



# Portrait of a profession

**C**urious to know how Ontario engineers' salaries compare across disciplines or over time? Wondering if more Canadian women are entering the profession, or how our education levels compare with engineers working abroad? The Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE), PEO and many other associations here and abroad recognize the value of sharing survey findings with both their membership and the wider community. The good news is much useful summary data on the state of the engineering profession has been posted on the Web. Much of it—but not all—is available free of charge on unrestricted sites. Here is a sampling:

 **PEO: Professional Engineers Ontario**  
<http://www.peo.on.ca>

PEO's 2003 *Ontario Engineers' Salaries Survey of Employers* is now complete and a free summary report is available. Look for it on the PEO home page. A detailed report is also available for purchase. From the left navigation frame, click "Publications—Salary Survey." You will see archived summary survey reports dating back to 1997. Information on the status of women in engineering in Canada is available in the 1994 *National Report of Workplace Conditions for Engineers*. Go to "Publications—Reports" to read the foreword and executive summary. The report is available on request.

 **CCPE National Surveys**  
<http://www.ccpe.ca>

On the blue navigation bar, hover your mouse over "Public Affairs" and click "Research Studies." Currently, this page contains an overview of the national surveys. There is also an introductory page to the 2002 survey and 1997 survey highlights. More information and highlights of the 2002 survey will be posted shortly. Keep an eye on this site. (Also, see the article on the CCPE survey in this issue of *Engineering Dimensions*, pp. 34-38.)

 **National Society of Professional Engineers—USA (NSPE)**  
<http://www.nspe.org>

NSPE collects and publishes a great deal of valuable data on the state of engineers in the USA. Unfortunately, most of it must be purchased or is available to members only. On the left, hover over "Employment," then click "Salary Surveys." These are not cheap, but they are very detailed. The top link, *NSPE 2003 Income and Salary Survey Report* printed report and CD, briefly describes survey contents. NSPE claims this is "the only survey of the engineering profession in the U.S. containing total income, salary, and employer-sponsored benefits information for 35 engineering disciplines." The breakdown is to zip code level. You can purchase the 2003 *Income and Salary Survey* online. The price? NSPE members pay \$125, while non-members pay \$300. Issue briefs are free. They provide summaries of the NSPE's efforts on a particular issue. Several of these issues relate to the state of the profession, e.g. women in engineering. On the left, hover your mouse over "Government Relations" and click "Issue Briefs."

 **Engineering Council (UK)**  
<http://www.engc.org.uk/>

The Engineering Council (UK), or ECUK, promotes and regulates the engineering profession in the UK. Off the top blue bar, click "Publications." ECUK has generously made some major summary reports available free of charge. On the right, click *Digest of*

*Engineering Statistics for 2002* (62-page PDF file). The approach is holistic and topics are wide-ranging, from societal perceptions of engineering, to mathematics teacher supply in secondary schools, to professional employment conditions, to salary information. Findings from longitudinal studies are also profiled, such as the *DTI/Barclays National Tracking Survey*. Returning to the "Our Publications" page, click "Our Publications (Details)," and choose the *2003 Survey of Registered Engineers*, a 53-page PDF.

 **Engineers Australia Publications**  
<http://www.ieaust.org.au>

Australia's national engineering body, the Institution of Engineers Australia, adopted a new common name, Engineers Australia, in March 2003. At the top navigation bar choose "Library—Institution Publications" and scroll about half-way down to "Policies and Reports." Off this link, two reports are of particular interest. One is *How many professional engineers are there in Australia and other big questions?*; the 24-page PDF profiles professional engineers using data from the 2001 Australian census. For more detail, particularly on education and remuneration, try *The Engineering Profession: A Statistical Overview 2003*. This is produced jointly by Engineers Australia and the Australian Council of Engineering Deans.

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**As of this year, *The Link* will no longer be published. The Minutes from the 81st Annual Business Meeting are featured in this issue (see pages 43 to 49). Full coverage of the 2004 Annual General Meeting will appear in the July/August 2004 issue of *Engineering Dimensions*. Look for AGM Resolutions on PEO's website within two weeks of the meeting.**