

EMF Credits – New Zealand

1. Does a compulsory licence regime(s) exist? If so describe its operation. E.g. must be licensed to practise engineering and sign off engineering work.

No.

2. Does a voluntary registration regime(s) exist? If so, describe its operation, and the activities that can only be performed by registered person, e.g. only registered persons allowed to sign off construction-related work and devices inspected under occupational safety and health regulations.

There are several voluntary quality marks in New Zealand – Chartered Professional Engineer (CPEng), which is backed by statute; Professional Membership (MIPENZ) and IntPE, which are promoted by the profession. There are a few work areas (mainly in the occupational safety and health areas) where CPEng is a requirement (along with qualifications in mechanical engineering) under regulation for professional engineering work. IPENZ is the Registration Authority and administers the CPEng register, as well as the assessment process to gain entry to (and remain on) the register.

Regulators (especially local authorities) are increasingly using the CPEng quality mark as a benchmark as part of their regulatory framework for certain types of engineering work – something which IPENZ is actively encouraging. There is currently much work being undertaken in the building/construction area (with the introduction of new statutes), and IPENZ's expectation is that regulations will be issued where CPEng will be required to perform a greater range of engineering work in the construction field.

3. Describe the credit that will be given to any person registered on any section of the IRPE without the need to form any further agreements beyond the EMF (i.e. without bilaterals). E.g.

- a. Credit for holding a suitable qualification

Washington Accord or recognised equivalent qualification is accepted

- b. Credit for 7 years' experience

Accepted if supported by verification

- c. Credit for 2 years' responsible charge

Accepted if supported by verification

- d. Credit for demonstrating competence to the agreed international standard (other than local knowledge)

If a person is registered on the APEC Engineers or IntPE register in any signatory country, the person is granted Professional Membership to IPENZ without further assessment or fees. If applying for CPEng, then credit is given as a 'previously assessed' applicant – and the person would be treated exactly the same as a New Zealand applicant in the same situation. This would normally mean the person does not have to undertake an interactive assessment.

- e. Credit for sufficient recent CPD (last 5 years)

As above – treated the same as a New Zealand applicant. Note that for continued registration on the CPEng or New Zealand section of the IntPE registers (IntPE and APEC Engineer registers are combined in New Zealand), registrants are required to revalidate their competence by way of a current competence assessment. CPD is good evidence of maintaining one's professional competence – but is not the only evidence required.

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4. Describe the extra credit that may be achieved beyond that described in 3 through the formation of a bilateral agreement. This credit is only available to registrants on the section of the IRPE to which the specific bilateral applies

Nil.

5. Describe the assessment or other conditions that all registrants, irrespective of which IRPE section they are on, would have to meet prior to registration/licensing, e.g.

- a. Residency requirements for a period of time

Not relevant.

- b. Local employment for a period of time

Not relevant – but CPEng applicants need to demonstrate ability to comprehend and apply New Zealand-specific good engineering practice, and employment in New Zealand would be strong evidence to provide to satisfy this requirement.

- c. Demonstration of local knowledge through an assessment

As outlined for (b) above with respect to CPEng applications only.

- d. Demonstration of competence recently

This would be strong evidence for CPEng (and continued IntPE registration), but not an issue for Professional Membership.

6. Describe assessment areas in which assessment may be required, at discretion of registering authority. E.g.

- a. Communication skills

Assessment is required for entry onto the CPEng register, and for continued registration on the IntPE register if assessed more than 5 years ago. Current competence to CPEng competence standard must be demonstrated – including local knowledge, ethical behaviour and maintenance of professional

- b. Language capability

There is no specific requirement, the only requirement is to communicate clearly.

7. Describe any benefits that IRPE registrants might receive in addition (but separate) to registration/licensing benefits. E.g.

- a. Ease of entry to membership of a learned society.

Ease of entry to Professional Membership of IPENZ, facilitates entry to CPEng (although local knowledge requirements must be met).

8. Where the jurisdiction is an APEC member, what differences to the above list, if any, apply to APEC Engineers?

There is no difference between APEC and EMF treatment.

In Summary

IPENZ 'credit schedule' gives credit to those who have demonstrated competence to an equivalent standard of the CPEng competence standard (as demonstrated by registration on IntPE register – that is either EMF's IPER or the APEC Engineer Register in another signatory jurisdiction). Full details are outlined on IPENZ's website at http://www.ipenz.org.nz/ipenz/join/Credit_For_Registrants.cfm.

For Professional Membership – no further assessment is required.

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For CPEng – treated as previously assessed, normally expect competence to be demonstrated without requiring interactive assessment, but must demonstrate the 'local knowledge' element of standard.

For IntPE – no further assessment required. If assessed more than 5 years ago, applicant will need to undertake assessment for continued registration.