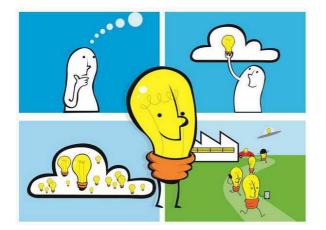
Transfer of INNOVATRAIN project

www.innovatrain-transfer.piap.pl





Final Public Report



INNOVATRAIN TRANSFER Transfer of INNOVATRAIN project Leonardo da Vinci Programme 2012-1-PL1-LE005-27466



Project Information

Project name: Transfer of INNOVATRAIN project

Acronym: INNOVATRAIN TRANSFER

Project implementation period: 01.10.2012 – 30.09.2014

Coordinator: Industrial Research Institute for Automation and Measurements PIAP, Poland

Partners:

ATB – Institut Für Angewandte Systemtechnik Bremen, Germany

- ASTRA Association for Innovation and Development, Slovakia
- CARSA Consultores de Automatizacion y Robotica, S.A., Spain



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Executive Summary

Although innovation is the product of creative instinct and imaginative thinking there are a lot of innovation process steps which can be managed and carried out in a more systematic, standardised way.

The main objective of the INNOVATRAIN TRANSFER project was to create e-learning based courses dealing with approaches and solutions for an advanced innovation process management and introduction of the innovation standards in SMEs.

Here described are the project background and objectives and outcomes-results. Short description of the consortium partners and the future plans are provided as well.



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1. Project background and objectives

Innovation is an evergreen topic in all human activities and its importance is nowadays common place in many considerations in the era characterised by an increasing globalisation of competition where the companies cope for surviving and thriving on the market. Innovation is really seen as an important part of the company strategy.

Innovation is given a high level of importance in a number of roadmap documents and visions of manufacturing development. Being innovative is a key growth factor for reviving manufacturing within Europe in short to medium term, and innovative thinking, design and manufacturing are factors of utmost importance for growth of the European industry.

Among many theoretical and practical elaborations of different innovation aspects and innovation management approaches two courses based on the two successful projects, INNOVATRAIN and AIM - Acceleration of Innovative Ideas to Market, were selected to be integrated and transferred in the new e-learning course intended to fill the gap between the current innovation management practice and the state-of-the-art achievements in this domain.

Thus the main objective of the INNOVATRAIN TRANSFER project was to create e-learning based courses dealing with approaches and solutions for an advanced innovation process management and introduction of the innovation standards in SMEs, targeting increasing SME's innovation potential.

2. Project Outcomes and Results

Major results achieved during the project are directly connected with the identified project objectives. Training curriculum includes content related to the acquisition of new ideas and knowledge to support the innovation process in enterprises, to stimulating industrial innovation, and to innovation process management methods. The course developed in the project is divided into two training modules and provides trainees with

- (1) global and systematized approach to the important innovation related concepts and helps professionals in implementation of an Innovation Management System within their own organizations, covering all process from the concept phase to the analysis of the impact, and
- (2) guidelines for organisations in introducing, developing and maintaining a framework for systematic innovation management practices.

The content of the Module 1 "Innovation and Innovation Management in general" is based mainly on the results of the project AIM from which the approach for development of a system to support the collection of innovative ideas and relevant knowledge throughout the extended enterprise for fostering industrial innovations. The AIM content was enriched with some general basics about innovation and innovation management. It is intended to provide the most important general topics about the innovation and to support both newcomers and professionals in implementing an advanced Innovation Management approach and supporting ICT System in their organisations, covering the whole process from the process inception to the analysis of the impact.

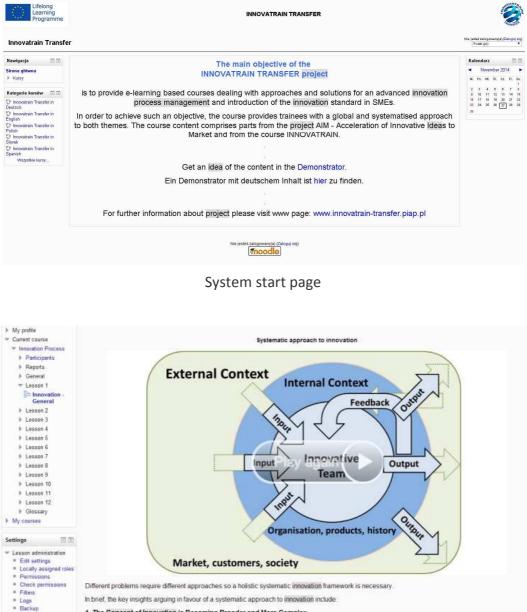


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Module 2 "Introduction of the Innovation Management Standard" is extension of the course INNOVATRAIN dealing with introduction of the Spanish standard UNE 166000:2006 – Research, Development and Innovation (R&D&i) Management. The INNOVATRAIN methodology was enriched through elaboration of new learning bilingual scenarios including classical training, blended training, and distant training. New implemented ICT features include web 2.0 possibilities for increasing effectivity of learning through contact between pupils, teachers and consultants.

The following two figures present the screenshots from the realised e-learning system.



1. The Concept of Innovation is Becoming Broader and More Complex

Example lesson - detail



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Project results comprise:

- Full set of lessons of the courses on General Innovation and on Introduction of the Innovation Standard, exemplified on the Spanish standard UNE 166000:2006 – Research, Development and Innovation (R&D&i) Management. Lessons are structured into two modules according to the thematic groups mentioned above.
- Training methodology prototype consisting of guidelines for INNOVATRAIN TRANSFER system establishment, utilization, administration and further evaluation. It includes methods for adaptation and creation of course content as well as organisation and execution of the course prepared for trainers and consultants creating and carrying out the course, useful also for others interested for organisation of courses.
- Adapted ICT platform based on the worldwide accepted moodle LMS, which enables user friendly navigation through the logically structured content and includes audio parts, animations and videos illustrating specific phases along the innovation process.
- A set of templates for data gathering and analysis containing survey and structured interview, prepared during the initial stage of the project. It is available in English and all partner languages.

All project results were tested and evaluated by project partners, system end-users and external evaluators. Results from the evaluation were utilized for several system improvements.

All courses are dedicated to SMEs staff. Access to the system requires online registration. Final version of the e-learning system was prepared in all partners languages.

The full system is available in all project partner languages (Polish, German, Slovak and Spanish) plus English language version. It can be accessed at the web address: http://www.atb-bremen.de/projects/innovatrain/moodle/.

3. Project Partners

The INNOVATRAIN TRANSFER consortium including partners from 4 European countries covers a variety of European working cultures and socioeconomic conditions, but also provides a thorough insight into the current situation of VET systems in these countries. The consortium is carefully composed to perfectly cover all foreseen tasks having a balanced distribution of competencies needed. The consortium partners have also rich experience in transnational cooperation, particularly in the Leonardo da Vinci projects whereby PIAP and ATB as well as CARSA and ATB have already successfully cooperated within several previous EU projects from other areas. The long-term business cooperation with SMEs in their countries and in other countries provides a solid basis for the successful co-operation with potential user groups.



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Industrial Research Institute for Automation and Measurements - PIAP was established in 1965 as a R&D public nonprofit entity which basic task was preparing and implementing new technologies, automation systems, production plant and specialist measuring equipment in various branches of industry. Generally PIAP's activities are devoted to: scientific and technical research, design small and medium-sized production and to the introduction of modern automation techniques and systems including robotics to industrial enterprises, recycling, vocational training for SME's in automation and robotics, recycling, stimulating technological innovation, increasing of competitiveness, etc..

PIAP has also considerable experience in coordination and participation in national and international projects (LdV, 5, 6, 7 FP, EU Structural Funds). PIAP is an editor of science and technology periodic PAR - Pomiary, Automatyka, Robotyka and organizes Annual International S&T Conference - AUTOMATICON.

More information can be found at www.piap.pl



Institute for Applied Systems Technology Bremen GmbH – (ATB), Germany, founded in 1991 as a non-profit organisation by the State of Bremen, University Bremen and a group of industrial companies (Daimler, ATLAS Elektronik GmbH, and a number of SMEs from the Bremen region). ATB has a staff of 18 permanent and about 15 part time employees. The main strategic business areas of ATB are Systems Analysis & Design, Software Systems Technology and Knowledge Management.

Within the area of Systems Analysis & Design, ATB is supporting enterprises to improve their business processes. ATB strongly addresses training issues and establishment of self-learning organisations, supporting companies to identify their training needs and appropriate means, specifically in reference to the introduction of advanced ICT solutions. ATB is very active in the area of Technology Enhanced Learning in development of the collaborative learning topics and research of the connections among KM and eLearning.

More information can be found at www.atb-bremen.de



ASTRA - Association for innovation and development is a non-governmental non-forprofit training and research organization. Was established in 1998 and is focused mainly on the following types of activities:

- Educational and training activities with the special focus on e-learning and distance education
- Research and development activities



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- Surveys, studies, and analyses to support regional development and its programming
- Development and implementation of the project supporting R&D
- Advisory and consultancy in the field of project management
- Human resource development
- Support of regional development through innovations, ICT, education and training activities
- Networking, know-how transfer, and development of regional, national and international cooperation

Astra has been a partner in several educational and research projects (e.g. TEMPUS PHARE, Leonardo da Vinci, and Socrates).

More information can be found at www.astra-ngo.sk



CARSA is a Technology consultant company with over 24 years of experience in serving public and private organizations in terms of designing and developing innovation and technology strategies, in gathering in-depth experience in Project Management of complex collaborative projects, and in dealing and exploiting Knowledge Management.

In parallel with this on-the-field know-how, CARSA created and has been developing its own department of Education and Training, which main aim is at transferring and exploiting the knowledge and experience acquired throughout its time in the market. In addition to that, CARSA has a long and illustrious history of working on International projects. The company has performed with laudable success within the European framework for many years, and its consultants are well known within European circles for their professionalism and their willingness to perform to the best of their abilities. More information can be found on www.carsa.es

4. Plans for the Future

In order to make INNOVATRAIN TRANSFER project results self-sustainable and to assure their full usage after the project end, the consortium partners plan to initiate a commercialization of the fully tested, assessed and refined INNOVATRAIN TRANSFER system prototype.

The commercialization conditions/price policy will depend on the specific user (manufacturing area SME user or training organization) which will apply the INNOVATRAIN TRANSFER system.



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www.innovatrain-transfer.piap.pl

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