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## DEAR READERS,

According to the Bologna Declaration a two-level higher education system has been introduced in Russia. Instead of training experts in various professional fields, who were awarded diploma of Specialist, universities as a rule will prepare graduates with Bachelor or Master Degree.

The whole engineering education system got a certain level of shock because of this transition, as neither universities, nor labor market was prepared for it. Those business leaders, who have recently graduated themselves with engineer (specialist) diplomas have not heard “hide nor hair” of such qualification as a “bachelor”.

The Russian Federation joined the Bologna Declaration and the country authorities “brought pressure” on universities in order to expedite the switch to a two-level higher education system. However, it seems that they have forgotten about the crucial need to develop simultaneously new educational standards for bachelors and masters, as well as to provide vacancies for graduates with new educational skills in the staff lists of enterprises. Obviously, this situation plays the role of the inhibiting factor for the reforming process in higher education system. Universities and teachers working there do not clearly understand for whom and for what they are preparing graduates with Bachelor and Master Degree. Employers, for example, find it difficult when assigning newcomers to engineering positions. Graduates also face a lot of problems especially when applying for a job.

Nevertheless, technical universities that have leading positions in the transforming process express profound concern over improving the quality of training professionals in the field of engineering and technology. Professors and researchers from many universities have been studying the ways and tools to assess and improve the quality of engineering education. Among these tools the most common and effective are quality management systems at university, public and professional accreditation of educational programmes and certification of engineering qualifications.

It is no less important for improving the quality of engineering education to apply new approaches in designing educational programmes, using the competence models, to organize engineering practices, to develop the advanced education system.

In this issue you will find the articles exploring and revealing current processes and problems that take place in the system of engineering education in Russia. Some of the presented articles are debatable and it makes them even more valuable. This opens space for creativity in such important area as improving the system of engineering education in Russia.

Dear readers, I am happy to inform you that starting from this issue, Journal “Engineering Education” has become a reviewed journal, and its English version will be available on our official website [www.aeer.ru](http://www.aeer.ru).

Sincerely,  
Editor-in-Chief,  
Prof. Yury Pokholkov

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