

Use of FEANI title "EUR ING" not allowed in Germany

The Fédération Européenne d'Associations Nationales d'Ingénieurs (FEANI) (www.feani.org) was formed in 1951 to secure the recognition of European titles and to protect those titles, in order to facilitate the freedom of engineers to move and practice within and outside Europe. Registration with FEANI for the title "EUR ING" is open to engineers registered with national member organisations. In the case of the UK, this means that applicants must be registered as a Chartered Engineer with the Engineering Council UK, known as ECUK (www.engc.org.uk).

In response to a question from an IET member, a query was sent to the Regierung von Oberbayern (District Government of Upper Bavaria) (www.regierung-oberbayern.de) asking whether the use of the "EUR ING" title was allowed in Bavaria. The reply dated 30 March 2007 stated that:

"Nach den derzeit gültigen Bestimmungen des Bayerischen Ingenieurgesetzes ist die Führung der Bezeichnung "EUR ING" nicht möglich.

Die FEANI -Fédération Européenne d'Associations Nationales d'Ingénieurs- ist der europäische Zusammenschluss von nationalen Ingenieurorganisationen. Diese Organisation hat sich u.a. die europaweite Anerkennung von Ingenieurqualifikationen zum Ziel gesetzt. Hierzu hat sie Mindeststandards erarbeitet, bei deren Erfüllung sie die Bezeichnung "Europa Ingenieur" (Kurzform: "EUR ING") vergibt.

Bei der Bezeichnung "EUR ING" handelt es sich also weder um einen Hochschulgrad noch um eine Berufsbezeichnung nach den Ingenieurgesetzen der Länder der Bundesrepublik Deutschland. Hiermit wird lediglich dokumentiert, dass die erworbene Ingenieurqualifikation den FEANI-internen Kriterien genügt."

Translated into English, this means essentially the following:

"Under the present provisions of the Bavarian law on engineers the use of the designation "EUR ING" is not allowed.

FEANI - Fédération Européenne d'Associations Nationales d'Ingénieurs - is the European federation of national engineering associations. This organisation has as one of its goals the recognition of engineering qualifications across Europe. To this end it has established minimum standards, compliance with which results in the granting of the designation "European Engineer" (abbreviated to "EUR ING").

Thus the designation "EUR ING" is neither a university degree nor a professional designation according to the laws on engineers of the states of the Federal Republic of Germany. It merely documents that the acquired engineering qualifications satisfy FEANI's own internal criteria."

Although this is a matter for each German federal state, it seems highly unlikely that the situation in the other states would be any different to that in Bavaria. One can only reasonably conclude that the "EUR ING" title may not be used in Germany.

Alan Teale, 18th April 2007