

From the Coordinator

On 29 and 30 October 2019 the project COMPETING organised the second consortium meeting at the new built premises of CERONAV in Galați, Romania.

This project was warmly supported by all partners and the number of people present showed that! During these two days a lot of work has been done. For all work packages, well prepared and coordinated workshops were organised which resulted in constructive input that we can use to develop the results for COMPETING.

Also, to get acquainted, CERONAV invited us for a very pleasant dinner and CERONAV impressed us during the tour of the building: High tech simulators for both bridge and engine room and a lot more! All in all, it was a great success for the COMPETING project.

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Group picture taken during the consortium meeting in October at the CERONAV-premises Galați, Romania.

WP3

The challenge begins

At the kick-off meeting of the COMPETING consortium the plan to follow in the development of WP3 tasks was laid down by CERONAV's representatives and presented to the members. As usual, at the start of each new thing, there were some issues that needed to be clarified more in-depth regarding the work process, which were further explained and clarified in the Paris meeting of EDINNA, where CERONAV has participated and sustained a presentation at the COMPETING workshop.

CERONAV as WP3 leader has prepared templates regarding the collection of relevant past projects in regards to IWT. Those tables were sent to all the member and we received a very positive response from everybody involved and soon the templates were filled with pieces of information.

We have collected approximately 40 references to former European projects all of them with interesting outcomes

covering various amount of inland water transportation subjects like environmental protection, development of safer navigation and safer ways of transportation, use of alternative fuels like LNG, health and safety of the crew and communication.

All of them require great attention, as they are filled with a lot of information which is very valuable to the project. In exchange this amount of information

>>> next page

>>> follow-up

is creating a big challenge since it needs to be filtered and validated by the consortium members and this requires a lot of time and effort. CERONAV prepared a centralised sheet which is available online for all the members and contains all the competences of the CESNI standards. In this way, each member has access in real time to the work of other members. Moreover the process of filtering the information and finding the most relevant ones can be

done faster and more organized. The work continues and we are quite pleased to be part of this team, which is very active, very cooperant and full of useful resources to bring the COMPETING project to a succesful completion.



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WP4

Quality Assurance and Quality Control

Within WP4 we focus on the quality control and quality assurance within EU IWT training and education regarding the implementation of the new EU directive on harmonizing of training and education in EU IWT.

Goal of WP4 is to come forward with a concept of a QC and QA system that enables authorities to help them to look after so called 'approved IWT training program' of educational and training institutes in their country. Within this work package there is a strong collaboration with CESNI QP QM. This expert group within CESNI works also on the development of a QA and QC system in EU IWT (www.CESNI.EU).

In week 37 we had two meetings of CESNI QP in Basel and Strasbourg with importance for WP4. Of course the minutes will be shared, but to describe some developments briefly:

In CESNI QP QM we spoke about the developments in column 3 and 4. Most of the delegates agree that we elaborate a little more on 3 and instead of column 4 we propose 'model examinations' on Operational Level (OL) and Management Level (ML) with the Dutch 'practical examinations' as a concrete example. This seems acceptable for all parties. Further the proposal is to prepare within the Competing project an audit list to enable authorities to audit their own training institutes and examination committees. This in close collaboration with the daily CESNI QP QM working group.

In the CESNI QP committee meeting in Strasbourg it became clear that all delegates agree with the proposal to elaborate the thoughts about the 'model examination' instead of working on column 4. In the coming period the CESNI QP QM working group will focus on the "model examination" on Operational and Management level together with the WP 4 members. Within WP 4 we also will work on the 'audit list'.



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COLUMN BLENDED LEARNING

One of the high priorities within the Erasmus+ program is the development of modern ways of teaching and learning. At the very beginning of the project COMPETING the terms blended learning and E-learning have been considered, but it needed further elaboration. Within WP3 these learning strategy aspects will be further worked out, parallel with the development of lesson materials.

The aim of creating blended learning within the COMPETING project is to stimulate competent Inland Waterway Transportation (IWT) crew members with digital skills. To get a better understanding how to apply the learning strategy within the different training institutes and how COMPETING will contribute to these developments, different stages were organised. Firstly a brainstorm session with all the COMPETING partners was held. Secondly the individual COMPETING partners addressed by means of a questionnaire how they apply the modern ways of teaching and learning in their respective institutes, the importance of a learning management system and what are important elements that a modern digital platform should have. Lastly a workshop with almost all end-users was held during the EDINNA annual assembly, which was held on the 14th and 15th of May.

With these consultation activities a complete overview was created of all relevant stakeholders considered to be important when it comes to modern ways of teaching and learning. The most important criteria taken into consideration are: Learning environment as a backbone for education or as an extra tool, possibilities for students and teachers in a learning platform, expectations of universities and training institutes for an online platform and also the risks are taken into account.

Within WP3, a dedicated team is developing a digital platform. The input of the earlier mentioned groups is considered as the platform is being developed within the COMPETING project. The first platform of the platform was shown during the COMPETING consortium meeting. The partners e-Learning team prepared a workshop to create awareness of how the platform works and what the idea is behind it.

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