

## Best Practice cases in VET - Spain (Partners: AIDIMA)

### E – LEARNING COURSES FOR THE WOOD, FURNITURE AND RELATED INDUSTRY

This course is run by AIDIMA – Technological Institute of Wood, Furniture, Packaging and Related Industries. It is not certified and it is qualified as . This is equal to level 1 of the National qualification Framework and European qualification framework.

The aim of the course to train students and / or workers in specialized thematic related with the wood, furniture, packaging and related industries. To improve the knowledge transfer with the on line availability and the short duration of the courses.

After finishing, the trainees will be able to understand the standard practices in a wood and furniture company. They acquire a global point of view of the company, of the sector, markets, quality management systems, etc. but also they are specialized in every process in the company: Design and prototyping, manufacturing and logistic processes, TICs, finishing methods, etc. This kind of training makes that the most of students get a management work place after the course is immediately finished..

The methodology used in the lectures combines theory and practice, and audiovisual means and computers for design and management. Moreover, students visit companies, fairs of the sector and workshops. When students finish their theoretical and practical lectures, they do internship in a company of the sector (for two months)

After course the trainee:

Obtain a global point of view of the matter of the course (Raw materials, Logistic, Organization, Design, Processes, Products, etc.) and specific knowledge about concrete aspects: adhesives, wood, boards, paints and varnishes, manufacturing processes, quality, modelling and prototyping, furniture, etc

**Learner/Employer motivation:** The practical knowledge that this course offers and easy access to jobs in wood and furniture sector of the region after the completion of the course are the main motivating factors for learners. Employers find this course particularly useful in that they are getting new employees with skills that adjust to their need. The course is 100% financed by European social fund which makes it possible for employers to get skilled people at zero cost.

**Student retention:** The course is mainly for unemployed people. The attendance is obligatory. If the student is absent for more than 20% of the hours of the course, they are not certified and fail. Most graduates have fruitful careers in the given industries.

**Funding:** IMPIVA (Valencia Institute for SMEs) and the European social fund.

**Course Evaluation:** There is a formal course evaluation in place involving each of the students and the course instructors.

**Quality Assurance** The Training Department of AIDIMA has been certified in 2005 by AENOR (Spanish Association of Standardization and Certification) on the ISO 9000 model for the “Design and Teaching of on the job and vocational training courses for the wood, furniture and related industries” (UNE – EN ISO 9001:2000). Every year the training department must pass an audit in order to be certified.

**Why this is an example of Good Practice**

**Course provider's view:** Course is highly specialised, easy to run because of the high motivation of attendees and also the sector.

**Participant's view:** The course offers new perspectives for unemployed people and guarantees them a new job. It is tailored to meet the needs of the students but also the industrial sector.

**Industry's view:** The course programme is adjusted to industry needs. It respects the needs of the local wood and furniture sector.