

# VETAS Network conference newsletter – Issue II – April 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 at the VETAS NetCon

The VETAS Network Conference has been set up in order to be the kick-off event of the upcoming VETAS network in Europe. The VETAS network provides an environment for different kind of vocational education and training practitioners coming from all over Europe and representing VET providers, vocational schools, manufacturers, supply industry, service and trade, science, social partners, public institutions, universities and other organisations involved in vocational education and training in the automotive sectors. All these practitioners are invited to use this platform to exchange and to discuss topics related to education and training in the automotive sector at and beyond the framework of this first VETAS Network Conference in Brussels. The conference will be attended by stakeholders from all over the European Union but also guests from Russia and the US contribute to the conference and to the overall VETAS network.

Please feel invited to share, discuss, exchange and network with us and with each other at the conference and afterwards at [www.vetas.eu](http://www.vetas.eu). We are looking forward to meeting you at Autoworld in Brussels.



The VETAS consortium

## Key notes at the VETAS Network Conference

The group of key note speakers at the conference (see newsletter issue I) will be completed by a guest from Russia:

### Georgy Afanasyev, Expert Club of Industry and Energy (RU)

Georgy represents the Russian Expert Club for Industry and Energy. Expert Club organizes the cooperation between actors



working on systems of certification and the national qualifications framework. In 2009, as a part of departmental program of The Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation 'Improving the effectiveness of sectoral training systems and training executives and experts in high-tech sectors of industry', Expert club developed guidelines for the development of professional standards for experts in high-tech industries, including the requirements for certification.

One of their areas of work is vocational education and training for and within the automotive industry and Georgy will present the experiences from Russia on the first conference day.

## Conference Speakers

A number of high level speakers will contribute their points of view to the discussions in the two conference sessions on "Keeping up with technological innovation and managing the ageing workforce" and on "Comparability of qualifications in Europe". The contributing speakers are:

### Mr. Norbert Willeke, Volkswagen Service Deutschland (DE)

Norbert Willeke is Regional director Aftersales and will speak about „Technical qualification in the retail and sales organisation of Volkswagen in Germany": "Volkswagen Service Germany is the interface between manufacturer and dealer. It is in charge of their partners in terms of technical problem solutions, process optimization and employee qualification.

The demographic challenges of the future are faced by a high quality education and a continuous further qualification of the professionals. Accordingly there are various opportunities to specialize and to upgrade one's qualification even during the apprenticeship. Continuous technical trainings ensure to keep up with technological innovation."



### Dr. Markus Tomaschitz, Magna International Europe AG (AT)

Markus Tomaschitz is Executive Director Magna Education & Research GmbH. & CO. KG and will speak about "Solving the Cross-Generational Workforce Puzzle":

"We are living longer, healthier lives. Combined with declining birth rates, the age profile of the European population is changing significantly. Consequently, so is that of the workforce.

At the same time, the number of young people of working age is falling. These changes make it vital for organizations to draw on the talents of older workers. This will increase the personalization of retirement ages and offer employers new opportunities to access the talent and skills needed to sustain business activities. What is important?"

### M.A. Peter Kuen, Mobility Cluster of the Vienna Business Agency (AT)

Peter Kuen is head of the department Cluster Vienna in the Vienna Business Agency and Responsible for the clusters Mobility, IT and Environmental. He speaks about "Cross Border Qualification in Centrope":

"The wider region CENTROPE - in the border quadrangle between Slovakia, Czech Republic, Hungary and Austria, up to Romania and Poland - is becoming more and more significant for the automobile industry. In 2012 experts expect over 4,2 million cars to be produced in this area. ... The newest OEM project is the Daimler plant in Hungary.

One of the most important challenges these companies are facing is the lack of qualified people. The Mobility Cluster in Austria, together with partners from Hungary and Slovakia, has developed the first "Pyramid of Automotive Qualification". The pyramid illustrates certain levels of specific qualification programs."



Prof. Claudio Demartini  
Politecnico di Torino (IT)

Claudio Demartini is Vice-Dean of the Industrial Engineering and Management School of the



Politecnico di Torino and Vice-Rector of Special Projects in the same institution. He will speak about "Setting up publicly recognised occupational profiles and curricula in the automotive sector":

"Instruments to identify learning requirements related to work processes have been developed in many European countries, but are not used as a standard.

Being the most important issue of adapting training processes to the needs of industry using the abilities of learners for their purposes, procedures of work processes transfer into needs of training and education has been investigated, in order to identify best practices, suggest shape and structure of effective system procedures and design an optimum model to be used as a benchmark for setting up occupational profiles and curricula derived from that."

#### Project exhibition at the NetCon

Besides the actual conference the NetCon provides space to European and national projects on or related to vocational education and training in the automotive sector to present themselves at the conference. The following projects and project clusters will be represented:

#### The Automotive project cluster

DEKRA Academy (DE) and its partners such as FLM (ES), 3srl (AT), CREDIJ (FR), CPV (IT), Politecnico di Torino (IT), ITB, LUX, Volkswagen Service Deutschland, IG Metall (DE) implemented during the past years and ongoing continuously projects on vocational education and training related to the automotive sector. Just to name some of them: EASCMF, CarEasyVet, Car Careers, Ways to Sustainability, GATEN and of course VETAS.

#### VET projects by 3s research laboratory (AT)

3s research laboratory (AT) implements a number of national and European projects related to vocational education and training in and related to the automotive and other sectors.



#### The AutoAdapt project "Increasing adaptability of employees and competitiveness of the automobile industry branch" (CZ)

The Project AutoAdapt aims at



increasing competitiveness of the automobile industry as one of the most important branch of Czech economy. To achieve that the further professional education of employee of Automobile Industry Association members will be raised. AutoAdapt meets educational needs of employees in both areas of automobile industry – car producers and parts producers.

#### European Transport and Logistics projects

DEKRA Academy participates in and implements together with its partners such as IG Metall (DE), FTA (UK), AFT-IFTIM (FR) a number of European projects related to vocational education and training in the transport and logistics sector. Some of them being EuroTransLog, EUCOLOG, Central, ProfDRV or SafeTruck.



#### The VETAS stakeholder workshops

National workshops on the VETAS project and its major topics have been implemented together with



stakeholders from all over Europe and guests from Russia and the US throughout the overall project period. Among others the following workshops took place:

- Santander (ES), June 2009
- Vicenza (IT), October 2009
- Vienna (AT), May 2010 and May 2011
- Wolfsburg (DE), November 2010

National stakeholders from the partner countries were invited to the workshops and were asked for their point of view on a stakeholder network like VETAS and on the topics to be addressed with the VETAS project and the upcoming VETAS network. The VETAS network facilities and the VETAS project results are the outcomes of these fruitful stakeholder consultations.

#### VETAS consortium partners

The VETAS project – initiating the VETAS network – has been implemented by a consortium of ten partners from all over Europe. Those partners are:

- DEKRA Akademie GmbH, Germany
- 3s research laboratory, Austria
- Institut Technik und Bildung, Germany
- LUX Personal & Kommunikation, Germany
- Volkswagen Service Deutschland, Germany
- Fundacion Laboral del Metal, Spain
- CREDIJ, France
- Politecnico di Torino, Italy
- CPV, Italy
- Univerza v Ljubljani, Faculty of Social Science, Slovenia

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

The overall goal of this project is to create a *Global Automotive Training and Education Network* based on already upcoming or existing structures such as the VETAS network in Europe and the AMTEC network in the US, but open for extensions to other parts of the world. This network aims to enhance the quality of work in the automotive sector via better adaptation of vocational education and training to the needs of supply, manufacturing, and service.

Please get in touch with DEKRA at [EU-project.akademie@dekra.com](mailto:EU-project.akademie@dekra.com) for further information on and news about GATEN.

#### News and tips on the VETAS conference

##### Join the conference dinner at La Manufacture

Tucked away in Rue Notre-Dame du Sommeil... It's a place crammed with history. With so much to tell... At the beginning of the 20th century, a printing press was established at 12-18 rue Notre-dame du Sommeil.



Then, in 1943, the rotary press and inks disappeared to make way for craftsmen and fine leathers: the Delvaux leather shop was to take over these superb premises for more than thirty years. Since 1990th Rue Notre-Dame du Sommeil accommodates the restaurant La Manufacture: an original gastronomy in an exceptional setting.

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