

# Challenges and best practices in preparing for full signatory status in Washington Accord

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**ABSTRACT:** For a provisional signatory of Washington Accord to attain full signatory status the applicant must demonstrate substantial equivalence of its standards and processes in a verification review by a team of 3 members drawn from the signatories, and that the review recommendation for admission must be approved by unanimous agreement of the signatories. This paper shall examine the challenges and best practices in preparing for full-signatory status in Washington Accord. The key discussion points include (i) The graduate outcomes standard applied for accreditation is substantially equivalent to the Washington Accord's Graduate Attributes; (ii) Established and sustainable accreditation system; (iii) Robust accreditation Processes; (iv) Checklist for Accord verification review.

## **ABOUT THE SPEAKER:**

Dr Lock is a Professor (Engineering) and Head of the Energy Efficiency Technology Centre at the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), the new 5<sup>th</sup> government-funded university in Singapore. He is passionate about quality assurance of engineering education and is presently Deputy Chair of the Washington Accord, an international agreement formed in 1989 among signatories responsible for accrediting engineering degree programs.

He is an Emeritus President and an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Singapore (IES). He served as Chairman of the Engineering Accreditation Board, IES, from 2002 to 2009, leading IES to become a signatory of the Washington Accord in 2006. He still actively contributes as a program evaluator and team chair for accreditation evaluation of engineering programs. He is presently a mentor to BAETE and BPERB.

He is a Fellow of Academy of Engineering Singapore, a Senior Fellow of ASEAN Academy of Engineering and Technology, and an Honorary Fellow of the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organizations. He received both his B.Sc. (1975) and Ph.D. (1979) degrees in Electrical Engineering from the University of Strathclyde, UK. He was a faculty at the Department of Electrical Engineering, National University of Singapore for 17 years when he left to set up his consulting practice in 1997. He returned to the academia as a Professor at SIT in 2016 after 20 years in the industry.