

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2019



An open and flexible qualification system to meet the new learning challenges of the 21st century

Technological and societal developments are driving the change on economies throughout Europe. From the increasing adoption of mobile devices as the primary source of information to the rise of online learning options, from the digitization of many traditional industrial processes to new ones entering the mainstream, such as additive manufacturing, change is all around us. And EWF plays a pivotal role in that its qualification system is pervasive and widely accepted, so it can lead the pace of adoption of all these new technologies and methodologies ensuring a smooth and effective transition from existing ones. Partnering with other relevant industry organizations is critical to ensure the system is responding to industry's demands and ensures the exchange of relevant methodologies, securing a broader adoption of EWF's system. Already EWF has forged strong partnerships with associations such as CECIMO (European Association of the Machine Tool Industries) and the EFNDT (European Federation for Non-Destructive Testing), ensuring a close cooperation to move the industry's interests forward. And it keeps looking for additional ways to support the manufacturing industry and deliver the necessary qualifications, by supporting new industries and Vocational Education and Training (VET) solutions that empower companies and professionals.



Industry
Organisations



Technological
Developments



Qualification
System



One example of the areas where EWF keeps driving the quick change in adoption of qualifications is Additive Manufacturing, where it has been steadfast working on the new qualifications required, having already rolled-out the metal AM system with the qualifications both of Machine Operator and Engineer. Another milestone in this area will be the creation this year of the Additive Manufacturing council within the organizational structure of EWF.



PROJECTS

2018 also marked the final steps of critical projects for the industry where EWF has played a key role, such as MAKE IT, RAINBOW, HSE JOINING, MICROBOND, ADTECH, WELDCHANCE, RMWF, REFUSKILLS and HS-EMFW.

All had as their main drive to streamline adoption of the harmonized qualification system, addressing industry requirements and encompassing all areas of knowledge, from the development of training materials to the definition of a recognition of prior learning methodology which, in turn, will streamline and simplify its usage as part of national qualifications frameworks. One such examples is the recent integration of the European Welding Practitioner Qualification within the Hungarian National Qualifications Framework. One additional area being covered by the work done by EWF and its members is the definition of a methodology for the development of International Qualifications in Manufacturing that can be easily integrated in different National Qualifications Frameworks ensuring that the technical/technological training is done in a Harmonized way across Europe and is aligned with the requirements from industry.

Looking forward, 2019 is a promising year, with the kick-off of new and exciting projects. One such example is the Sector Skills Strategy in Additive Manufacturing Project (SAM), whose aim is to actively promote the sector's competitiveness by identifying and defining the current and future skillsets on a fast-moving and evolving industry, ensuring demand for highly skilled professionals is met by the vocational education and training ecosystem. Working closely with the industry, we will provide just in time mapping and monitoring of the AM industry technological trends, its skills shortage and mismatches, policies and figures, anticipating changes and providing solutions that will support the growth, competitiveness and innovation of the Additive Manufacturing sector.

In summary, our goals will be to grow our ecosystem by establishing new and far-reaching partnership with industry's relevant associations, by evolving our harmonized qualification system to ensure it meets industry needs and to, together, contribute to a vibrant and competitive industry, one that attracts talented new professionals and that provides a path for the current workforce to keep moving in pace with the industry. Let us all make 2019 a turning point year.



GOALS

