in the AQPE/AIPE system will achieve the certificate CERTing only if ANCVCI could have positively checked his full conformity to the requirements of the "certification scheme CERTing". In this case his name will be put by ANCVCI in the official list of the certified engineers CERTing, with a suitable specification according to Preamble – par. 4.

If not, his name will be placed in a separate list of PE engineers, whose professional competences are declared by ANCVCI to be "equivalent" to a pre-defined category of CERTing Engineers.

Article 4.

Application forms for registration in the AQPE/AIPE system referred to in this Agreement should contain at least the following compulsory information:

- Full name
- Passport number / ID (Identity Card)
- ANCVCI registration number
- Full address as registered in ANCVCI system
- CV
- Professional registration certificate² issued by ANCVCI, which expressly contains the respective professional attributes, eventual restrictions regarding the exercise of certain activities and information on professional ethics sanctions.

During the process, AQPE/AIPE may ask the applicant to give more information about his professional activities and his CPD-continuous professional development.

Article 5.

² If the CERTing applicant wants to maintain its compartment and sharp specialization of his certification, he have to apply in AQPE.

Application forms for registration in the ANCVCI system referred to in this Agreement should contain at least the following compulsory information:

- Full name
- Passport number / ID (Identity Card)
- AQPE/AIPE registration number
- Full address as registered in AQPE/AIPE system
- CV
- Professional registration certificate issued by AQPE/AIPE, which expressly contains the respective professional attributes, eventual restrictions regarding the exercise of certain activities and information on professional ethics sanctions.

During the process, ANCVCI may ask the applicant to give more information about his professional activities and his CPD-continuous professional development.

Article 6.

Applicants undertake to send their respective professional ID or certificate, valid in their country of residence, in a maximum of 30 (thirty) days following the request for registration or submission of the application, as evidence of their registration with AQPE /AIPE or ANCVCI.

Article 7.

The value of rates, expenses and fees as mentioned on any subject in the specific regulations of Parties, will not be affected by this Agreement.

Article 8.

Professional Engineers and CERTing referred to in this Agreement have the same rights and obligations regarding the exercise of their professional activities established by Parties in their respective jurisdictions.

Article 9.

Parties will appoint a Working Committee consisting of at least one person of each organisation, that will be handling all practical issues concerning this Agreement.

This Committee has the special task to make suitable comparisons between the "*certification scheme PE*" and the "*certification scheme CERTing*", in order to classify properly the applicant according to Articles 2 and 3, in order to find mutual procedures for exchanging data/information and in order to decrease gradually the differences between the schemes.

Article 10.

Parties undertake to adapt and make available application forms for registration as well as any other required administrative measures within 60 (sixty) days following the date this Agreement is signed.

Article 11.

International conventions or reciprocal agreements regarding arbitration by the competent Court for judging disciplinary matters, will be respected when applying disciplinary sanctions, which may arise from the exercise of professional activity by Professional Engineers and CERTing referred to in this Agreement.

Article 12.

Difficulties or differences arising in the interpretation or application of this Agreement will be solved through direct negotiation between Parties.

Article 13.

Parties may agree to amend this instrument. Amendments will come into force after a maximum of 60 (sixty) days following mutual approval.

Article 14.

Any one of the Parties may denounce this Agreement, whereby it will cease to have effect 180 (one hundred and eighty) days following receipt of the notification of denunciation by the other party.

Article 15.

This Agreement will come into force on the date the Agreement is signed, and will be valid until denounced by one of the Parties.

III Signing

Seven exact copies of this Agreement are issued.

Signed in Rome on 26 February 2019,

<p>Agenzia Nazionale per la Certificazione Volontaria delle Competenze degli Ingegneri</p>  <p>Gaetano Nastasi President</p>	<p>Asociación de Ingenieros Profesionales de España</p>  <p>Baldomero Segura Vice President</p>	<p>Agency for Qualification of Professional Engineers</p>  <p>Josep Canós Vice President</p>
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