



Leonardo da Vinci



NEWSLETTER No. 3

JOS – Job open with Sign Language

Dear Sir or Madam:

With this Newsletter we would like to keep you informed about the JOS project that we are carrying out within a transnational partnership co-funded by the European Commission. As professional or organization working in the field of deaf/disabled people or person directly affected, the expected products and results of our project could be interesting for you.

This is the second newsletter informing about the JOS project in general. If you don't want to receive this free of charge newsletter, you can cancel it at any time emailing us to dlapukaite@siauliai.ldrmt.lt or gtrijonis@siauliai.ldrmt.lt

Best regards,

JOS Project team



„JOS - Job Open with Sign Language“
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NEWSLETTER

The situation for vocational training for and, in connection with that, social integration of deaf and hard of hearing people in Europe is alarming. The group of deaf and hard of hearing people, i.e. people who are prelingually deaf (born deaf or become deaf by the age of three) and people who are late-deafened or severely hard of hearing (the number of people in this field is sharply growing due to hearing impairment caused by occupational diseases or by harmful leisure activities of young people - noise) is constantly growing, whereas vocational training and development opportunities are still rare and, very often, unseizable.

For this reason the EU-project JOS – job open with sign language was started. The international JOS project team wants to set an example and come up with an innovative approach.

So the overall aim of the project Job Open with Sign Language is to improve access to highly-qualified technical education and training programmes for deaf people. The resulting general aim of the project is the development of a holistic-oriented, modular education and training programme in sign language that is comparable on a European level for the profession of a mechatronics engineer. It is to be adjusted to the needs of the target group and includes all relevant decision-makers and conditions for a sustainable effect.

It is particularly the CAD (Computer Aided Design) part of the mechatronics engineer training that is, at the moment, not at all accessible for deaf people. Therefore, the CAD training as part of the profession of a mechatronics engineer is a special focus of demand in this project. It will be the first time in Europe that deaf people will get the possibility to pass the standardised 'ECDL CAD' certificate.

The target groups of the projet are:

- Deaf people with a medium educational level
- Trainers in the field of mechatronics
- Training institutions
- Companies
- Education and training institutions
- Hearing participants in mechatronics trainings
- Hearing mechatronics employees (staff and/or managers) in companies
- The European society

The expected results of the Project:

1) An education and training comparison for the profession of mechatronics engineer in Europe (state-of-the-art) and a catalogue of criteria and demands for a target group-specific vocational training.

2) A holistic modular education and training concept for the Deaf in the field of mechatronics including all target groups that are part of the training and employment cycle.

3) Sensitisation and preparation material/teaching units for deaf people - for them to be able to prepare linguistically (e.g. special terminology) and culturally for the training. Therefore, all necessary material will be translated into the respective sign languages.

4) Sensitisation and preparation material/teaching units for hearing people - for them to be able to prepare linguistically (e.g. understanding the structure of sign language) and culturally (learning, thinking and communication culture of the Deaf) for the contact and the work with deaf people.

5) Specific socio-pedagogical training, sensitisation and preparation material/teaching units for trainers of mechatronics - to be able to prepare pedagogically, linguistically (e.g. understanding the structure of sign language) and culturally (learning, thinking and communication culture of deaf people) for training deaf people.

6) Special training and learning material in sign language for selected areas of mechatronics for the Deaf. This material can, in part, be adapted from the standard material (e.g. ECDL CAD) or must be especially developed. In any case, all material must be developed in the respective sign languages via complex video/DVD productions. That is the only way to make special learning content linguistically accessible for the Deaf.

The updates and activities done by JOS Project partners:

1. Berufsförderungsinstitut Steiermark (Austria) (P1)

- **Post-meeting activities:** bfi has edited all the material that was produced at the October meeting in Graz. Photos will be uploaded to the JOS webspace by Michaela tomorrow, so you can download them from there.
- **Preparing workshops and pilot training:** bfi has organised trainers, speakers, interpreters, seminar rooms, invited members of the target group for the various workshops and the pilot training. The following workshops will be held:
 - Info workshop for the Deaf:** 13th and 20th Nov. 2008 at bfi Steiermark, Bildungszentrum Graz West. Members from the target group will be informed on the pilot training. Trainers will be present to answer questions on AutoCAD and basic electronics. Course will be explained by Heidi Stalzer, Michaela Meier and me of bfi.
 - Info workshop for the Hearing:** 26th Nov. 2008 at bfi Steiermark, Bildungszentrum Graz West. Hearing persons will be informed on the special needs of Deaf people.
 - Sensitisation workshop for Trainers:** 14th and 15th Nov. 2008 at bfi Steiermark. Trainers from the technical field will be sensitised for their work with Deaf students. Workshop will be held by a member of the Deaf community.
 - JOS Pilot Training:** 21st Nov., 22nd Nov., 5th Dec., 6th Dec., 11th Dec. 2008 at bfi Steiermark. Deaf students will receive free (EU-funded) training in basic electronics and AutoCAD within the JOS project.
- **Dissemination work:** bfi has published information on the JOS project (esp. workshops and pilot training) on the E.N.T.E.R. platform (trans European project platform for information exchange).
- **Preparing the final meeting and conference:** bfi is preparing the final JOS meeting (9th and 11th Dec. 2008) and organising the conference (10th Dec.) in Graz.
- **Other work:** bfi is filling the moodle-e-learning device with information and delivering content for the JOS DVD.

3. Ceskomoravská jednota neslyšících Czech-Moravian Unity of the Deaf-CMUD (Czech Republic) (P5)

Activities done:

As project partner has returned from the last meeting in Graz, they have immediately started to create DVD module AutoCAD and electronic basis. They were also working with the other project activities – translated materials, creation of e-learning. Even before they have started cooperation with Tomáš Sklenák and a team of deaf student who specialize on technical education. But so far they haven't arranged license for software program AutoCAD. But then they got in touch with company Xanadu and its deputy Mr. Bambuch who helped then on further work on the DVD. Company Xanadu offered to provide for their PC room program AutoCAD e.g. the basic equipment to realize pilot course. They have also got in touch with organization AWI film which provides filming of all video files for our project JOS. This is organization of deaf. They have already made two films in sign languages. Shooting of material Competence box for deaf has already started. During its creation partner have cooperation with organization Trojrozměr - Centre of Czech sign

languages in Brno – Zuzana Hájková supervised the correct translations from Czech languages to Czech sign languages. In this partnership also participated Luboš Hykl, Martin Kulda and Vladimír Čudek who did a very good job as well. Partner's work was extremely demanding and they had to fulfill everything in very short time. They have faced some little problems when searching the right technical expressions in sign languages. Finally they have managed it well. Also they had to deal with special Czech letters. Now partner from Czech Republic is happy that project continues successfully. They all believe that the result of the project will be exploited even after the termination of the project JOS.



4. CREA–Confederación de Empresarios de Aragón (Spain) (P6)

Activities done:

Project partner has continued working on the preparation of the evaluation forms.

5. Anastasis soc. Coop. a r.l. and Fondazione ASPHI onlus (Italy) (P7/P8)

JOS project – Italian progress

The Italian JOS activities are really frenetic, we are managing different tasks at the same time, because the end of the project is coming and last steps are the most complicated!

During last period we have re-established the national partnership, so only just the end of the meeting we have convened the national round table (see photos), involving:

- experts about teaching methodology for deaf people
- responsible for national association of sign language interpreters (Animu)
- responsible for Institute for deaf people (Gualandi Institute)
- experts about relations with companies and employment of people with disabilities

During the round table, we have organized:

- The carrying out of 3 days work-shop for trainers. The work-shop will be from 4th to 6th of November. The teachers will be Mr. Dino Giglioli (Animu – President), Mrs Cristina Manferdini (ASPHI) and Mr Giuseppe Pellegrino (Anastasis).
- A team with experts working for ASPHI, Anastasis and Animu, have found the trainers who will take part in the 3 days work-shop.
- The carrying out of 4 hours work-shops for hearing and for deaf people.

- The dissemination and information activities that will be done during Handimatica. Handimatica is the most important Italian exhibition in the field of disability and technology, will take place in Bologna from 27th to 29th of November. Very concisely, during Handimatica ASPHI will manage the public activities related to JOS (conferences, press conferences, etc.), Anastasis will handle a few demo points where will be possible to see and to try the JOS products (courses, DVD, etc.)

Furthermore we are terminating the production of the different "box competences". We have finished the translation in Italian sign language of the contents developed under the project (CAD, Electronic, box competence for deaf people) and we are uploading these files to CMS system.

We have also completed the adaptation of the documents "WP220 - Box of cultural and language competence for hearing people and "WP230 - Training & Employment standards for education and enterprises", so now we have transformed these documents in "learning objects", using our WEB CMS system (www.integrazioni.it)



6. Siauliai labour market training and counselling Office (Lithuania) (P9)

Activities done:

Project partner was responsible for preparation of the newsletters. Right now project partner is focusing on the JOS information day, which is planned to be held on the 28th of November. Also project partner is preparing an article for the newsletter.

7. Mürzzuschlager Innovations- und AusbildungsgmbH (Austria) (P3) and University of Applied Sciences (Fachhochschule Joanneum) (Austria) (P11)

Partners has been working on..:

Further development of the DVD system

- Some minor changes to the user interface
- Improved handling of video controls
- Bugfixing

Further development of the CMS system

- Improved performance of self export feature
- Implemented Spanish language in the CMS
- Fixed character encoding issues for the Czech CMS
- Implemented guest account and read-only mode in the CMS
- Bugfixing

Setup of the JOS SignTeach eLearning system and adjust it to the projects needs (<http://www.signteach.info/moodle>)

- Implementation of JOS SignTeach design
- Set up eLearning accounts for all partners

Dissemination – presentation of the JOS SignTeach system at different occasions

- Setup of domain signteach.info (<http://www.signteach.info/index.php?lang=english>)
- Work for the upcoming DVD production



For further information please visit also www.jos-eu.org