Newsletter No 5 – ELEVET
This is the fifth newsletter of the project. The aim of the newsletter is to keep stakeholders informed about the progress and the outcomes of the project. This letter covers the period October to December 2012. This newsletter is published in English, Italian and Polish language. You can find all versions on the project website: www.elevet.sep.com.pl

The Aim of ELEVET
The aim of the project is to facilitate mobility of electricians and electrical engineers in Europe by improving transparency and establishing recognition of learning outcomes – both acquired in formal and non-formal training paths. Further, to modernise VET paths of electricians and electrical engineers through an integration of a set of soft- and business skills.

Focus Group Interviews
During the months of October, November and first half of December focus group interviews have been carried out in Poland, Denmark, Spain, Italy and Romania. The interviews are a qualitative follow up to the survey carried out among companies in the countries about desirable soft- and business skills of electricians and electrical engineers in Europe. The outcomes of the interviews are a valuable input for the international focus group meeting with VET experts taking place in Warsaw in January 2013 and for the further development of a certification framework and a handbook for trainers.

Denmark
On 29 November, seven representatives from momentous electrical companies in Denmark participated in the interview, which in brief gave the following clarifying results to the survey: European education of electricians and electrical engineers has to focus on the individual training of students and a high professional level. Skills related to interaction and communication, customer care, planning, efficient performance, quality assurance and knowledge of health issues seem important.

Spain
In Spain the interview was carried out end October. The participants consisted of VET teachers, VET school principals and VET experts. Useful outcomes from the interview point out that there should be a better coordination between school- and work-based learning, a better integration of cognitive skills, attitudes and students’ ability to understand and complete the learning process.

Romania
The Romanian National Focus Group was held in Bucharest, being organized by SIER, on 10 December 2012, 16 participants attending at this meeting. There were representatives from national authorities, companies, VET centers and one employers’ federation.
The agenda of this meeting also included consultation regarding criteria to define/ the content of a VET System for electrical engineers, accreditation framework of VET and proposals for additions / modifications of the regulatory framework and legislation in Romania.
The Romanian National Focus Group - ELEVET Project, Bucharest, 10 December 2012, was proved extremely useful and helpful, being also placed face-to-face the National Authority with VET Centers, respectively Companies (end beneficiaries) with VET Centers and National Authority, each of them with their own needs, requirements and constraints.

Italy
The focus group interview was carried out in Italy on 16 November with 2 representatives from Elis and 5 experts from the electrical trade. Education
of electrical engineers in Italy has sound theoretical contents; but could be improved by applying practical elements such as training in a workplace and basic knowledge of managerial issues. The interview concludes that skills about teamwork, human resource management, problem solving, communication and foreign languages are important.

Poland

The focus group interview was carried out in Poland on 15 November with 16 experts coming from the VET system, universities and other stakeholders from the trade. The interview focused on the scenario, ‘the new core curriculum’ of electricians, which derives from the act in the field. The outcomes from the interview recommend a classification of different educations related to electric and electromechanical education.

Project Quality Report

The first compiled quality report of the project was published in November. The aim of the report is to keep the quality of the project outcomes on track. In the project we define quality as the ‘project perception’ i.e. that project achievements and outcomes are delivered as described in the project proposal approved by EACEA in Brussels. The concept of quality assurance is based on self-assessment i.e. each work package leader is assessing the outcomes of his or her ‘own’ work packages. Achievements and outcomes are assessed by effectiveness and efficiency. Effectiveness is ‘doing the right things’ and efficiency is ‘doing things right’. Further, the assessment is based on an appreciative inquiry approach outlining things, which have been done well and areas of improvement i.e. actions to be taken in order to fully reach the quality targets of the project. The first compiled quality report was out in November with a number of recommendations on actions to be taken in order to assure the full quality of the project. The recommendations are related to dissemination of outcomes from national focus groups, keeping the publishing pace of newsletters and on-going update of the project website. Recommendations on finalising outcomes from surveys in the electrical trade in the involve countries were also given, but this matter has been settled within the time from publishing the quality report to the publishing of this newsletter.

Seasonal Greetings

The project partnership wishes all the readers of our newsletter a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year. You can find previous issues of the newsletter on the project website: www.elevet.sep.com.pl

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This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This newsletter reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use, which may be made of the information contained therein.