

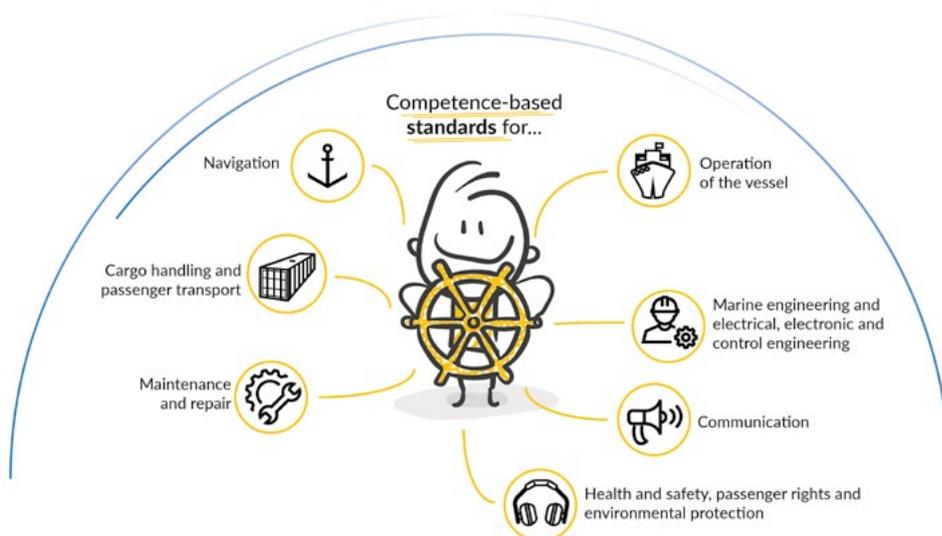
## From the Coordinator

**COMPETING** (Competence Based Education and Training for Inland Navigation) is a three-years Sector Skills Alliance project under the Erasmus+ programme. Within **COMPETING** fifteen partners from eight different EU member states will develop curricula and lesson materials, as well as a Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) system, to ensure the highest level of quality concerning the implementation of future proof IWT education and training throughout the EU. We work together with IWT education and training institutes, social partners representing the industry and competent authorities and umbrella organisations. The developments in this project will in the end result in the implementation of EU legislation, resulting in a comparable system for recognition of educational programmes and properly qualified crew with the possession of a Union certificate.

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## Recognition of professional qualification in inland navigation

Harmonised rules on professional qualifications will foster labour mobility in European inland navigation



Source: European Commission, 2008

## WP3

# Development of Curricula and Lesson materials

The main objective of work package 3 is to develop curricula and lesson materials for model courses addressed to inland navigation personnel, based on the provisions of EU Directive 2017/2397 and CESNI Standards for competence for operational and management level.

To develop the necessary materials, working groups with IWT experts from the different education and training institutes within the **COMPETING** consortium will be formed per learning module. One of the first steps is to collect the existing learning materials in the field of professional qualifications of inland navigation personnel which are already developed in previous European projects. These materials must be reviewed and checked by the IWT experts

whether they are in line with the adopted CESNI Standards for competence. After this analysis, the revision of existing materials and development of new ones will start with the use of the working groups and in close cooperation with stakeholders from the IWT industry. In order to create future proof lesson materials, a blended learning environment will be developed. This online environment will be an important addition to the already available methods of



learning. Currently a separate working group is drafting a learning strategy and investigating the possibilities of an online learning system to be used. This system must be user-friendly for developers, teachers and students and also be easily maintained after the project lifetime.

The last objective within this workpackage is the development of a model for a Training Record

Book. Currently different examples are already in use within education and training institutes in Europe. The aim is to create a model to be used by all institutes, based on the latest standards for competence.



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## WP4

# Quality Assurance and Quality Control

The aim of WP4 within the COMPETING project is to develop a Quality Assurance (QA) and a Quality Control (QC) system to ensure, to assure and to control the highest level of quality concerning the implementation of future proof IWT Education and Training throughout the EU.

With this system we can ensure education and training in IWT meets the minimum requirements, as laid down in the framework.

Main tasks of this work package are:

1. Description of column 3 and 4 for all competence tables on Operational and Management Level. The columns describe the methods for demonstrating competences and the criteria for evaluating the competences.
2. A proposal for a national control system for the national authorities to check if the IWT institutes apply to the EU directive. Research on how quality control could be organized to ensure a level playing field between all EU IWT institutes.
3. Development, execution and evaluation of a pilot regarding the implementation of the QA/QC system.

The development of columns 3 and 4 will be in close consultation with CESNI/QP. The standards for assessing and assuring the quality of training programmes and examination is also a task of the CESNI work programme. The task is marked with priority one, which means the CESNI/QP has already started or is planning to start in the first half of the mandate.

Because of this priority in the work programme of CESNI/QP first steps in WP4, the development of column 3 and 4, are already made. The concept for the columns are being discussed within the board of EDINNA and are sent to all the project members of COMPETING for evaluation.



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# COLUMN

## EDINNA

*Developing and enforcing a new European directive is a long-term process in itself, implementing and putting it into practice is a comprehensive follow-up activity.*

*Implementing European directive 2017/2397, on the recognition of professional qualifications in inland navigation, in the national legislation of the member states requires legal embedding in national legislation and regulations. Besides existing international regulations, for example, such as those that apply to the Rhine, also must be adjusted.*

*One of the objectives of the directive is that irrespective of the Member State in which the qualification is achieved, the inland navigation sector can count on crews possessing the competencies prescribed in the annexes of the directive.*

*Edinna, the association representing the interests of education and training institutes for inland navigation, realised from the beginning that putting this objective into practice means that training programs must be compiled at a comparable content and level.*

*In anticipation of the introduction of the directive, Edinna member institutes, with the support of European funding have carried out a number of projects that have provided already a number of supporting products for IWT education and training institutes.*

*Today, however, no common teaching material is available for the seven mandatory areas of competence at operational and management level that cover all of these areas.*

*The COMPETING project has the objective and task of developing precisely that and making it available to all institutions. Not just the content but also the way in which the content can be offered to students in a modern didactic way. In addition and to guarantee quality, a quality assurance system will be developed. For the results of this project, communication between all project participants such as, institutions, authorities and social partners is of great importance.*

*The COMPETING project will make an important contribution to the harmonisation of inland navigation education and training.*

*President Edinna*  
*Rob van Reem*

# COMPETING Kick-off

On Thursday the 31st of January the kick-off meeting of the Erasmus+ Sector Skills Alliance project COMPETING was held at STC in Rotterdam. With this project fifteen project partners from eight different countries aim to support the new EU Directive on the recognition of professional qualifications in inland navigation. The main results of this three-year project will be the development of lesson materials as well as a Quality Assurance and Quality Control system. One of the main challenges is to develop future proof learning materials and concepts. To get inspired the participants visited the brand new Nautech and Skills lab facilities at STC. The participants were impressed by these facilities and the enthusiasm of the teachers involved.

## The COMPETING Consortium consists of:

1. Stichting STC Group, Netherlands - Coordinator
2. ProDanube Management GmbH, Austria
3. FHOÖ Studienbetriebs GmbH, Austria
4. GO!De Scheepvaartschool, Belgium
5. European Transport Workers' Federation, Belgium
6. Institut pour le transport par Batellerie, Belgium
7. University of Rijeka, Croatia
8. Schiffer-Berufskolleg Rhein, Germany
9. Maritieme Academie Holland, Netherlands
10. Universitatea din Craiova, Romania
11. Ceronav, Romania
12. University of Zilina, Slovakia
13. Colegiul Tehnic "Diarna" - Orsova, Romania
14. Le Cnam Normandie, France
15. Royal BLN-Schuttevaer, Netherlands

