

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

The TCG

- **Holds** the engineering license examinations and grants licenses for the practice of the engineering profession.
- **Studies** the curricula of Engineering Schools and generally educational issues, introduces improvements and comments on the professional rights of engineering graduates.
- **Studies** the institutional framework of professional rights of Engineers, informs its members and introduces relevant improvements.
- **Codifies** National and European legislation for all matters concerning the engineers and gives expert opinion on bills introduced in Parliament.
- **Deals** with employment issues of engineering graduates and suggests new fields of employment for young Engineers according to European and International standards.
- **Informs** and provides support to Engineers regarding problems they may face in the practice of their profession (compensation, insurance, tax matters and labour problems).
- **Provides** administrative support for fact-finding, mediations and arbitrations, as well as the resolution of issues that concern disputes during the provision of services by its members to third parties.
- **Co-operates** with trade and labour unions of Engineers as well as other legal entities representing the engineering profession on matters related to the formulation of policies benefiting their members and the public interest.

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PUBLICATIONS

TCG, through its publications, informs its members on issues of interest to them and contributes to the promotion of science and technology and the diffusion of knowledge. TCG publications include:

- Information Bulletin - weekly magazine (105.000 copies).
- Technical Chronicles - a scientific publication in printed form (105.000 copies) and e-form.
- Bi-monthly electronic publication of Technical Chronicles which includes: selected original studies, articles by distinguished engineers, presentations of University laboratories, reviews of technical books, technical analyses of regulations and summaries of papers presented at meetings, master dissertations and doctoral theses.
- Conference Proceedings and books.

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THE TCG DATA BANK

- Started operating in September 1996.
- Provides high quality Internet Services to more than 14,000 Engineers and Engineering Companies, in a cost-effective way (Internet access, professional e-mail accounts, on-line information through specialized services, on-line engineering job classified ads, promotion of enterprises by hosting pages (web-hosting) or advertisements (banners), continuous technical support).
- Supports the TCG website and portal.

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DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION UNIT

The aims of the Unit are to:

- Respond to the needs for general and specialized information of TCG members and third parties.
- Compile, edit and document TCG scientific activities and to keep its archives and collections.

The TCG library provides free access to everybody and includes:

- More than 60,000 book titles and 1300 journal titles.
- Publications of International Organizations such as TRB, FIB, CIGRE, SCBR, ERA, UNEP, etc.
- Complete archive of all TCG activities (studies of Work Groups and Committees, proceedings of congresses, seminars, meetings, lectures), and TCG publications (Technical Chronicles, Information Bulletin etc).

The e-services provided to long distance users include free access (<http://opac.tee.gr>) to:

- The archives of all TCG libraries.
- Full e-version of the Information Bulletin.
- The following available databases: engineers, buildings, standards, quality, TCG posters etc.
- The library's website and TCG digital library (<http://portal.tee.gr/portal/page/portal/LIBRARY>).

Also provided:

- Services through e-mail (tee_lib@tee.gr).
- Interlibrary loans among TCG libraries (in Athens and in regional Sections).
- Article requests from the National Libraries Network.
- Article and book orders and requests from the British Library.

The Library also provides access to:

- E-journals and databases.
- The TCG Data Bank.
- Services for the retrieval of National and European Legislation.
- Internet.

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PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

TCG has been active in the area of professional training since its founding. In 1995 the IEKEM -TEE (Training Institute of TCG members) was founded as a non-profit organization.

IEKEM - TEE:

- **Carries out** research and performs studies to identify current training needs.
- **Plans**, coordinates and offers educational services (on IT, environment, safety, health etc).
- **Plans**, establishes and coordinates mechanisms for the dissemination of scientific information and knowledge.
- **Prepares** educational material.
- **Cooperates** with other organizations in Greece and abroad on issues of continuing training.
- **Grants** certificates.

Some of the training programmes currently offered by IEKEM-TEE are:

- CAD Seminars
- Seminars on Specialized Information Technology Topics.
- Seminars on Management and Economics.
- Sector based specialized seminars on the practice of engineering.
- Seminars on Safety and Health.
- Seminars on the Environment.

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TECHNICAL CHAMBER OF GREECE

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TEE

TECHNICAL CHAMBER OF GREECE

The Technical Chamber of Greece (TCG) is the institutional Technical Advisor to the Greek State and the leading Professional Engineering Association in Greece. TCG (Greek Acronym TEE), established in 1923, is a Public Legal Entity, supervised by the Greek Ministry for Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works. It is headquartered in Athens with regional sections in 17 geographic areas throughout the country. All qualified engineers in Greece are registered members of the Technical Chamber of Greece. It has over 100,000 members.

TEE

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ROLE AND OBJECTIVES

Official advisor to the State on all technical matters.
(par.2, article 4, Law 1486/ 1984).

- **Studies** any kind of relevant scientific, technical, techno-economic or development issues of public interest either on its own initiative, or upon assignment, independently or in collaboration with other scientific or social bodies or chambers. It also expresses its view on legislative matters relevant to the above mentioned areas, either on its own initiative or upon invitation.
- **Gives** expert opinion on the request of the authorities, of other public bodies or trade unions, on any subject related to the areas of its responsibilities, within a specified and reasonable amount of time.
- **Collects** statistical data regarding the engineering work force, the technical, scientific, construction and industrial activity, engineering materials, equipment and technology. It also prepares statistical information and communicates the relevant information to the authorities or other bodies.
- **Assists** in the formation and implementation of development programmes, the utilization of natural resources, the improvement of the quality of life and the protection of the environment. Performs, independently or in co-operation with other bodies, relevant studies and research, publishes technical specifications and regulations and drafts contracts for technical design studies and public works.
- **Contributes** to the development of education and training programmes, the advancement of domestic research and technology, the utilization, development, programming and structure of the engineering profession in accordance to the development needs of the country.
- **Informs** the public through press releases, publications, editions or other suitable means about any subject within its competence by popularizing and assisting the wider understanding of relevant matters and problems.
- **Participates** in International Organizations, Associations or Chambers, Engineering Unions and Federations and develops relations with its counterpart organizations in other countries, organizes conferences, lectures, exhibitions and other activities for the promotion of its aims.
- **Supports** the Hellenic Engineering Associations in activities related to its objectives.
- **Performs** appraisals having legislatively entrenched authority.
- **Holds** the engineering license examinations and provides licenses for the practice of the engineering profession.

THE TCG ORGANIZATION

The TCG elected bodies are:

1. Central Bodies

- TCG Assembly
- 15-member Executive Committee

- President of the Executive Committee
- 9 Scientific Committees, corresponding to the nine engineering areas of specialization. Their members also participate in the TCG Assembly.

- Civil Engineering
- Architecture
- Mechanical Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Rural and Surveying Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Mining and Metallurgical Engineering
- Naval Architecture and Naval Mechanical Engineering
- Electronic Engineering

2. Regional Bodies

- 17 Assemblies of the Regional Sections.
- 17 Executive Committees of the Regional Sections.

Regional Structure

The 17 Regional Sections are:

- Regional Section of Central Macedonia based in Thessaloniki.
- Regional Section of Western Greece based in Patras.
- Regional Section of Thrace based in Komotini.
- Regional Section of Eastern Macedonia based in Kavala.
- Regional Section of Western Macedonia based in Kozani.
- Regional Section of Central and Western Thessaly based in Larissa.
- Regional Section of the Prefecture of Magnesia based in Volos.
- Regional Section of Eastern Sterea Hellas based in Lamia.
- Regional Section of Epirus based in Ioannina.
- Regional Section of the Prefecture of Dodecanese based on Rhodes.
- Regional Section of Eastern Crete based in Herakleion.
- Regional Section of Western Crete based in Chania.
- Regional Section of Central and Southern Peloponese based in Tripoli.
- Regional Section of the Prefecture of Corfu based on Corfu.
- Regional Section of the Prefecture of Aitolokarnania based in Agrinio.
- Regional Section of Northeastern Aegean based in Mytilene.
- Regional Section of the Prefecture of Evia based in Chalkida.

3. The Disciplinary Council

Responsible for the enforcement of the Code of Ethics among its members are the first degree Disciplinary Councils in Athens and the 17 Regional Sections and the Higher Disciplinary Council.

THE TCG CONSULTATIVE BODIES

Assisting the Administration of TCG, are:

- **Standing Committees.**

They give expert opinion and make recommendations on every issue that is referred to them.

- **Special Scientific Committees.**

Committees that study scientific issues related to their specialization, make recommendations on TCG scientific activities and give expert opinion assisted by Committees, standing or ad hoc, and Work Groups.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

1. Directorate General

Central Administration

2. Directorates:

- Human Resources & Administration
- Finance
- Documentation and Information
- Scientific and Development Activities
- Professional Issues
- European Affairs and International Relations

3. Independent Departments (Department of Administration, Data Bank Department, Technical Services Department, Publicity and Communications Department).

4. Legal Services Office.

TCG's Regional Departments

The Regional Sections operate as departments with the exception of the Regional Section of Central Macedonia which is a Directorate with 6 departments, including a Legal Department.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The TCG

- Has established relations with counterpart organizations world-wide.
- Has signed agreements of cooperation with several International Organizations such as COPISEE (Permanent Conference of Engineers of South-Eastern Europe) as well as with other Engineering Unions such as the Architectural Society of China (ASC), the Order of Engineers and Architects of Beirut, the Scientific and Technical Chamber of Cyprus, the International Society of Offshore and Polar Engineers (ISOPE), the Union of Architects of Bulgaria, the Federation of Technical and Scientific Unions of Hungary etc.
- Is a member of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO-FMDI) and other International Engineering Organizations, the European Federation of National Associations of Engineers (FEANI), the International Union of Architects (UIA), the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE), the Council of European Geodetic Surveyors (CLGE), the Liaison Committee of Associations of University Graduate Engineers (CLAIU-EU), the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC), the International Council of Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB), the European Council of Applied Sciences and Technology (Euro-CASE), the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the team of European Surveyors (EGoS), the World Energy Council (WEC) and many other international engineering organizations.

RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION

The TCG has developed intense activity in the field of the evolution of European Integration. It has particularly focused in matters related to:

- European Legislation.
- Activities that interest the Greek qualified Engineers in the following areas:
 - Education, training, employment
 - Information and Communications Technology
 - Regional development
 - Relations with third countries
 - Environment
 - Energy
 - Research and technology
- Promotion of its views directly to the EU through the European Organizations in which it participates: FEANI, CAE, CLAIU, ECCE, CLGE, SCI.
- Informing its members about European programmes.

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SCIENTIFIC AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

- Organizes scientific and educational events (meetings, seminars and lectures).
- Supports the activity of the permanent and special scientific committees and supervises six thematic offices that study scientific, technological and development issues that concern society.
- Provides Specifications and Technical Directives that facilitate the work of Engineers and contribute to the quality improvement of services and products offered to society.
- Edits the Manuals of Structural Materials that codify all the necessary scientific and technical information and data.
- Follows, comments and gives expert opinions on policies related to engineering issues.
- Observes standardization issues, maintains a database of Greek and International standards and co-operates with the Hellenic Standardization Organization (ELOT). It also supports the operation of six Technical Committees on Standardization.
- Participates in Committees and Technical Councils of the Ministries and public bodies.
- Supports the operation of: a. the Observatories on Road Safety and Urban Transport, b. the Anti-Nuclear Mediterranean Observatory c. the Observatory for the Management of Natural Disasters.
- Manages TCG's representations to Councils, Committees and meetings of other Public Bodies or Organizations.
- Grants awards to top graduated students of the Engineering Schools of Greece.

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