

Texas Board of Professional Engineers Media Release
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TEXAS AND AUSTRALIA OPEN-UP ENGINEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Trade in engineering services between Texas and Australia will be given a boost through the signing of an agreement in Austin today, which will streamline mutual recognition of engineering qualifications and licensing arrangements to work on projects in both jurisdictions.

The Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for engineering services was signed by Dr. G. Kemble Bennett, Chairman, and Dale Beebe Farrow, Executive Director, of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers, and Julie Hammer, National President, and Peter Taylor, Chief Executive, of Engineers Australia.

The agreement will open up opportunities for Texas Professional Engineers to provide engineering services in Australia by making it much easier for suitably qualified engineers to be registered with Engineers Australia.

This agreement demonstrates the Texas Board's continued leadership in international licensure. The MRA is the first for engineering services under the Australia / USA Free Trade Agreement and follows similar agreements providing for mutual recognition of engineering licensure with Canada and Mexico. This agreement was negotiated between Engineers Australia and the Texas Board of Professional Engineers with support from the State of Texas and the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

The Executive Director of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers, Dale Beebe Farrow, said, "This signing is a testament to the mutual regard for the quality of the engineering licensure process and will open global markets for Australians and Texans in the exchange of professional services."

The Chief Executive of Engineers Australia, Peter Taylor, added, "In this era where multi-disciplinary solutions to major problems and projects are the norm, it is essential that countries work together to streamline registration and licensing procedures for professional services to increase efficiency and effectiveness, both within and beyond free trade agreements."

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