



### ECVET

#### European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training



ECVET is aiming at enabling learning mobility for young and adult learners, as well as supporting lifelong learning and recognition of prior learning in Europe. It builds upon further European tools and principles such as the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), the European Quality Assurance Reference Framework for Vocational Education and Training (EQAVET), or the European principles for validation of learning outcomes. Core elements to those tools are the learning outcomes approach and a strong role given to qualifications as ultimate goal for individual learners.



In a large majority of countries, ECVET is meanwhile taken forward<sup>1</sup>. Preparing for ECVET implementation encompasses activities ranging from legal and regulatory updates to broad range test initiatives. The implementation of ECVET is not occurring on its own but is strongly related to policies on enhancing international learning mobility, to VET reforms at na-

tional, regional or local levels towards more permeability within and between systems and to the development of qualifications frameworks. ECVET is expected to be gradually implemented by learning from projects, experimentations and tests. The transfer of good practices and knowledge of difficulties from tests and pilots to policy-making is part of the European framework for ECVET and stated as such in the European ECVET Recommendation.

The European database on the ECVET projects<sup>2</sup> reveals that 23% of the 110 registered projects deal with integrating ECVET in education and training, and that 32% are coordinated by VET providers. ECVET is being developed for qualifications located at EQF levels 3 to 6 in different fields of activities covering for instance construction and building, health care or transport and logistics. Further characteristics of ECVET testing are the involvement of a large range of stakeholders and the regional dimension as support for mobility. This, of course, implies dedicated human and financial resources.

(Cedefop, First Information Note, 31/3/2011)

### Editorial

We are lucky to be able to let you know that the process of the institutionalization of ENETOSH is ongoing. In the meantime ENETOSH is well known in whole of Europe and abroad, our work is highly accepted and the network is growing. Recently partners from Croatia and Sweden joined, currently exciting events in Hungary, Spain, Belgium, Turkey, Germany and Poland are ahead of us. All these events will give us good opportunities for networking and additionally to proceed on with our promotion of mainstreaming Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) into education. We are very much looking forward to a further vital period of ENETOSH.

Ulrike Bollmann & Claus Dethleff

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### Imprint

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ENETOSH is an open network – have a look at our “Who is Who?” section or become a member of ENETOSH!



Education and Culture

Leonardo da Vinci

<sup>1</sup> For more details on ECVET implementation in Europe, see Cedefop (2010). Development of ECVET in Europe. Working paper, No 10. [http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/EN/Files/6110\\_en.pdf](http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/EN/Files/6110_en.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> The ADAM database now proposes a specific list for ECVET projects: <http://www.adam-europe.eu/adam/thematicgroup/ECVET>

## Young people and wellbeing at work (Part 2)

### What young people know about it, and what companies think.

As part of a project on young people's health and safety at work being carried out by Prevent, Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, at the request of Assuralia (Belgian Association of the Insurance companies), the institute has conducted two surveys: one among students and the other among companies.

The results of the first survey, about students' perceptions of the issues of health and safety at work, were published in ENETOSH newsletter No 8. The second survey asked for the view of the companies. Here are the results:

#### Second survey:

#### "Companies and young workers"

The second survey conducted by Prevent was sent to companies. It examined their views of young people's knowledge and attitudes with regard to health and safety at work. A total of 288 companies replied to the questionnaire. The analysis related to young people under the age of 25, some of whom were students and others of whom were young graduates who did not yet have much experience. Practically 20% of the companies which took part in the survey were industrial companies. The construction sector and public services were also well represented, with proportions of 11% and 10% respectively. The vast majority of companies which responded were fairly sizeable (66% employed over 100 workers).

#### Evaluation of young workers' knowledge

Overall, 66% of the companies which took part in the survey believed that young workers' knowledge was limited. 10% regarded their knowledge as adequate, while just over 12% believed that young people

had no knowledge of how to work safely.

If the results are examined in the light of education type attended by the young person, the survey shows that workers from vocational education obtain the worst scores, followed by those from technical education. Obviously, the requirements to which they are subject are more significant, as they are often performing the highest-risk tasks. However, 30% of companies specified that young people sometimes spontaneously report dangers and indicated that young workers sometimes find out about what preventive measures should be taken. 68% of them also thought that young people displayed some degree of interest in the information or training provided about working safely. By contrast, just under 20% thought they had no interest at all.

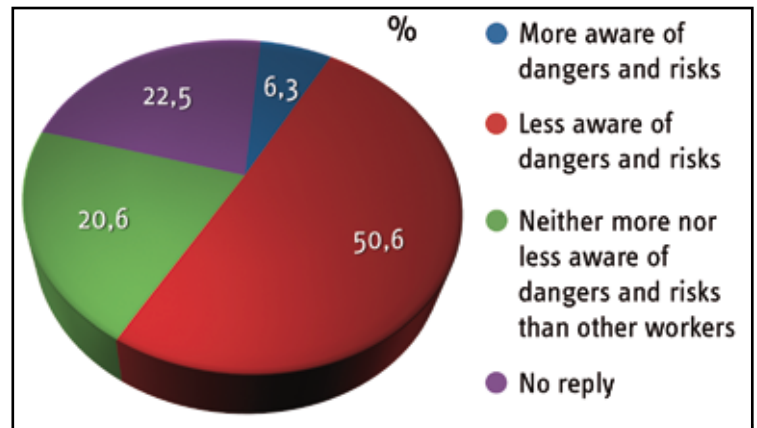
#### Attitudes

Over 60% of the companies indicated that they had already observed risky attitudes in their young workers. More generally, half the companies thought that young people were less aware of risks than other workers (see graph 3). However, a quarter of the respondents believed that they were at least as aware of risks as other workers in the company. According to many respondents, young people think that nothing can happen to them, because they are less experienced and too confident in their abilities. But others said that after a "safety induction", they were more inclined to put their new knowledge into practice. They were more curious and more "flexible" regarding new instructions.

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#### Training and awareness-raising

A clear majority of companies (80%) mentioned that initial training did not do enough to ensure that young people were



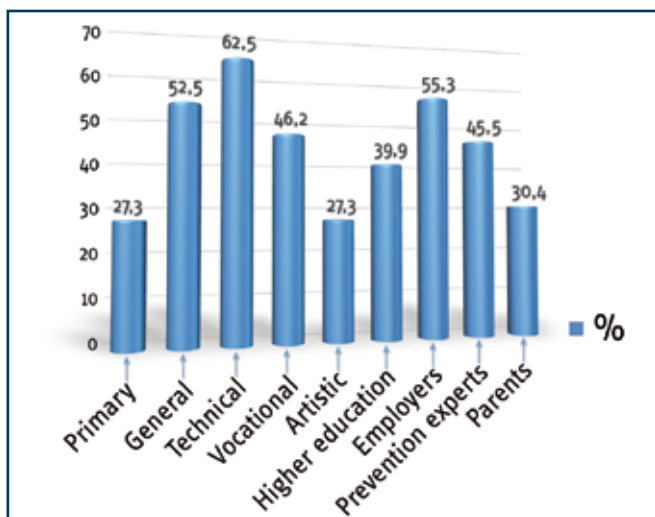
Graph 3: Comparison with other workers

aware of the risks at work and how to prevent them.

However, few respondents acknowledged that education and awareness-raising should start from a very young age (just 27% thought that primary education had a role to play here). A relatively low percentage also thought that education in these areas should take place in certain types of education or at certain educational levels. Parents' role was only seen as important by a third of respondents.

Generally speaking, companies recognised that they too have a role to play in this area. However, only just over half (54% of companies) clearly stated that they had performed an analysis of the risks to which their young workers were exposed, and that they had taken any measures required and informed the people concerned. In connection with the admission of interns, no more than 40% had performed a risk analysis.

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Graph 4: Views on the role of the different actors in training and awareness-raising for young people



#### ENETOSH Workshop at A+A in Düsseldorf: The Mobility Challenge - Comparison and Recognition of OSH Qualifications in Europe, 19 October 2011

The goal of the workshop is to develop a solid description of the demands arising from cross-border mobility on education and training in the field of OSH as well as the development of a matrix of possible ways of improving the process of comparing and recognising OSH qualifications in Europe.

## 6<sup>th</sup> US/EU Conference on Occupational Safety and Health

### Critical Issues on Worker Health and Safety

Upon invitation of the European Commission's DG for Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion ENETOSH participated at the Sixth Joint Conference on Occupational Safety and Health at Work on September 22-24, 2010 in Boston, MA. Since 1997 delegates of the United States and of Europe meet together at this conference to exchange their different perspectives, to learn, to share and to achieve common results. The discussions are carried out in mixed working groups with extra meetings of the delegates from US and EU in advance of the working groups and after the working sessions. In my function as the coordinator of ENETOSH I carried out a presentation within working group IV - Safety and Health Knowledge Management. The working group has identified the management and the transfer of OSH-knowledge as one critical challenge for occupational safety and health in contemporary industry. During the workshop issues like Job Competency Models, Supervisor and manager competency and training and Knowledge Management Systems were discussed. The focus of my presentation was on Competence models and their impact on education and training in Occupational Safety and Health in Europe.

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## College of Safety in Zagreb

by Davorin Kacian

The College of Safety in Zagreb was established in the academic year 1997/1998. It first offered a four-year professional undergraduate programme leading to the professional title of graduate safety engineer in the field of occupational safety or fire safety, a three-year study leading to the professional title of safety engineer and a three-term master's course (master of safety).

Since 2002 the College of Safety has implemented ISO 9001:2000 quality management system for study courses in the fields of occupational safety, fire safety and environment protection. A certificate issued by the CERT service of RWTÜV Systems GmbH from Essen is the implementation guarantee.

In accordance with the Bologna Declaration, a restructuring of the study was carried out in 2005/2006. The new programme offers a three-year study upon the completion of which 180 ECTS points and a professional title of baccalaureus with the field specified are awarded. Education may be continued by enrolment to a specialised graduate study for another year, following the 3+1 model, after which 60 ECTS points and a title of a certain field specialist can be obtained.

In 2006, the creation of the Infoeduk@ system marked the introduction of information technology. The system is based on modularity and is Internet accessed. Three user levels are included in the system: administration, educators and students, which lays foundations for distance

learning i.e. e-learning. In order to be as efficient as possible in developing materials for distance learning, nine educators and associates attended E-Learning Academy programme developed by University of British Columbia and Croatian Academic and Research Network. The Infoeduk@ system for distribution of teaching materials has now been connected with the Moodle LMS system, which offers great possibilities and is successfully applied. To be able to offer multimedia materials as well, additional supporting facilities



such as an audio studio for the production of complementary educational audio materials and photo and video equipment are available.

The College of Safety today creates multimedia content enabling students quality and interesting distance learning. To ensure good feedback information from students, two among best students were selected by special procedure to be actively engaged in teaching content digitalization.

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## How I met a lot of enthusiastic OSH people...

by Susanne Ulk

In February 2011 I have had the pleasure of representing the ENETOSH network and at the same time to present the ENETOSH idea and objectives during an international conference in Macedonia arranged by the Macedonian Occupational Safety and Health Association (MOSHA) in cooperation with the State Labour Inspectorate



within the Macedonian Ministry of Labour and Social Policy.

And indeed it had been an international event: More than 180 participants and speakers from Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, Poland, Norway, United Kingdom and many other European countries, attended the conference.

The title of the conference was "International Conference on OSH Management Systems", and the aim was to gain experience from implementation of OSH management systems, on a world level, European level, including experiences of the Balkan countries and all the relevant institutions related to the OSH area in Macedonia. (Please read more on the next page...)

## Upcoming events

**2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2011**

60th SLIC Meeting Thematic day:  
„Sharing experiences: Lessons learnt from evaluations - Exchange of OSH information“, Budapest [HU]

**11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

XIX World Congress on Safety and Health at Work, Istanbul [TR]

**19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> September 2011**

2nd university conference: Safe and healthy university, Dresden [GER]

# Common Health and Safety Agreement for the Prevention of OSD in Professional Hairdressing in Europe

by Britta Wulfhorst, University of Osnabrück

**Summary:** The European Commission has granted funding for an unprecedented research project named “Common Health and Safety Development in Professional Hairdressing in Europe” (SafeHair). The project was initiated by the hairdressers’ employers and workers’ associations. It aims at preventing Occupational Skin Diseases (OSD) by defining common standards of safety and health in the top high risk profession within OSDs which is hairdressing. It includes implementing teaching syllabi for apprentices and masters courses in order to make adequate skin protection and skin care a habit in this trade.

**Scientific background:** OSDs are the leading cause of occupational illnesses. In the EU, costs due to OSD exceed € 5bn each year due to loss of productivity, and OSDs cause extensive suffering for the affected workers. Additionally, prolonged sick leave due to OSD jeopardizes competitiveness, particularly of small and medium-sized enterprises. Hairdressing is still at the top of the OSD high risk professions despite the fact that there are good practice prevention models such as in Germany.

**Objectives:** The sectoral social dialogue represented by different European employers’ and workers’ associations has reached a European consensus called “European framework agreement on the prevention of health risks in the hairdressing

sector”. To implement the regulations of the above-mentioned framework, “SafeHair” was initiated by the University of Osnabrück in cooperation with the European Employees Association (UNI Europa Hair & Beauty), the European Employers Association (Coiffure EU) and national partners in France, Denmark, Belgium and Germany. The overall objectives of this EU-funded project were the reduction of OSD by supporting transfer of knowledge, networking between different countries, the



harmonization of national structures and supporting the dialogue and the implementation process of evidence-based prevention measures. Specifically, the project focused on the formulation of action recommendations for the implementation of the sectoral agreement („Declaration of Dresden“) and on the development of an evaluation questionnaire (EvaHair) to assess the state-of-the-art before and after the implementation process to objectify the success of new measures (acting as surveillance instrument).

**Methodology:** From December 2009 to November 2010 three international workshops were held in Germany and Denmark. The interactive approach of these workshops enabled a better understanding of different national situations and

paved the way to support the harmonization of a common agreement of skin protective measures in Europe.

The questionnaire EvaHair was developed in three steps. Every draft was discussed and modified in cooperation with the project partners and the participants of the workshops. It was furthermore tested in a pilot study in 8 different European countries.

**Results:** The „Declaration of Dresden (DoD)“ was adopted and signed on 28 September 2010 by 34 participants from 12 European countries at the third SafeHair-Workshop in Dresden. The DoD is divided into two parts, namely the declaration of intent and an attachment to support the implementation process in the different European countries.

EvaHair is available in 9 languages on the SafeHair website.

**Conclusion and Outlook:** DoD and EvaHair both can make an effective contribution to the reduction of occupational skin diseases in the hairdressing sector in Europe. In the second phase of the project, “SafeHair 2.0”, a modular SafeHair Skin & Beauty Toolbox is supposed to be developed. In addition, partnerships with Slovenia and Malta will be concluded. ENETOSH will furthermore support these further educational steps.

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## ...and also got acquainted to the Balkan way of dancing by Susanne Ulk

(Continuation from page 3)

Besides the many interesting presentations and contributions from Balkan institutions and organizations there were inspiring presentations from the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Labour Inspection Authority in Norway, the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU OSHA), the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health in United Kingdom, the Central Institution for Labour Protection from Poland, the European Network of Safety Professionals (ENSHPO) and others.

In my presentation I characterized a typical ENETOSH member as being enthusiastic, inventive, resourceful, energetic, eventful, industrious, thoughtful, strategic, curious, analytic, inquisitive ... and with a sense of

humour. I hope, the ENETOSH members agree with me on these characteristics? I calmed the participants by telling, that one does not need to possess all characteristics, it is just what the network members prefer...



Obviously it did not discourage the conference participants, and many people during the conference days expressed

a warm interest for mainstreaming OSH into education. And actually ENETOSH has gained new Balkan members since the conference.

I also learned about the Macedonian hospitality and spirit during the conference days. I attended many international conferences and always felt comfortable and welcome, but this time it had been overwhelming. Besides being professional and effective the Macedonian hosts gave the conference a heartily and social approach by combining the programme with Balkan music, song and dance. Referring to the headline of this article I had the pleasure of dancing Macedonian folk dance. But that is a different story...

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