

## **Guidance Note on Recognised Standards**

When printed this becomes an uncontrolled document. Please check the Partner Portal for the most up to date version.

## Document History

### Document Location

The authoritative document is held as a .pdf in the Documents Library in the Governance site on the intranet as a Core Document managed through SharePoint. This document is only valid on the day it is printed.

### Revision History

Revision date	Summary of Changes

### Approvals

This document requires the following approvals.

Name	Date of Issue	Version
Registration Standards Committee (RSC)	12/05/2022	1

### Distribution

This document has been distributed to:

Name	Date of Issue	Version
EngC Partner Portal	22/07/2022	1
EngC Website	22/07/2022	1

### Review Period

This procedure is subject to a minimum of a five year review as part of the cyclical review of the standards-related documents. Changes may be made more frequently as the need arises.

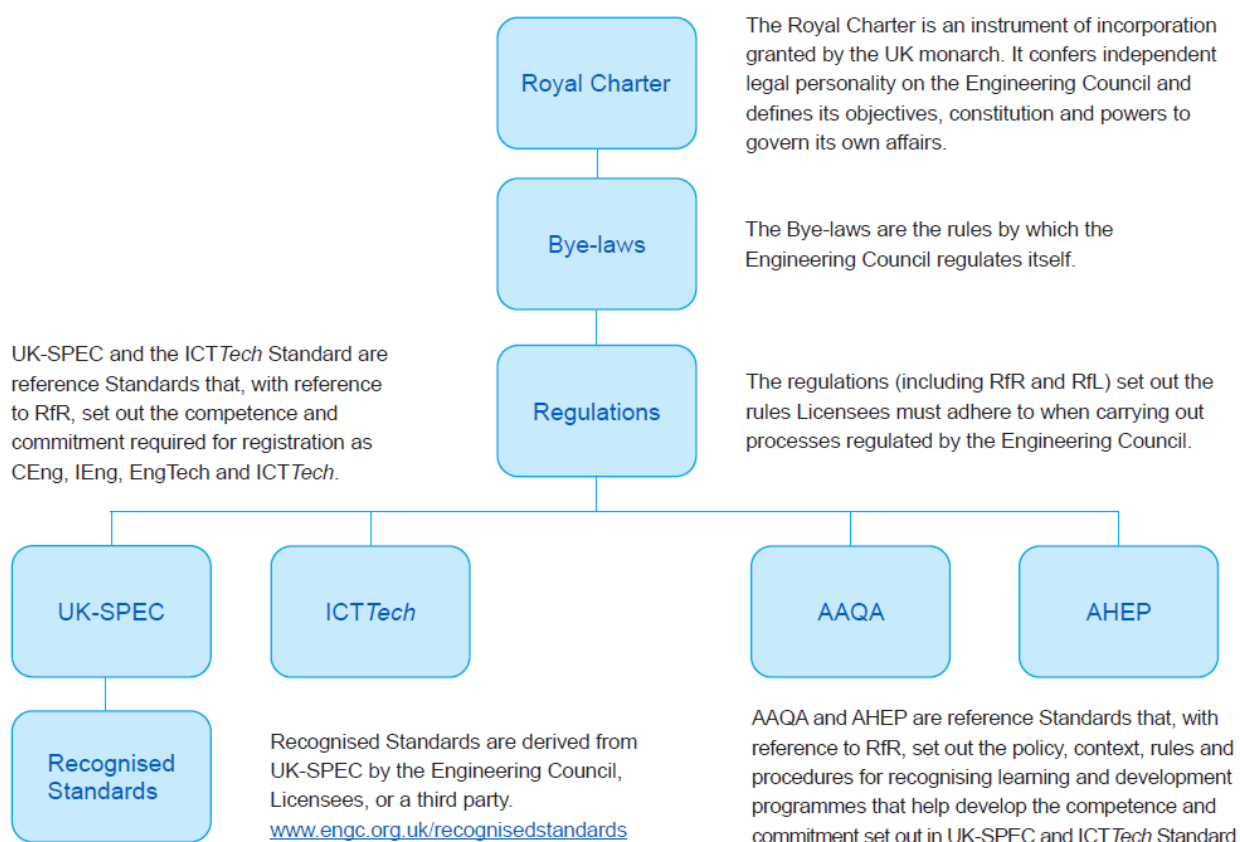
## Guidance Note on Recognised Standards

### 1. Introduction

Recognised Standards are standards derived from the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence and Commitment (UK-SPEC), such as proprietary sector-specific or specialist standards published by the Engineering Council and standards derived from UK-SPEC by Licensees in accordance with this Guidance.

Recognised Standards may also be third-party standards evaluated as fully or partially<sup>1</sup> meeting the requirements set out in UK-SPEC, for which exemptions may be given when assessing applicants for Engineering Council registration. Licensees shall document where a Recognised Standard is used and the exemptions that may be given within their registration procedures.

This Guidance Note explains the categories of Recognised Standards, and the processes through which they may be developed, mapped, and/or authorised for use. The diagram below shows Recognised Standards in relation to reference Standards and regulations, including Regulations for Registration (RfR) and Regulations for Licensing (RfL).



<sup>1</sup> Future categories of Recognised Standard may enable partial meeting of UK-SPEC.

## **2. Categories of Recognised Standard**

### **Reference Standard**

The UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC) is the Reference Standard, and sets the standards of competence and commitment which the other Standards flow from. UK-SPEC is owned by the Engineering Council and reviewed periodically.

The following categories of Recognised Standard have been authorised for use by Registration Standards Committee (RSC). Further categories of Recognised Standard are under development and will be added as authorised by RSC.

### **Proprietary Standards**

A Proprietary Standard is a type of contextualised standard which has been developed by the Engineering Council, in collaboration with multiple Licensees. Licensees use Proprietary Standards as published – they do not develop their own version.

Individuals registered against a Proprietary Standards are explicitly identified as such on the Engineering Council Register or a section of the Register. Proprietary Standards are based on, and fully meet, the Reference Standard (UK-SPEC), but may be designed to meet other standards in addition to UK-SPEC.

Licensees must hold the appropriate licence or licence extension to register applicants in a section of the Register corresponding to a Proprietary Standard.

### **Derived Standards**

Regulations for Registration (RfR) paragraphs 13 and 14 require that:

Licensees shall establish criteria and procedures for assessing applicants for registration. Each Licensee shall adopt its own standard of competence and commitment derived from and meeting that in UK-SPEC, which can be assessed objectively and which relate to the technologies and applications with which it is concerned.

Proprietary Standards are standards developed by the Engineering Council, fully meeting UK-SPEC, such as sector-specific or specialist standards. Derived standards may be developed by Licensees, based on and fully meeting UK-SPEC (or a Proprietary Standard). All such Derived Standards shall be subject to authorisation by Quality Assurance Committee.

Such Derived Standards may add to, or contextualise, the competence statements set out in UK-SPEC or a Proprietary Standard, but must require that candidates demonstrate the competence and commitment appropriate to the registration category fully. Derived Standards are often fully aligned to one or more of the Licensee's membership categories and may include the award of a title by the Licensee under its own charter.

Licensees need not amend UK-SPEC; they may adopt and use the unmodified Reference Standard, where the Reference Standard meets the requirements of RfR paragraphs 13 and 14 above.

Licensing Review Panels undertake the detailed comparison of the Licensee's standard and observe delivery of the supporting assessment processes, which are then authorised by Quality Assurance Committee (QAC).

### **3. Renewal, Revalidation, and other requirements**

Recognised Standards may be subject to requirements additional to those in the Regulations for Registration or other Engineering Council guidance or regulations. For instance, regarding the renewal or revalidation of registration, or requirements for the submission of CPD samples.

Licensees should consider each published Recognised Standard's requirements the authoritative source. Unless specifically extended by the specific requirements of the Recognised Standard, the Regulations for Registration and attached Engineering Council guidance and regulation continue to apply.

### **4. Fully/partially meeting UK-SPEC**

Regulations for Registration paragraph 12:

Each Licensee shall adopt its own standard of competence and commitment, derived from and meeting that in UK-SPEC, which can be assessed objectively and which relates to the technologies and applications with which it is concerned.

Derived and Proprietary Standards must fully meet UK-SPEC. This means that every competence statement in the applicable UK-SPEC category (CEng, IEng, EngTech) must be met or exceeded by a competence statement in the Derived or Proprietary Standard.

Future categories of Recognised Standard may enable partial meeting of UK-SPEC; including for Licensee- or third-party-developed industry standards, or for mutually recognised standards published by non-UK organisations. Mapping of such standards to UK-SPEC would be undertaken by Licensee(s) and submitted to the Engineering Council for authorisation, for the purpose of partial professional review exemption.