

# European Welding Federation VET System

*Silent  
Knowledge captures  
unspoken insights  
based on work-based  
experiences.*



## iQVet

### D2.3



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# The EWF VET system description

The most important national institutions within the area of welding (either unprofitable or partially unprofitable organizations) take part in the European Welding Federation (EWF). The federation is constantly evolving its education and training curricula's according to the participation of all its members and the help of industry representatives. When such curriculums are fully developed the goal of the federation is to further promote them and include them as a part of new European standards or regulations.



The EWF vocational qualifications follows the system described in guidelines common to all participating countries:

There is a system in place to prepare the initial guidelines, proposed to the members.

The initiative for a development of a new curricula always comes from the industry needs

The initiative is put up to a vote between all the EWF members, if the development of a new educational system is in the best interest of all the partners, they form a work group that further develops the system and its guidelines. The workgroup always comprises of its initiator and competent members who have a personal interest in the further development. The group always invites to join the group different competent stakeholders from the industry

The workgroup creates a proposition of the new guideline, which includes the minimal requirements for:

- The accreditation of national providers of training.
- Curricula with defined Workload hours, Teaching hours, Learning output(Knowledge, Skills and competences), required Modules as competence units and precise description of many items (lectures) which should be included in any course and learning materials.
- Candidate minimum entry requirements.
- Learning materials.
- Examination (national or as many as possible harmonized examinations) and requirements for the qualification examination personnel.







The guideline is presented and proposed to all the EWF members and through them also to the industrial partners.

After optimization of the guideline according to different suggestions from the federation members, the guideline is considered finished.

The guideline is confirmed by majority of the EWF members.

The guideline and public version of guideline are published.

National EWF members are picking interested organizations that would like to apply the new training or educational system.

The interested organization goes through the preparation and auditing stage.

HEWF members confirm the accreditation of organisations according to the auditor's recommendation with a vote.

Pilot courses are done.



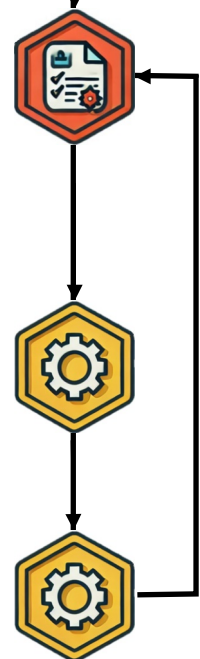


The participants of the course get an internationally recognized diploma or a certificate if they complied with all the conditions stated in the new guideline.

Renewal audits are done in a specified timeframe by authorized EWF auditors, and constant improvements of the educational system are done by course providers and Authorized National Bodies - ANB.

New cycles of courses and quality assurance activities are done.

The EWF employs a special group of experts specifically for the promotion of EWF membership in countries that are not yet participating in the harmonized system and trying to further the interests of the members by implementing the EWF educational systems or diplomas in new European or national standards and European directives or regulations.



#### EWFs best practice:

A few years ago, EWF has established a partnership with ISO technical committee 44 when developing the new ISO standard and other technical boards, and thus managed to get a mentioning of EWF welding coordinator training inside the standard EN ISO 3834 and ISO 14731 thus ensuring that a few ten thousand candidates were educated according to the EWF system. Both standards were taken into the European regulative, meaning that their adoption is mandatory in all of EU and its suppliers. Currently the European directive system can only be described and not named, but the good practice coming from it is still good for the recognition of the system in the coming years.

In current railroad directives the EWF system for educating/training bonding personnel has become an obligatory requirement in most European countries.