



New Models for European in-Company Certification and Accreditation Training

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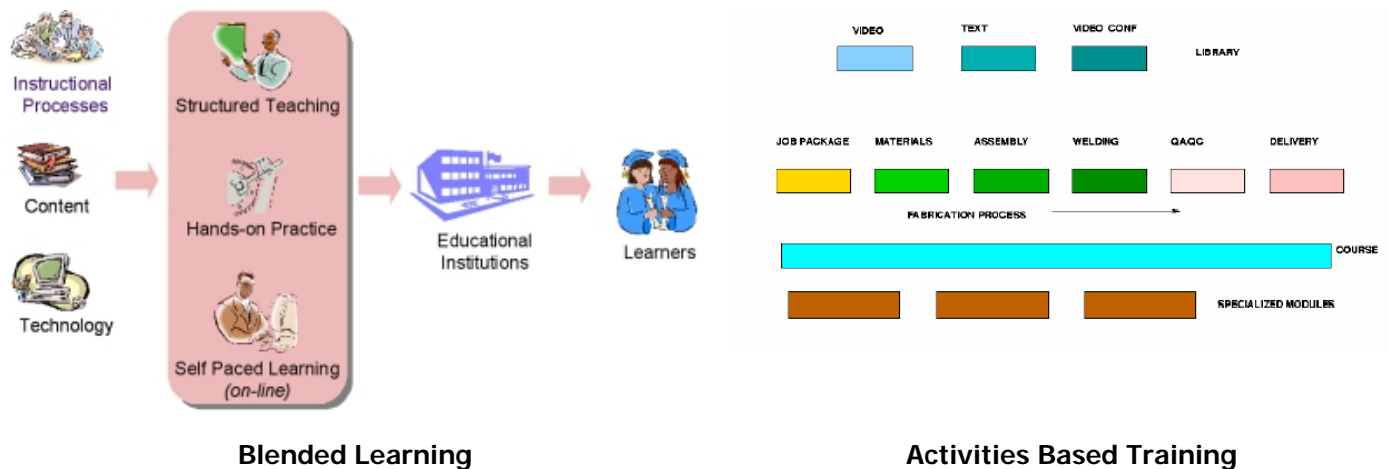
Objectives

MECCA validates new principles for in-company, cost- and time-effective skills development. It facilitates virtual mobility in companies by enhancing presence at a distance for instructors and staff through the use of visual communications tool, including conferencing and streaming. The project aims to:

- **Improve the effectiveness of in-company certification training** through blended learning that is based on video presentations of techniques, targeted mentoring, and European certification standards.
- **Increase the collective capabilities and knowledge** of welding sector SMEs through targeted training.
- Help **reduce training costs** including costs incurred by travelling and lost working days.
- Deliver **train-the-trainer programs** targeting needs in specific training scenarios related to the wider welding sector, including the shipbuilding industry, the off-shore services industry, boiler works, and energy sector-related industries.
- **Promote the application of European standards** by integrating European Welding Federation directives on quality management in the training process.

Blended Learning and Activities-Based Training

- MECCA pedagogical methodologies are based on Activities-Based Training organized around job-driven welding certification requirements for specific procedures, metals, and applications.
- MECCA training delivery uses the Blended Learning paradigm that combines in-class instruction, self-paced learning, hands on practice, and videoconference-based tutoring. This paradigm ensures flexibility in learning through on-line collaboration while it maximizes the social aspect of training through increased face-time.



Visual Communications in Education

- MECCA deploys videoconferencing in Blended Learning and Activities-Based Training scenarios to increase face-time between instructors and learners.
- MECCA deploys video streaming for vivid demonstrations of best practices anytime, anywhere.
- To facilitate the adoption of technology, MECCA develops targeted train-the-trainer courses on the integration of state of the art visual communications in well-developed instructional processes.



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