THE VIRTUAL EDUCATION COMMUNITY ARTICULATION AND OPERATIONAL MODEL

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1. THE ECHEMTEST⁺ ROADMAP

In order to convert as much as possible chemical knowledge from tacit into explicit, as is the mission of the ECTN Association, the VEC SC adopted the Prosumer (Producer+Consumer) model at the end of the EU funded EC2E2N2 project. This was achieved by launching the self-funded ECHEMTEST⁺ project in the year 2017 after implementing the EOL (Exams On Line) Open Source software on the Cloud, porting on that platform the related **EChemTest®** Libraries, running a 2nd Training event in Perugia, signing the relevant VEC Agreement with the Institutional Test Centres and Agencies and adopting the Chem-Learn portal developed as a joint endeavour by the University of Perugia and its former spinoff Master-UP srl.

The results of the year 2017 in terms of Self Evaluations Sessions (SES)s were BUDAPEST (627), MILANO (571), KRAKOW (510), VIENNA (310), GENOVA (163), KAZAN (123), AMSTERDAM (95), THESSALONIKI (48), PERUGIA (48), LJUBLJANA (11), NAPOLI (8).

2. THE VEC STANDING COMMITTEE

At the same time the VEC standing committee was reorganized as **e-test Commission** dealing with **EChemTest**[®] and having a consultation role on e-test quality and sessions as well as on issues of electronic education and related activities (the present material has been used to redesign the web page of the VIRTUAL EDUCATION COMMUNITY (VEC)). The number of its members was significantly reduced with three of them being appointed by the AC (the Chair, the coordinator for **EChemTest**[®] and the coordinator for Learning Objects (**LO**)s) and two of them elected (the user representative and the TC Coordinator representatives (see Table 1).

Role	Name	e-mail
Chair (appointed)	Prof. Antonio Laganà	lagana05@gmail.com
Coordinator for EChemTest [®] (TC teams,	Dr. Noelia Faginas	piovro@gmail.com
Library committees,)	Lago	
Coordinator for Learning objects	Dr. Sergio Tasso	srg.tasso@gmail.com
(Distributed repository, audiovisuals,)		
User Representative (elected)	Prof. Sanjiv Prashar	sanjiv.prashar@urjc.es
Test Center Teams Representative (elect.)	Dr. Heinz Krebbs	heinz.krebs@tuwien.ac.at

TABLE 1: E-test Commission

The e-test Commission maintains a Panel of Library Experts (see Table 2) to the end of carrying out the development and maintenance of the **EChemTest**[®] English master library, organizes international initiatives, takes care of the **EChemTest**[®] promotion at international level and of the issuing of related Certificates.

TABLE 2: Panel of Library Experts

Subject	Name	e-mail
General Chemistry 1 (Pre-University)	Prof. Kristiina	kristiina.wahala@helsinki.fi

General Chemistry 2 (University access)	Wähälä	
Analytical Chemistry 3 (Bachelor)	Prof. Milt Karayannis,	mkaragia@cc.uoi.gr
Biological Chemistry 3 (Bachelor)	Prof. Arne van der Gen Prof. Blanka Kralova	arnevandergen@hotmail.com blanka.kralova@vscht.cz
Chemical Engineering 3 (Bachelor)	Prof. Severine Camy Dr. Anne-Marie Billet	severine.camy@ensiacet.fr annemarie.billet@ensiacet.fr
Inorganic Chemistry 3 (Bachelor)	Prof. Sanjiv Prashar Prof. Marina Rui	sanjiv.prashar@urjc.es marina@chimica.unige.it
Organic Chemistry 3 (Bachelor)	Prof. P. Gärtner, Dipl. Ing. Heinz Krebs	peter.gaertner@tuwien.ac.at heinz.krebs@tuwien.ac.at
Physical Chemistry 3 (Bachelor)	Prof. Gergely Toth Dr. Krisztina Kovacs Dr. Gabor Vass	toth@chem.elte.hu kkriszti@chem.elte.hu vassg@elte.hu
Computational Chemistry 4 (Master)	Dr. Noelia Faginas Lago	piovro@gmail.com
Conservation Science 4 (Master)	Prof. Evangelia Varella Dr Ioannis Kozaris Dr. Elena Koliarmou	varella@chem.auth.gr ikozaris@chem.auth.gr elena.koliarmou@gmail.com
Advanced Organic Chemistry 4 (Master)	Prof. Oldrich Paleta	Oldrich.Paleta@vscht.cz

3. THE TEST CENTRE NETWORK

The e-test Commission maintains also the Panel of Coordinators of the National Test Centres (NTC)s (see Table 3). NTCs take care of translating into the relevant national language and maintaining the translated version of the **EChemTest**[®] libraries, of organizing **EChemTest**[®] national initiatives and of promoting **EChemTest**[®] at national level. NTCs together with local Accredited Test Sites (ATS)s (see Table 3) take care of administering and reporting Self Evaluation Sessions (SES)s and managing related activities.

TABLE 3: Panel of Coordinators of National and Local Test Centres

Test Centre	Coordination Team	e-mail
NTC.AT	Prof. Johannes Froehlich	johannes.froelich@tuwie
Vienna University of Technology		n.ac.at
AUSTRIA (and German speaking area)	Dipl. Ing. Heinz Krebs	heinz.krebs@tuwien.ac.
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NTC.FI	Prof. Kristiina Wähälä	kristiina.wahala@helsi
University of Helsinki		nki.fi
FINLAND		
TCA.Helsinki@echemtest.eu		
NTC.GR	Prof. Evangelia Varella	varella@chem.auth.gr
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	Dr. Joannis Kozaris	ikozaris@chem.auth.gr

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Ëtvös Lörand University of Budapest	Dr. Krisztina Kovacs	kkriszti@chem.elte.hu
HUNGARY	Dr. Gabor Vass	vassg@elte.hu
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NTC.IT, ATS.PERUGIA.IT	Prof. Antonio Laganà	lagana05@gmail.com
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Only members of the Panel of Experts and of the Panel of NTC coordinators can become members of the e-test Commission. The e-test Commission provides training and accreditation events for NTC and ATS coordinators as well as for members of the Panel of Experts. The e-test Commission also keeps relationships with private Agencies wishing to deliver **EChemTest®** sessions. All members of the e-test Commission, NTC, ATS and all members of the Panel of Experts and of the Agencies have to sign the **Code of Conduct** of the e-test Commission before they commence their duties. In cases of inactivity for four or more years, retraining has to be undertaken by the involved Members to familiarise themselves with current e-test Commission practices.

4. THE OPERATIONAL MODEL

In the operational scheme adopted by the VEC the ECTN Association its member Higher Education Institutions (HEI)s collaborate to produce/utilize their own educational activities and structures. The collaboration leverages the above mentioned **Panel of experts** and **Panel of TC coordinators** and makes use of technical support of its HEI members and Agencies (e.g. using the LibreEOL platform [1], the Chem-Learn portal and the members of a cluster of SMEs operating under the umbrella organization of ECTN acting as market facilitators [2].

As a result **EChemTest**[®] is at present a highly valued European brand featuring top-level Chemistry knowledge assessment activities. Further activities of the ECHEMTEST⁺ project are those aiming at designing and implementing support T&L audio-visual Learning Objects (LO)s on the distributed repository GLOREP.

1] http://echemtest.libreeol.org/doc/ECHEMTestGuide.pdf

2] <u>http://services.chm.unipg.it/ojs/index.php/virtlcomm/article/view/24</u>