

# VETAS Network conference newsletter – Issue I – March 2011

VETAS Network conference, 09/10 May 2011, Autoworld, Brussels (BE), [www.vetas.eu](http://www.vetas.eu), [www.project-vetas.eu](http://www.project-vetas.eu)



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## Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the VETAS network conference and in the VETAS network!

VETAS is a network of practitioners coming from automotive enterprises and supplier industry, VET schools and other training providers, public authorities, social partners as well as researchers. This collaboration beyond geographical and institutional borders intends to facilitate the quality of vocational education and training in a way that requirements of work processes are to a maximum degree matched by the abilities of employees to carry out their work.

This newsletter, the VETAS project website and the VETAS portal will provide you with up-to-date information on the VETAS network and its conference. Beyond that, don't hesitate to get in touch with us at [editor@vetas.eu](mailto:editor@vetas.eu) to learn more about VETAS.

## Welcome by the VETAS project coordinator DEKRA Akademie GmbH (DE)

As the automotive sector is one of DEKRA SE's primary fields of operation, the DEKRA Akademie, one of its wholly-owned subsidiaries, has given the analysis and development of vocational education and training within the automotive sector one of its highest

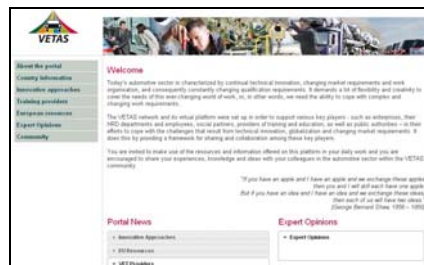


As a result, we have already taken part in a variety of automotive projects dealing with VET issues, such as transporting European Qualifications Framework (EQF) to the automotive sector or assigning credit points to learning outcomes. We are convinced - based upon the experience gained in these projects - that all these ideas must be discussed and debated with the key stakeholders in the automotive sector on an international level in order to test, verify or modify them in order to ensure a successful implementation in due time.

that participating in an automotive network such as VETAS will contribute to fostering this discussion and development process, and it places us amongst the leaders in innovation in the vocational training and education sector.

Dr. Peter Littig,  
Manager Education policy and strategy,  
DEKRA Akademie GmbH (DE)

## The VETAS network and its services



One of the major facilities offered by the VETAS network is the VETAS online portal ([www.vetas.eu](http://www.vetas.eu)). It allows access to up-to-date information on VET related to the automotive sector; a database with innovative VET approaches applied by training providers and enterprises in Europe; tools to support networking among stakeholders; a resources database with relevant materials on VET in the automotive sector and a virtual community to exchange and discuss with colleagues from abroad.

You are invited to make use of the resources and information offered on this platform in your daily work and you are encouraged to share your experiences, knowledge and ideas with your colleagues in the automotive sector within the VETAS community.

## Key notes at the VETAS network conference

There will be three key notes contributed at the VETAS network conference. Each key note will look at VET in the automotive sector from another perspective. These speakers will present their points of view:

## Annette Parker, AMTEC (US)

Annette is the Director of the Kentucky Center of Excellence in Automotive Manufacturing (KCEAM) for the Kentucky Community & Technical College System. She also serves as the Principal Investigator for the Automotive Manufacturing Technical Education Collaborative, an NSF-funded project that includes GM, Toyota, Ford, Chrysler, BMW, related suppliers, and 20 colleges in 12 states. Prior to her current position, Annette was Department Chair for Manufacturing Engineering Technologies at Lansing Community College (LCC) in Michigan. In this role, Annette was part of the planning team that designed and implemented a 270,000 square foot, \$48 million, manufacturing training center for LCC. Annette's background also includes 15 years of experience in the automotive industry, holding leadership positions at both General Motors and Wohlerl Corporation.



## Vicente de las Heras Banon, Robert Bosch Espana, S.A. (ES)

Vicente is the Director of the Technical Service and Support Department in the Automotive Aftermarket Division of Bosch for Iberia (Spain and Portugal), giving support to more than 4 000 workshops in both countries and to almost all manufacturers including GM, Mitsubishi, BMW, etc. He is also the person responsible for the network of diesel services supporting the introduction of the more efficient engines in these countries. He studied as an industrial engineer at the Polytechnic University in Valencia, having written his final thesis in Germany. He began at Bosch in 1996 as an Application Engineer. He dealt with automotive systems for customers such as Mercedes, Ford, PSA, VW Group and Nissan. In 2003 he assumed the responsibility of the Research and Development Department in Bosch, Spain for



these systems. In 2007 Vicente was appointed Director of the Technical Service and Support Department. His presence is often requested by Universities and Workshops Associations to give lectures, as an expert, in automotive topics.

Vicente is also a founder member of Forteco in Spain and currently is the General Co-ordinator of this Project.

Hugh Lauder  
University of Bath (UK)



Hugh Lauder is Professor of Education and Political Economy at the University of Bath (UK). He is head of Policy and Management (PM) Research Group and his major fields of research are "Political economy of skill formation", "Educational policy", "Political economy of education" and "School effectiveness". He just published the book "The global auction: The Broken Promises of Education, Jobs, and Incomes" together with his colleagues David Ashton and Phillip Brown. The Global Auction is a radical rethinking of the ideas that stand at the heart of the American Dream. It offers a timely expose of the realities of the global struggle for middle class jobs, a competition that threatens the livelihoods of millions of American and European workers and their families.

#### **Autoworld Brussels – the conference venue**

The VETAS network conference will take place at the museum Autoworld in Brussels. The museum is located



close to the EU offices and the Brussels city center in the buildings of the "Palais Mondial", one of the largest halls of the Cinquanteaire.

Autoworld Brussels is one of the most important and complete exhibitions of automobiles in Europe with more than 350 vehicles offering an overview of the general history of the automobile. It is even said that Autoworld hosts the most impressive collection of oldtimers in the world. The majority of oldtimers belong to the Mahy collection of Ghent. Superb exhibits, selected from the De Pauw collection complete the exhibition. Please visit [www.autoworld.be](http://www.autoworld.be) for further information.

#### **The VETAS innovation award**

The VETAS Innovation Award recognises an innovative and/or leading practice approach (initiative, program or product) developed and implemented for the purpose of providing high quality vocational education and training in the automotive sector in Europe. *The deadline to submit proposals was postponed till April 10<sup>th</sup>.* Please nominate your innovative approach by proposing it for the innovative approaches database of the VETAS portal. All approaches submitted till April 10<sup>th</sup> will be considered.

It will be awarded at the VETAS network conference. Please read more about the award and how to submit a nomination on the VETAS website ([www.vetas.eu](http://www.vetas.eu) or [www.project-vetas.eu](http://www.project-vetas.eu)).

#### **The project VETAS and its results**

The VETAS network and its facilities have been established in the framework of the Leonardo da Vinci project "VET Stakeholders of the Automotive Sector". But the VETAS project did not only develop and implement the VETAS facilities that are now available for the upcoming networking. It also implemented a research project on vocational education and training within the European countries represented in the project.

Automotive sector oriented training and education was investigated in order to identify best practices and to suggest shape and structure of effective system procedures. These last encompass: 1) (legal) procedures for setting up publicly recognised occupational profiles; 2) tools used to derive requirements for training and education moving from the analysis of work processes; 3) approaches to design curricula according to these needs, and models for human resources development. In other words, the purpose was to identify available tools for the identification of learning requirements related to work processes.

It has been compiled by the VETAS project partner Politecnico di Torino (IT) with contributions from the overall project partnership and the report is available for download from the project website ([www.project-vetas.eu](http://www.project-vetas.eu)) and in the European Resources database on the VETAS portal ([www.vetas.eu](http://www.vetas.eu)). The major results of the

study will be presented in the framework of workshop IV "Comparability of qualifications in Europe" at the VETAS conference.

#### **VETAS national workshops**

In addition to the European VETAS conference also national workshops on the topics covered in the project and at the conference will take place. Please get in touch with your national VETAS project contact for further information.

#### **Projects on vocational education and training in the automotive industry: EASCMF**



It was the overall objective of the EASCMF project to create conditions for setting up a sectoral competence framework for the European automotive sector. This European Automotive Sector Competence Meta-Framework can in turn serve as the starting point from which the proposed EQF can be applied to, and evaluated from, skilled work in the automotive sector, both by employers and by practitioners planning their career. Please get in touch with DEKRA at [EU-project.akademie@dekra.com](mailto:EU-project.akademie@dekra.com) for further information.

#### **News and tips on the VETAS conference**

Volkswagen Service Deutschland sends Mr. Norbert Willeke (manager VW Service south Germany) as speaker to the conference. He will contribute to workshop I on "Keeping up with technical innovation".

Mr. Peter Kuen from the Mobility Cluster of the Vienna Business Agency (former Automotive Cluster Vienna Region) will speak about "Cross Border Qualification in Centrope" in the framework of workshop IV on "Comparability of qualifications in Europe".

VETAS conference participants may visit the exhibition at museum Autoworld Brussels throughout the overall conference duration free of charge.

Conference participants interested in presenting their organisation, their programmes, etc. at the conference are welcome to get in touch with the organisers at [EU-project.akademie@dekra.com](mailto:EU-project.akademie@dekra.com).



