



Certification of land surveyors in Norway

FIG Working Week Stockholm

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Norway in statistics

- Total area 324.000 sqkm
- 4,6 million inhabitants
- 2,4 million properties
- 95 % of properties in private ownership
- 80 % of families own their house
- 99 % of farms owned by private, single farmers - 20 hectares on average
- Only high mountains in general state ownership
- Almost all construction financed by mortgaging, total value of registered collateral 2000 billion NOK = 3 x annual state budget



The Norwegian Association of Surveyors - NJKF

- 1100 members
 - 850 in the job market
 - no unemployment
- Most of the members educated as land surveyors at the University of Life Sciences at Ås
 - Master or civil engineer
- 80 % working within the public sector



Land surveying – the present situation in Norway

- no specific education requirements for land surveying and planning in Norway
 - exception is setting out work for buildings, specific qualifications are required according to the plan and building act
 - exception also for land consolidation judges
- Cadastral surveys are assigned to the municipalities as a monopoly task
 - no specific education requirements for the municipal surveyors



Proposal for new cadastral law introducing licensing of surveyors

- Draft law presented to the Ministry in 1999
 - proposing licensed private surveyors with 5 years of education, substituting the system with municipal surveyors
- New cadastral law adopted in 2005
 - introducing licensing of companies
 - 3 years of surveying education is required for the chief executive
- The new cadastral law changed in 2007
 - the municipal system for cadastral surveys will be continued, education requirements will not be introduced



NJKF takes action..

- The general assembly of NJKF decided consequently in 2007 to introduce at voluntary certification system for our members
- The goal of the certification system is
 - to ensure that services are provided at a professional level
 - to ensure that certified members will follow code of ethics
 - to make the profession more visible within the society



The title

- A certified member can use the title "*Certified by Norges Jordskifte kandidatforening*"
- 3 subtitles
 - Land administration
 - Planning
 - Surveying and mapping



Who can be awarded the title

1. Have passed the exam at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (UMB) or previously from the Norwegian College of Agriculture (NLH) or other universities approved by the certification committee.
2. Are members of Norges Jordskifte kandidatforening (NJKF)
3. Have a minimum of two years of relevant work experience within one of the areas "land administration", "planning" or "surveying and mapping"
4. Are able to document updated knowledge equivalent to the required post-qualifying education under section 11 for the last 2 years.



Certification committee

- The board shall appoint a Certification Committee.
- The committee is composed of a leader and 4 members, all with personal substitutes.
- The committee shall
 - assess applications for certification
 - control that the certified member has completed required post-qualification education
 - assess complaints about certifies members



Post-qualification education

- To maintain the certificate, the certified members are required to complete post-qualification education in the form of courses of the equivalent of 40 hours over a two-year period.
- Documentation of completed courses must be submitted to the secretariat at the end of the two-year period.



Ethical guidelines

- Certified members have an obligation to operate in line with the ethical guidelines for certified members of NJKF
 - Keywords: legal framework, professional integrity, good business practice, confidentiality, social responsibility, respect and equality



Certification fee

- Members who apply to be certified must pay a certification fee of 250 Euro
- Applicants who are not awarded the title must pay an administration fee equivalent to half of the certification fee
- Certified members must pay an annual maintenance fee of 75 Euro to cover the expenses of administration of the arrangement.



The progress

- The certification system shall be implemented early autumn 2008
- Limited traditions in Norway with certification arrangements organised by professional organisations
- Primarily members working in the private sector are expected to apply for certificate..



Logos under consideration

-  SERTIFISERT AV NORGES
JORDSKIFTEKANDIDATFORENING
Eiendomsfag
-  SERTIFISERT AV NJKF
Planfag
-  SERTIFISERT
AV NJKF
Karttekniske fag
-  SERTIFISERT AV NORGES
JORDSKIFTEKANDIDATFORENING
Eiendomsfag, planfag og karttekniske fag



Thank you for your
attention!