



UNION OF ENGINEERS AND TECHNICIANS OF SERBIA

BACKGROUND

The roots of Serbian technical civilization date as early as the time of the Nemanjics. Beginnings of engineering activities were associated to the mining and metallurgical undertakings (Novo Brdo) and to building of magnificent medieval sacral structures of the Serbian state.

After the First (1804) and second Serbian Uprising (1815) the technical tradition was renewed and Serbian joined the then current European trends. First educated engineers came in Serbia from Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1830s. At that time, the main pre-occupations of engineers were railway construction, town planning, construction of sewage disposal and water supply systems, as well as creating of national defense system. At that time 1834/35 from Austrian Empire arrived first schooled engineers France Janke and Franz Baron Kordon who served as so called "drzavni indzilirin" or state engineers.

In Serbia in the 19th century there were a total number of about 6000 engineers engaged in various activities. In an eighty-year period from 1834-1914 the State Construction Administration (which from 1880 also included railways) employed one third of these engineers. However other ministries were also competent for some engineering affaires like, for example the Ministry of Finance was responsible for mining, or the Ministry of Education and Church Affairs was responsible for education of technical stuff. From 1838 this primarily referred to the Licej: according to "Establishment of public institutions of learning" of 1844, the Department for Philosophy included also subjects such as Pure and Practical Geometry and Higher Mathematics, and Architecture, while in 1853 a separate Natural Sciences and Technical Department was introduced in the Licej and in 1863 the Great School with Technical Faculty started operating. The first classes held at the Technical Faculty

of the Great School in 1863 marked turning point in schooling of Serbian engineers.

Out of some 600 engineers, approximately one third were schooled in Serbia and one fifth of them studied abroad as "state grants students", while about one fourth were foreigners and Serbs from "across the Danube".

In 1868 one of preconditions which might have contributed to professional associating of engineers was the numerosity of professionals and models from abroad established half a century earlier (engineering associations in Great Britain, Germany and America) had influence on establishing professional associations in Serbia.

The Founding Assembly of the Technicians' Society was held on the 3rd February 1868 in the premises of Great School. Engineer Emilijan Josimovic was elected for the first President of the Society. It is important to mention that this happened only a year after Turkish commander in Belgrade Ali -Riza pasha gave the town and the fortress keys to duke Mihailo Obrenovic. Shortly afterward in 1869 was established Society for Agrarian Economy that is the Serbian Agricultural Society. Association of Serbian Engineers was established in 1890 while in 1896 was established the Association of Serbian Engineers and Architects.

The first scientific magazine published by this Association in 1890 was "Srpski tehnicki list" The "Srpski tehnicki list" besides professional articles also published detailed information related to the work of the Association. The members at that time, who numbered around one hundred of them, initiated a whole series of issues and demand the same to be solved by the competent bodies. During the First World War, two volumes of "Srpski tehnicki list" were published in Thessaloniki. The magazine was initiated by the engineers and architects who were in Thessaloniki as members of the Serbian Army. In Thessaloniki was

held the General Assembly of the Association in 1918 attended by 463 engineers.

During his short stay in Belgrade, in 1892, famous scientist Nikola Tesla was elected for the first honorary member of the Association of Serbian Engineers.

Providing assets from its own incomes, bank loans, gifts and donations of its organizations-members and its individual members Association built the House of Engineers in Belgrade, Kneza Milosa 7 str in 1932/35. The House of Engineers "Nikola Tesla" in Belgrade Kneza Milosa 9-11 str was built between 1962 and 1969. In the premises of these two Houses of Engineers besides the Union of Engineers and Technicians of Serbia today perform their activities 26 republic's professional and multidisciplinary engineering-technicians' associations out of 41 collective members of UETS.

Besides **Emilijan Josimovic** who was first President of the Technicians' Society, prominent figure of that time, Rector of Licej and Great School and honorary member of the Serbian Royal Academy, to work of our Union contributed as well: **Kosta Alkovic**, professor at the Great School, Minister of Construction and member of Serbian Learned Society and Serbian Royal Academy, **Dimitrije Stojanovic** professor at the Technical Faculty, first Director of Serbian State Railways, and member of Serbian Learned Society and Serbian Royal Academy, **Milos Savcic**, Minister of Construction and President of Belgrade Municipality, famous businessman who gave the greatest donation for the construction of House of Engineers in 1932, as well as presidents of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts **Josif Pancic**, **Jovan Zujovic**, **Simo Lozanic**, **Kirilo Savic**, **Aleksandar Despic**, **Nikola Hajdin** and other famous scientists.

ACTIVITIES

The Union of Engineers and Technicians of Serbia - Savez inženjera i tehnicara Srbije is a voluntary, non-governmental, non-profit, scientific, interest, professional, non-party organization of engineers and technicians, and their organizations in the Republic of Serbia, open for cooperation with other scientific, commercial and other organizations, on the basis of mutual recognition, mutual respect and independence in work.

Union of Engineers and Technicians of Serbia and its collective member finance their own activities from their own assets.

Purposes and tasks of UETS are:

- Assembling and organizing of engineers and technicians of Serbia for the purpose of increase of

their expert knowledge, providing appropriate status in the community, on the basis of their contribution to the, scientific-technological and economic and development in general of Republic of Serbia;

- Joining, strengthening and massification of basic engineering-technicians' organizations of Serbia, development of mutual cooperation as well as the cooperation with appropriate international organizations of engineers and technicians;
- Improvement of order-interest, reputation and protection of members of the engineering-technicians' organization of Serbia;
- Providing help to engineers and technicians in scientific, expert improvement and organization of appropriate forms of permanent education;
- Monitoring contemporary development of engineering and technology and pointing out the currents of events and changes in this area and providing opinions on optimality of engineering and technological solutions in investment and other enterprises;
- Caring for and development of ethics of engineering-technician profession, human rights and liberties;
- Stimulating, organization and publishing of scientific and expert papers, magazines and other publications of interest for engineering-technician organization and technical intelligence;
- Work on technical regulations (laws, regulations and standards), providing its modernity, adequacy, actuality and functionality;
- Consideration and providing expert opinions on plans, programs, analysis and other acts, which are important for the development of engineering, technology and production in the Republic of Serbia;
- Stimulating and helping the activities and initiatives, aiming to preserve the human environment and area organization, saving and rationalization of spending of all sorts of energy;
- Preparation and maintenance of the meetings with purpose of permanent education of engineers and technicians;
- Providing help in development of technology and economy whose purposes are similar to the purposes of engineering-technicians' organization;
- Organization of multidisciplinary meetings and meetings of wider social importance;
- Cooperation with appropriate expert, commercial organizations and other organizations and organs at the realization of tasks of mutual interest;

- Management of Houses of Engineers and other property of Union of Engineers and Technicians of Serbia.

Union of Engineers and Technicians of Serbia has developed cooperation with organs of local government, state ministries, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Serbian, Chamber of Engineers, Engineering Academy of Serbia, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, with numerous companies, professional associations, faculties and universities and other institutions. UETS also has developed international cooperation.

In accordance with the Law and Contract with republic ministries in the framework of UETS are organized and performed specialist exams for several engineering branches.

Union of Engineers and Technicians of Serbia has several thousand individual members and 41 collective members in the Republic of Serbia: 19 republic's professional associations (associations of architects, town planners, mechanical engineers, electrical engineers, mining and geological engineers, surveyors, agricultural engineers, chemical engineers etc) 7 republic's multidisciplinary engineering-technicians' associations (ecology, standardization and quality, material protection and corrosion, informatics etc) 1 provincial engineering-technicians' association, 14 municipal and regional engineering-technicians' associations.

Union of Engineers and Technicians of Serbia is founder of the Engineering Academy of Serbia, and collective member of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia.

Union of Engineers and Technicians of Serbia, in a cooperation with faculties, universities, enterprises, economic and professional associations organizes various scientific meetings, professional reunions, congresses, seminars, conferences. UETS members

publish their expert magazines; "KGH"; "Procesna tehnika", "Ecologica", "Tekstilna industrija", "Forum", "Sumarska industrija", "Zastita materijala" and maintain professional reunions, seminars, conferences and congresses in branches of architecture, mechanical engineering, chemistry, electrical engineering, agriculture, forestry etc.

All activities of the Union are performed in accordance with the procedures and standards of **QMS - Quality Management System**.

Union of Engineers and Technicians of Serbia is National member of **FEANI - European Federation of National Engineering Associations** from Serbia. FEANI is a federation of professional engineers that unites national engineering associations from 32 European countries. Thus, FEANI represents the interests of over 3,5 million professional engineers in Europe. FEANI is striving for a single voice for the engineering profession in Europe and wants to affirm and develop the professional identity of engineers. Through its activities and services, especially with the attribution of the EUR ING professional title, FEANI aims to facilitate the mutual recognition of engineering qualifications in Europe and to strengthen the position, role and responsibility of engineers in society.

Union of Engineers and Technicians of Serbia is member of **COPISSE - Permanent Conference of the Engineers of Southeast Europe**.

Collective members of UETS are members of international professional associations and have developed international cooperation.

With all that has been done and with accomplished results, objectively solid conditions have been provided for further and more successful work, business operation and development of the Union of Engineers and Technicians of Serbia.