Q-PLM - QUALITY ASSURANCE FOR VET PROVIDERS USING

PRODUCT LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT

NEWSLETTER 2

The partners within the Q-PLM projects continue working together with the aim of transferring, in an adapted form, the tool of product lifecycle management (PLM) that is primarily being used in the industrial and IT area to the field of further education.

There are millions of products on the economic market, including services. Vocational education and training is one of these products. All products, including vocational educational and training products have a lifecycle and each lifecycle must be managed. In this context the lifecycle of VET products must also be managed. Active PLM facilitates product control, planning, adaptation and innovation, thus enabling a market-orientated approach of the portfolios in further education. The Q-PLM project foresees the development of an IT-based tool for an integrated product lifecycle management for VET providers.

PHASES OF PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS FOR VET PROVIDERS

During a trilateral work group meeting in Graz /Austria in February 2014 the following 4 main phases of the product lifecycle for VET products were defined:

1 Design/decision
2 Development
3 Delivery
4 Evaluation

KEY SUCCESS FACTORS FOR PLM IN VET

Services and products on the vocational education and training (VET) market are being influenced by a vast number of factors and variables.
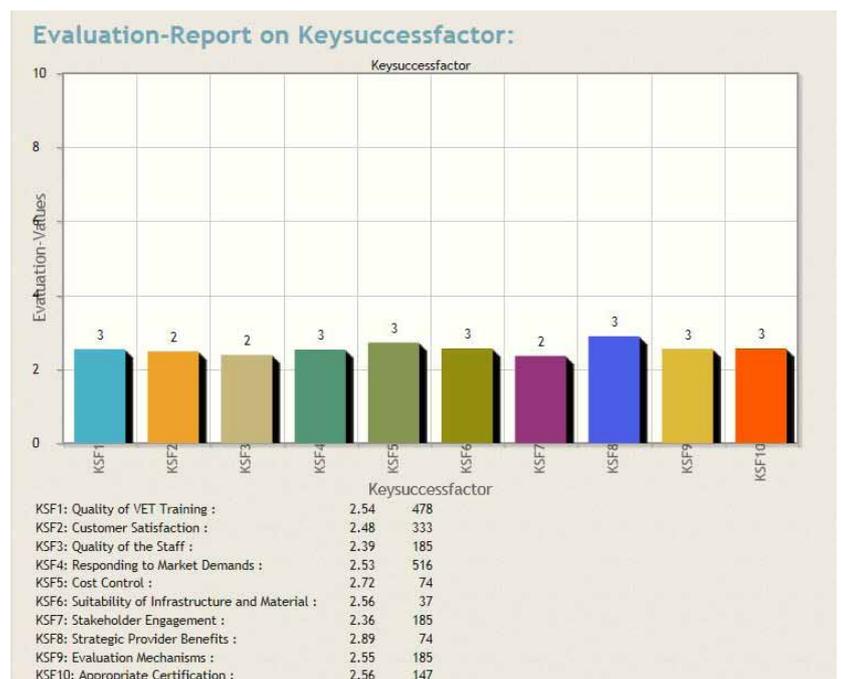
Key Success Factors are factors that directly affect customer satisfaction such as cost, quality, time and innovative products and services. It is necessary to use a combination of important factors in order to accomplish one or more desirable business or educational goals. Within the Product Lifecycle Management Key Success Factors it is possible to combine the indicators listed above and split them into a smaller number of important factors that will ultimately determine the success or failure of a VET product.

The following ten Key Success Factors, which have an influence on the product lifecyle of VET products, were identified within the project partnership:

- Quality of VET Training
- Customer Satisfaction
- Quality of the Staff
- Responding to Market Demands
- Cost Control
- Suitability of Infrastructure and Material
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Strategic Provider Benefits
- Evaluation Mechanisms
- Appropriate Certification

OUTLOOK ON THE Q-PLM SOFTWARE FOR VET PROVIDERS

The Q-PLM software can be used for the coordination of training programmes in the VET market, and for the control of the processes and product portfolios of the training providers, thus making it easier to monitor and better visualize the business processes and the product. The software will be available in all partner languages in a printed and in a downloadable version.

Evaluation-Report on Keysuccessfactor:

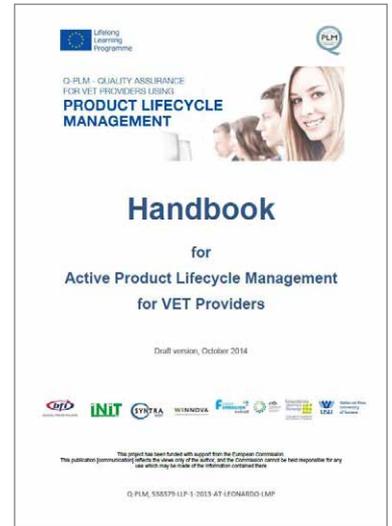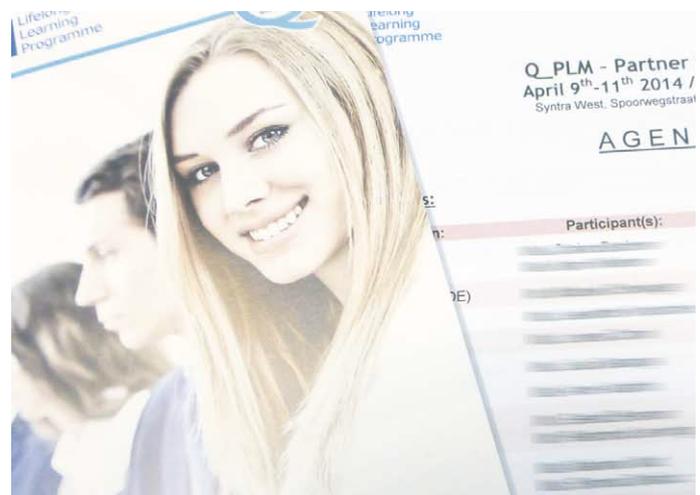| Keysuccessfactor		
KSF1: Quality of VET Training :	2.54	478
KSF2: Customer Satisfaction :	2.48	333
KSF3: Quality of the Staff :	2.39	185
KSF4: Responding to Market Demands :	2.53	516
KSF5: Cost Control :	2.72	74
KSF6: Suitability of Infrastructure and Material :	2.56	37
KSF7: Stakeholder Engagement :	2.36	185
KSF8: Strategic Provider Benefits :	2.89	74
KSF9: Evaluation Mechanisms :	2.55	185
KSF10: Appropriate Certification :	2.56	147

Q-PLM HANDBOOK

The Q-PLM handbook gives a detailed description of the use and application of the Q-PLM software, its technical and functional specifications and its target groups. The handbook will be available in all partner languages; it will be printed and will be available on the Q-PLM webpage.

3RD TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP MEETING IN CORK / IRELAND

The 3rd international partnership meeting took place in Cork / Ireland in November 2014. During this meeting the draft version of the Q-PLM software was presented and discussed by the partnership. Partners agreed on the content of the Q-PLM handbook and set the next steps for the testing and feedback phase of the Q-PLM software and handbook.

For further information please take a look at the project website
www.q-plm.eu
or join us
on Facebook!