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## OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS AS A TOOL FOR SYLLABUS DESIGN

## **Abstract:**

Technological progress and changes in requirements for the qualifications of engineering professionals dictate the need for constant upgrades to academic programmes offered by universities along with launching new ones. In view of this, new academic standards have been developed and implemented in Russia over the past ten years. The leading role in these standards is given to the development of professional competencies which are determined by occupational standards.

This article discusses the history of the development of occupational standards in Russia as well as the principles and mechanism of their development and approval. It examines the relation between occupational and education standards and shows how it is possible to integrate occupational standards into academic programmes through an example of developing a syllabus for an ESP (English for Specific Purposes) course.

## **Keywords:**

Occupational Standards, Academic Standards, ESP Syllabus Design, higher education in Russia, Engineering Education

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