



# **Challenge: Adapt your teaching to the demands of industry 4.0**

(Practical activity for teachers during  
INTENT summer school)



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## Time to solve the challenge

6 hours approximately

## Description of the situation

Your school has been working with a company for many years already. You've sent students for apprenticeship periods since 1990 and many of the current workers of the company are alumni from your school, from different VET disciplines.

The relation with the company couldn't be better and they have always shown great satisfaction for the students sent, highlighting their great technical background and their good attitude.

The company is now going through a transformation process in order to adapt to industry 4.0 and digitalization. This is bringing technological changes but also, even more importantly, organizational changes. The company tells you about this and demands something from you. Although they are very happy with the students you've sent to them along these years, now they need something else. They have carried out an internal analysis to define the soft skills they need in their future (and current) workers to be able to implement the organizational changes necessary to adapt to industry 4.0. This is what they demand:

- People able to work in multidisciplinary teams.
- Flexibility to change departments, change working teams and even change professional profiles (reskilling and upskilling).
- Global vision of the company, the different departments and how each of them is related to each other and how the work in one affects the rest.



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- Global approach to problem solving, analysing situations with a wider scope, not only bearing in mind their specific tasks or specific department, but also the rest of the departments in the company.

In order keep providing suitable students/future workers to the company, you will need to adapt to these demands. Therefore, the way you teach, will need to change as well. Until now, you have taught your subject without worrying too much about what other teachers are teaching to your students. Moreover, although you have an idea of what other teachers teach to your students, in the same VET programme, you have no idea what students learn in other VET programmes and/or how what they learn could be related to what you teach and what your students learn.

The challenge we give you is to work in pairs, with a teacher from an area different to yours, to define the starting points of a possible module/activity to be carried out by students from different VET areas working together.

The template you will use to define this draft module/activity will be given by the facilitator. When the time comes, you will present the result of your common work to the rest of the participants in the summer school.

We hope this activity will inspire you to promote cooperation among teachers from different areas in your own school. Even more, maybe you will find a good international partner by exchanging with your peer during the activity. Who knows, *this could be the beginning of a beautiful friendship*, as someone could say!

## Learning objectives

L01: Understand the importance of interdisciplinary teaching to train students to be ready to work within the structure of a company and its different departments.



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**L02. Being able to work with peers from different disciplines to develop a common learning setting for students from different VET programmes.**

**L03. Being able to work with peers from different countries, promoting international skills.**

**L04. Understand other disciplines and other approaches to teaching.**

## Resources

If you need inspiration to solve the challenge propose, along the summer school you will be presented with 3 real experiences of interdisciplinary teaching: administration/manufacturing, product design/marketing and logistics/IT.

On the other hand, you also count here with an annex of examples of real interdisciplinary cooperation projects existing in HETEL's VET schools.



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