



DRIVES' Quarterly Newsletter

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In this issue we interviewed **João Santos**, a **Senior Expert on Vocational education and training, apprenticeships, adult learning**, at the **Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission**, to talk about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and of the digital and green transitions on the European labour and apprenticeship markets.

Follow the [link to read the full interview](#).

DRIVES' News

What have we been working on?

In the past trimester, the partnership has been working on different key aspects of the project. Below we have included some of the most relevant issues. For further details see our report [here](#).

Webinar on Automotive Sector Skills and Transformation

Last May, the consortium organised a webinar for 145 people on "Automotive Sector - Skills and Transformation". It was an opportunity to gather automotive stakeholders to discuss skills trends for the sector and reflections on recovery measures and action plan for successful restart post-COVID. The audience had the opportunity to hear the points of view from representatives of the DRIVES and COSME projects, from several industry association representatives (ACEA, ETRMA, CLEPA) and from the European Commission. More information, a summary with highlights of the webinar and the presentations is available [here](#).

The Skills4Automotive platform initiative

During this COVID period the DRIVES and the ALBATTTS projects launched an online platform - <https://www.skills4automotive.eu> - to share free courses related to the automotive industry and e-mobility, made available by major world-renowned universities. It was meant to guide reskill and upskill home education of the workforce in the automotive sector. This platform was a success initiative, recognised by several services of the European Commission, and accessed by more than 4,500 people, covering a wide geographical area. This initiative may become the reference for digital education in the automotive sector.

Report on the European Automotive Apprenticeship Marketplace

An important outcome was the report on the European Automotive Apprenticeship Marketplace that aims to **support the development of a shared understanding of the marketplace to help the automotive sector design and deliver apprenticeships effectively and meet identified challenges**. A Summary version of the report is available [here](#).

DRIVES workshop at EuroSpi 2020

Some of DRIVES' partners are preparing a workshop on "[Digitilisation of Industry, Infrastructure, and E-Mobility](#)", at the EuroSpi 2020, at Hochschule Düsseldorf, 9.-11.9.2020, in Germany.

DRIVES Blueprint works on drivers of change to assess future trends in the automotive sector and associated skill needs. In doing that, also engages with youngsters to get their perspective of the future in relation to mobility and the automotive ecosystem. This provides examples and experiences that can become models to consider by stakeholders as detailed below.



GESTAMP led young people to discuss the future of the automotive industry

During the month of February, within DRIVES apprenticeship strand of work, GESTAMP hosted an event entitled "**THE JUNIOR AUTOMOTIVE APPRENTICESHIP ADVISORY BOARD**". This event gathered 16-18 year olds, from six different countries, to think collaboratively about the future of the automotive industry, not only in the professional field but also in Academia, raising awareness about the importance of vocational training. Full summary of the conclusions of the event [here](#).



High-Level Conference - "Skills and Transformation of the EU's Automotive Sector", 23th of September 2020

European Commission is launching the conference in the context of two initiatives: ***COSME - Towards a common vision on addressing SMEs skills needs in the automotive sector: strengthening the development of upskilling and reskilling strategies*** and ***Erasmus + Sector Skills Alliance project, DRIVES***.

The conference will be an opportunity to discuss the ongoing challenges for skills in the sector, reflect on the future and hear experiences about solutions and best practices for updating skills. The event will bring together policymakers at national and supranational levels, experts in the field, training providers, OEMs and SMEs.

Full agenda and registration [here](#).

Save-the-Date: Regions & Skills in the auto industry - Week of Regions Side Event

The automotive sector is a cornerstone of technological and industrial development, impacting on job creation and economic growth. To compete in the international stage, the EU's automotive industry has to be ahead of drivers of change, preparing and adapting workforce.

Regions are a major stakeholder in this equation. They often have discretionary power over policy strategies and funding impacting these industries as well on VET skills policy. **Two ERASMUS blueprint projects – DRIVES and ALBATTs**, are crucial pieces for guiding skills full readiness of the automotive sector, involving regional entities.

More information on this event soon.

Stay tuned via the DRIVES website and our other media channels for more news!

EU's Policy Update

The European Commission is developing a set of initiatives that will impact greatly the automotive sector, such as the [new Industrial strategy for Europe](#), the [EU green deal – new transport strategy to cut emissions](#) or the [Updated the Skills Agenda for Europe](#).

Read our policy update to know more about what is on the table - [here](#).

EU News

[Support for innovation in the European car industry: EIB finances Gestamp's RDI strategy to the tune of €200 million](#)

The Spanish multinational **Gestamp**, which specialises in the development and manufacture of metal components for the automotive industry, is receiving a EUR 200 million loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB) to develop new research lines enabling the production of safer, lighter and therefore more environmentally friendly cars.

[Can 3D printing reduce environmental impacts in the automotive industry?](#)

As 3D printing, also known as additive manufacturing (AM), begins to replace conventional manufacturing, the environmental impacts of its implementation must be assessed. This study conducted a life cycle assessment (LCA) to investigate the environmental and resource implications of using AM to manufacture the metal parts of an engine in a light distribution truck. In the LCA, the impacts of both present and possible future states of AM technology were compared with current conventional manufacturing. The results suggest that there are potential environmental and resource benefits¹ to AM technologies, but

that these benefits rely on the achievement of a clean energy source and further technological development.

[EU must engage in lithium standards or lose to China, official warns](#)

EU industry chief Thierry Breton is urging EU governments to be more active in setting global standards for ultralight battery metal lithium, key to many strategic industries and electric vehicles, or cede technological advantage to China.

[EV battery boom dims, for now](#)

Three decades of advances took lithium ion batteries from powering handheld Sony camcorders to propelling Tesla's popular electric vehicles. The rapid rise is facing a major test in the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Spain Plans \\$4.2 Billion Lifeline for Auto Industry](#)

The Spanish government unveiled a 3.75 billion-euro (\$4.2 billion) stimulus program on Monday for the country's car industry, Europe's second-biggest.

[Carmakers should emerge greener from the crisis](#)

Governments need to tie financial aid to commitments on climate

[Germany earmarks 500 million euros for electric car charging: sources](#)

The German economy ministry wants to earmark 500 million euros (\$567 million) from Berlin's bumper stimulus package to support the roll-out of charging stations for electric cars, two government sources told Reuters on Tuesday.

Events

[How connected technologies can achieve vehicle efficiency benefits today](#), 9/7/2020

[Future Mobility Europe](#), 13-14 /7/2020

[Lessons from restarting an automotive plant safely](#), 14/7/2020

[How to use artificial intelligence to automate vehicle user interface tests](#), 29/7/2020

[EuroSpi 2020](#), 9.-11 /09/ 2020

[20th International Automobile Recycling Congress 2020](#), 2 – 4/9/2020

[25Th International Congress for Battery Recycling 2020](#), 16 – 18/9/2020

[17th European Lead Battery Conference](#) 22/09/20

[Batteries Experts Forum](#) 29/09/20

[World of Automation](#), 29/09 - 02/10 2020

[International Conference Automotive Wire Harness and Electronic Distribution System](#), 30/09 - 01/10 2020

[Batteries Event - 22nd Edition](#) 07/10/20

[Battery Tech Expo](#) 08/10/20

[The Battery Show Europe](#) 15/10/20

[Future Battery Forum 2020](#) 10/12/20

[20Th International Electronics Recycling Congress 2021](#) 20/01/21

[Battery Conference 2021](#) 27/04/21

[International Conference on Lead-Acid Batteries](#) 08/06/21

[ees Europe 2021](#) 09/06/21

For more information on our project:



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