



**THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

Achieving International Excellence

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Fairway Entrance 3

INFORMATION SHEET FOR THOSE PARTICIPATING IN SURVEY OF ENGINEERS

A qualitative survey of people involved in engineering work is being conducted to provide a better understanding of the ways in which people make engineering decisions in their work. This research may lead to an improved understanding of engineering practice, improved training and education, and improved efficiency.

The survey will constitute interviews with approximately 100 engineers from a range of countries in both the public and private sector. Participants will be recruited via informal contacts.

During each interview the participant will be asked a range of questions relating to their responsibilities, technical work, education and training.

All information provided in the interviews will be treated as strictly confidential and will not be released by the investigator unless required to by law in the country where this survey is being conducted. All information that could identify the respondent or his/her employer will be housed securely and participants will only be identified by number. Participation in this survey does not prejudice any right to compensation, that participants may have under statute or common law.

During the interview the participant is free at any time to refuse to answer certain questions or to withdraw consent to further participation without prejudice in any way. It is not necessary to give any reason or justification for such a decision. In the case that consent is withdrawn, the record of the interview will be destroyed. Each interview is anticipated to take up to two hours and will be conducted by Associate Professor James Trevelyan. In some cases, with the permission of participants, up to four students working on related research topics will also attend the interviews. The students (if any) will be required to keep the interview strictly confidential (they will be bound by a confidentiality agreement) and ensure that no information that could identify participants will appear in their written work.

Once all interviews have been completed the responses will be analysed and the results published. Each participant will be offered a copy of project publications. We wish to assure participants that in the publication no identifying information will be used. When all the analysis has been completed all transcripts of the interviews will be destroyed.

The Human Research Ethics Committee at the University of Western Australia requires that all participants are informed that, if they have any complaint regarding the manner, in which a research project is conducted, it may be given to the researcher or, alternatively to the Secretary, Human Research Ethics Committee, Registrar's Office, University of Western Australia, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley, WA 6009 (telephone number 6488-3703). All study participants will be provided with a copy of the Information Sheet and Consent Form for their personal records.

If you have any questions about this research or the above information then please contact

Professor James Trevelyan