



ECQA

European Certification and Qualification Association



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ECQA NEWSLETTER

Number 1, May.2013

www.ecqa.org

SAVE THE DATE!

The **ECQA Days 2013** will take place from September 26 to 27 in Cannes, France.

Participants will have the chance to attend a varied program of presentations and workshops. Representatives involved in European projects as well as from the local industry will discuss current topics in the fields of Engineering Skills, Innovation Skills, Business and Management Skills as well as Communication Skills.

We invite all ECQA interested people to join this event and to be part of interesting discussions as well as to connect and network with participants from different backgrounds.

We are looking forward to welcoming you at this year's conference!

Soon you will find further information on the ECQA Homepage: www.ecqa.org



Nicole Handschuh, IMC FH Krems, events@ecqa.org

SIMS (Social Media Networker)

The innovation transfer project ECQA Certified Social Media Networker Skills (SIMS) deals with professional qualification and certification of the modern job role of Social Media Networker. The aim of this project is the transfer of the Social Media Networker Skills to the industry. This will provide a technological and methodological strategy for online learning assessment, recognition, facilitation and qualification for this new job role.

Enterprise 2.0 represents a new paradigm in which employees are co-producers of content, knowledge, applications, and services in the organization. However, this new collaborative strategy requires the participation of forward-thinking individuals, who must be socially and technically knowledgeable and informed in order to exploit these new ways of social networking. All stakeholders in an organization can benefit from an understanding of social media networking principles and their implementation. However, this is not an easy task. To correctly facilitate these tools, one must learn how to leverage them in order to improve marketing, research, communications, customer support, brand reputation, competitive intelligence, product development, collaboration and knowledge capture.

Target Groups

- Managers of companies/organizations
- Media professionals
- Information technology practitioners
- Marketing professionals
- Students of media, marketing, management, information technology, etc.
- Entrepreneurs
- Unemployed collectives

Exam and Certification

Participants who attended the training will have the possibility to apply for a ECQA Certified Social Media Networker certificate issued by the European Certification and Qualification Association.

The certificates are issued for two levels:

- Foundation level, for participants passing the online exam for UNIT.1 and UNIT.2
- Advanced level, for participants passing the online exam for UNIT.3 and UNIT.4 and successfully performing an assignment (based on a case study)

The exam is carried out electronically, using a central exam pool of multiple choice questions. For each level the participants have two hours to complete approximately 50 (foundation) and 60 (advanced) questions.

Participants, who pass the exams for the ECQA Certified Social Media Networker successfully, will be able to justify their skills with a Europe-wide, market recognized certificate.

Trainings:

Please visit the website <http://www.socialmedianetworker.eu>

where the training dates will be published or contact one of the partners directly

From Idea to Enterprise

Because the current teaching of entrepreneurship is not yet sufficiently integrated in secondary and higher education institutions' curricula, From Idea to Enterprise aims at transferring ResEUr training and certification program which covers all the key aspects that are associated with essential considerations upfront the process of the creation of a new enterprise, as well as with boosting the innovation power of existing companies.

Project objectives

The project aims at delivering to innovative young minds the qualification to turn their product and service ideas into an enterprise in a successful and sustainable manner. From Idea to Enterprise project is built on the ECQA Certified Researcher-Entrepreneur training and certification program (<http://www.researcher-entrepreneur.eu/>).

The ResEUr training and certification program covers all the key aspects that are associated with essential considerations upfront the process of the creation of a new enterprise, as well as with boosting the innovation power of existing companies. The aim is to transfer this program to Czech Republic, Cyprus, Italy and Portugal in order to:

- support initial and continuous training of VET teachers, trainers, tutors and VET institution managers
- increase transparency and recognition of competencies and qualifications
- improve quality assurance systems in VET

Started in November 2012, From Idea to Enterprise is a 2 year-long project, funded by the Leonardo da Vinci under Lifelong Learning Program, with activities planned throughout 6 different European countries: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Italy and Portugal.

Main Outcomes

Need Analysis - to analyse the needs of the target group (country-specific). Results will tell which target groups are most appropriate for the transfer and which skills are most needed in the field of Entrepreneurship.

Translated and Configured Skill Set - identify which skills (learning elements) from the existing ResEUr program are suitable for transfer as the base for the refinement of the training materials, course structure and online course development.

Refined and Translated Training Material transferred to national contexts and available in English, and translated in Czech, French, German, Greek, Italian and Portuguese.

Online Learning course – the updated online training material will be configured in the Moodle-based ECQA Learning Management System.

ECQA Exam Question Database – to transfer of the Certification and Examination Schema based on the ECQA framework.

Training of Trainers - up to 15 trainers will be trained in a train-the-trainers event in CZ (participants from partners' countries). These trainers will prepare further trainers in their organisations/countries in order we cover the target group of 18 trainers trained in total during the project.

Student Training – organize pilot trainings for 100 students from partner's countries using on-line and/or classroom training. Feedback from pilot training sessions will be used to improve the quality of the training material.

Target groups

- Students who are conducting challenging research, and want to know what it takes to turn the results into innovations that will be successful on the market
- Creative Minds. Their ideas are the grains of successful entrepreneurship. They want to know how to shape their ideas in a way that they can be turned into innovations providing a sound basis for the creation of a successful enterprise
- Young Entrepreneurs, who want to boost their innovation power by creating a learning organisation, leveraging open innovation and capitalising on people networks

Partners

RPIC-ViP s.r.o. (www.rpic-vip.cz)

National project coordinator: Eva Homolová (homolova@rpic-vip.cz)

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CIRSES

National project coordinator: Alessandra Antinori (ale.antinori@fastwebnet.it)



EuroSPI² 2013

What is EuroSPI² ?

EuroSPI² is a cooperation of large research companies and experience networks from Germany (iSQI) and Scandinavia (SINTEF, DELTA, STTF) that work together with ISCN as well as with the American Society for Quality and many other SPINs all over Europe.

The goals of the EuroSPI²

- Holding an annual conference for the purpose of exchanging experiences
- Supporting the establishment of a worldwide SPI (SPI = Systems, Software and Services Process Improvement) Manifesto and therefore building clusters of experts and knowledge libraries
- Establishing an online experience library based on contributions since 1994 and making it available for the participants of the conference
- Establishing the ECQA (European Certification and Qualification Association)
- Establishing a worldwide newsletter

Details about EuroSPI²

The EuroSPI² conference presents and discusses practical results from improvement and innovation projects in industry and research, focussing on the benefits gained and the criteria for success. Leading European companies are contributing to and participating in this event. This year EuroSPI² is very special as it is the 20th anniversary. The conference will be held between the 25th and 27th of June at the Institute of Technology (DkIT) in Dundalk, Ireland. A birthday special will be prepared, which consists of an overview over the past 20 years of the EuroSPI² conference with keynotes and historical details about the event on June 28th.

The course of the event

The highlights of this year's EuroSPI² will be a Workshop day followed by two Conference days. The EuroSPI² will start with the Workshop day that consists of four different parts. On day two and three, four different keynote speeches will be given with experience exchange sessions for the participants in-between.

For further information about the conference, destination and registration process, please visit the website 2013.eurospi.net



Training Schedule



ECQA Certified EU
Project Manager

Training Seminar by Skills International, Croatia
Training: 04.06.2013 - 07.06.2013
Examination: 07.06.2013

ECQA Certified EU
Project Manager

Training Seminar by Skills International, Croatia
Training: 10.07.2013 - 12.07.2013
Examination: 12.07.2013

You can find the trainings schedule on the ECQA Homepage: www.ecqa.org

Contact



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