How does SPEA help the national chapters?

Through the collective strength of SPEA and the support of IPENZ, national chapters are better able to:

- undertake competence assessments of engineers for registration or competence-graded membership of the national engineering body (through the provision of training of assessors to international good practice standards)
- provide professional development opportunities (through sourcing these from New Zealand), and seeking to develop co-delivery expertise in some of the SPEA national chapter memberships
- where engineering qualifications are taught within the jurisdiction of a national chapter, provide linkages between the engineering education providers and both other educators and accreditation systems operating in New Zealand or Australia
- influence their governments – by using the meetings of the SPEA Council in their jurisdiction as a point of focus to get access to and then influence government leaders.

How do I contact SPEA and the national chapters?

Information about SPEA and its activities is available at www.spengineer.org

SPEA is supported by the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand www.ipenz.org.nz and by Engineers Australia www.engineersaustralia.org.au

SPEA is administered from IPENZ’s National Office in New Zealand.

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Tonga

Vanuatu

Cook Islands
The South Pacific Engineers Association (SPEA) is an association of the bodies which represent engineers within countries in the Pacific Island Forum geographical region. In some countries, there is a formal body, and that body is regarded as the national chapter of SPEA. In other countries there are too few engineers to form a formal body, so the national chapter is informally constituted. Each national chapter has a representative on the Council of SPEA, and the Council elects a President of the Association. The Council meets at least twice per year. The costs of doing so are met by national chapter subscriptions. At each meeting of the Council a forward-looking work programme is developed.

The Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (IPENZ) provides both financial and technical support to SPEA, although it is not a member and does not have a representative on the Council. Engineers Australia is also supportive of SPEA.

What does SPEA do?

The object of SPEA is to support the development of engineering and engineering standards in the South Pacific region through actions including but not limited to:

a. informing engineers and their wider stakeholders within the region on important national and international developments and issues affecting engineering;

b. contributing to South Pacific engineering knowledge development and dissemination;

c. supporting the identification, codification and harmonisation of standards to improve engineering practice within the region;

d. development of competence assessment and registration systems, both in nations and regionally, towards the ultimate goal that regional competence registers will receive wider international recognition;

e. creating a strong representational voice for engineering in the region, including influencing governments and the Pacific Islands Forum on matters related to engineering, the environment, and economic development;

f. raising the profile of engineering in communities within the region;

g. building engineering education within the region towards the ultimate goal of regional engineering qualifications receiving wider international recognition;

h. raising the technical capacity of engineering-related institutions;

i. representing the region’s engineers in the global context; and

j. creating a network that supports professional development amongst engineers and engineering organisations in the region by regular communication.