

Summary

The 2nd European Conference on Sectoral International Qualifications is the event where specialists, researchers, vocational education and training providers and industry representatives will share best practices, will have the opportunity to network and to be informed about the process of creating international recognised qualifications in the manufacturing sector.

The event is addressing all the stages of the creation process, starting with the conception, delivery of training courses and will tackle the challenges faced by the national implementation.

EWF will showcase the undertaken actions to keep its internationally recognised qualification and training system improved and updated with the requirements of industry, education and learner. It will showcase the impact of integrating European Tools (e.g. EQF, ECVET, ESCO) on developing innovative methodologies, both for curriculum designing and training delivering. These developments are the result of research work, strategic alliances and successful partnerships between stakeholders towards the transparency, mobility and recognition of skills across Europe.

To support the above-mentioned developments, training tools, design methodologies, RPL scheme, expert round-tables, capacity-building workshops, pilot activities and recommendations for European implementation were developed through successful specific projects in the field of vocational education and training, co-funded by the European Commission under the ERASMUS+ programme:



Health, Safety and Environment training for Joining
www.hse-joining.eu



Risk Management in Welding Fabrication
www.rmwf.eu



Let's MAKE IT HAPPEN- A shift into Learning Outcomes in the Welding Sector
www.makeitproject.eu



Relating International Qualifications to the EQF
www.project-rainbow.eu



Harmonised Friction Stir Welding Technology Training across Europe
www.fsw-tech.eu

National Regulatory Bodies, representatives from VET and Higher Education Institutions, representatives from the industrial manufacturing sector and EWF members (Welding Institutes from 30 European Countries) are expected to participate. Also, hands-on activities are planned to engage the stakeholders directly involved in the field of training and education, such as trainers, teachers, researchers and experts in welding technology.

The expected impact of the conference is to capacitate the participants using the developed innovative methodologies and tools, towards supporting lifelong learning and the recognition of skills at national and European level. To accomplish these, the agenda (page 2) has been structured into a plenary session and three thematic hands-on workshops accessible to each participant.

The conference is hosted by EWF, in Avenida Dr Mario Soares, 35, TAGUS PARK, Oeiras, Workshop room on floor -1. The official language of the event is English.

Agenda

🕒	PLENARY		
8:30	Registration		
9:00	Welcome and Opening <div style="text-align: right;"><i>Chris Eady* (President EWF)</i></div>		
9:10	Implementation of International Qualifications in Europe <i>*RAINBOW & MAKE IT projects outputs</i> <div style="text-align: right;"><i>Eurico Assunção (Deputy Director EWF)</i></div>		
9:30	Development of New International Qualifications in Manufacturing, putting concepts into practice <i>*RAINBOW, Additive Manufacturing & FSW TECH project insights</i> <div style="text-align: right;"><i>Rita Bola (Project Manager EWF)</i></div>		
9:50	Tools supporting skills development and recognition at European level <i>* HSE JOINING, RMWF & MAKE IT projects results</i> <div style="text-align: right;"><i>Adelaide Almeida (Project Manager EWF)</i></div>		
10:10	Coffee break		
10:30	THEMATIC WORKSHOPS		
	<i>Each participant will take part in all workshops - 3 rounds for each group -</i>		
	Design of new international qualifications and strategies for their implementation by VET Systems <i>Facilitators</i> Adelaide Almeida (EWF, BE) Raquel Almeida (ISQ, PT)	Tools to support training and qualifications in Manufacturing <i>Facilitators</i> Alexandra Saldanha/Leonel Mourão (IEFP, PT) Arild Finnesand (KIWA, NO) Elvira Silva (EWF, BE)	Recognition and validation of prior learning in the Welding Sector <i>Facilitators</i> Teresa Duarte/Rute Batista (ANQEP, PT) Benus Ferenc J. (MATRAI, HU)
13:00	Workshops wrap-up and closing		<i>Rapporteurs</i>
13:15	Networking Lunch		

Thematic workshops

Design of new international qualifications and strategies for their implementation by VET Systems	
BACKGROUND	<p>The need for highly qualified personnel to leverage with the emergent technologies and the industry requirements is leading to the design of new qualifications. EWF is applying a modular methodology for the development of new international qualifications in which small units can be taught, assessed and validated individually.</p> <p>Transparency and quality assurance are key pillars to support the implementation of International Qualifications (IQ) across Europe. A common understanding of the role of IQ in the European context is required, as well consistent procedures to approach IQ in the national context, from policy regulation to the implementation in different Educational Systems, including VET and HE.</p> <p>The workshop will present the modular approach, as well as the strategies and tools used to develop Additive Manufacturing international qualifications. In addition, it will validate criteria and procedures for referencing EWF qualifications at a national level.</p>
QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the modular approach about and what are the necessary steps to build up qualification from scratch? • What is the EWF sectoral international qualifications framework and how can it be used? • Which strategies and actors should be involved in the alignment of IQ with NQF and EQF? • How can alignment methodology and quality assurance system be benchmarked to other qualifications and sectors?

Tools to support training and qualifications in Manufacturing	
BACKGROUND	<p>The implementation of the EWF training and qualification system is currently done by applying specific guidelines described in terms of learning outcomes. In addition, the training, learning and assessment activities are supported by innovative pedagogical resources which might be used to enhance the quality and attractiveness of the qualifications.</p> <p>The workshop will present recent training guidelines and qualifications. At the same time, it will provide different examples of educational and assessment materials which can be used to support teachers and trainers within the learning process.</p>
QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which new pedagogical approach was applied to develop the educational materials? • What are the new training and assessment resources (e.g. exercises, case studies, evaluation questions...)? • And how can they be used by trainers and trainees? • How can this kind of tools be used in other areas/sectors?

Recognition and validation of prior learning in the Welding Sector	
BACKGROUND	<p>The establishment of a European harmonized scheme for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in the Welding sector has led to the development of a sustained model which will support the overall identification, recognition and assessment of both welding and coordination know-how and skills within the EWF Qualification System.</p> <p>The workshop will present the model and tools that will be used for the recognition of prior learning for the European Welding Practitioner (EWP) profile.</p>
QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the RPL process about and how can it be implemented at a national level, for the Welding Sector? <i>*EWP case study - from standards to assessment tools (e.g. portfolio, simulations, technical interview)</i> • What is the candidate expected pathway within the four phases of the RPL process? • How is the candidate examination conducted? • What kind of diplomas can be awarded and what is their validity and usefulness?