

## **HSE Joining project addresses the need to develop a harmonized training for Health, Safety and Environment training in joining technologies**

It will provide technical personnel on the health, safety and environmental system with the necessary expertise and most recent knowledge within a European Harmonized training course

Welding is an essential joining technique in the metalworking sector. Over 2,500,000 jobs in Europe are, directly or indirectly, connected to it. As in any other industry, the safety and well-being of the workers is always under intense scrutiny and stringent regulation. But although standards pertaining to the quality requirements of welded products already exist within Europe (EN ISO 3834 - Quality Requirements for fusion welding of metallic materials), no European or International standards dealing with environment and safety of personnel specifically related to welding is currently available. Tackling this particular issue, a consortium with five partners, is leading the development of a curriculum for training in joining, that matches market (employment) needs and requirements to job seekers.



The project's impact will be felt across Europe, since the training will cover a specific market demand, the need to deliver training that would decrease the exposure to hazards, for example, on hot materials and spatter, confined spaces, toxic fumes, among others.

The project gains even more relevance because it will ensure that the skills development is done at European level, aligned with the European market needs, and then transferred to the national level.

As a result of its thorough market analysis and field knowledge, the consortium members have identified and proposed as main objectives for the Health and Safety Environment for Joining project, the following:

- To create a training guideline recognised at European level;
- To develop training tools, an assessment database and a serious game;

This project builds on the earlier success of WeldTrain HSE, carried out in Romania and Poland, in which training materials were developed for the technical personnel with responsibilities in fields like environment, health and safety management related to welding. As a result, the new project will go beyond that and develop a curriculum, and the necessary material for its implementation in training activities in joining. ISIM (Institutul National de Cercetare Dezvoltare in Sudura si Incerari de Materiale), IIS (Istituto Italiano della Saldatura) and ISQ (Istituto de Soldadura e Qualidade) were already partners in the WeldTrain project and represent the basis of the HSE Joining project. They are all recognised Vocational Educational Training providers in their own countries and a part of EWF's network.

## Expected impact

Prevent exposure of joining professionals to hazardous situations in the workplace, while performing their tasks in the workplace, by delivering a training course that will raise awareness of the professionals on the most prevalent risks in joining fabrication.

Common VET qualifications are currently offered on a local or national level and are unable to cope with the requirement. Henceforth, the HSE Joining project aims to close this gap and deliver a European qualification standard, improve the quality of the VET systems by incorporate the common European tools (Learning Outcomes, EQF, etc.) and promote the transparency and recognition of competences.

The long-term impact of this project will be felt at the national level, through continuous dissemination and exploitation activities promoted by each partner; exploitation of the new curriculum among stakeholders, policymakers and decision makers. At the European level, it will be reached through dissemination and exploitation activities among partners network, as well as by leveraging EWF members to ensure the transfer of the project results to other European countries.

## PARTNERS

The consortium is formed by: [Vervolmakingscentrum voor lassers \(Belgium\)](#), [Instituto de Soldadura e Qualidade \(Portugal\)](#) [Istituto Italiano della Saldatura Ente Morale \(Italy\)](#), [Institutul National de Cercetare Dezvoltare in Sudura si Incercari de Materiale Timisoara \(Romania\)](#), [ISQ e-learning, SA \(Portugal\)](#) and European Federation for Welding, Joining and Cutting (Belgium).



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## About the European Federation for Welding, Joining and Cutting

EFW is a pioneer in implementing a harmonised qualification and certification system for joining professionals. Through European projects, EWF has been innovating in training methodologies, and involved in the development of new technologies and uses for joining. Through its member organisations, EWF has established a firm link to the local industry, providing knowledge and training as well as participating in research initiatives that address the most pressing questions and challenges in the field of joining technologies.

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