

## VEC Standing Committee Meeting: towards a sustainable world-wide operating EChemtest<sup>®</sup>

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**Krakow April 11, 2019, 14:00**

### AIMS OF THE VIRTUAL EDUCATION COMMUNITY STANDING COMMITTEE

The VEC (Virtual Education Community) Standing Committee (SC) of the ECTN Association met on April 11 at 2 pm. The aim of the meeting was to formulate a VEC SC strategy enabling the dissemination and sustainability of the EChemtest<sup>®</sup> activities leveraging recent progress. Thanks to the efforts of the Test Centres (TCs) of the ECTN Association members, the EChemtest<sup>®</sup> activities guarantee the world-wide distributed management of the Self Evaluation Sessions (SEs) allowing the assessment (under controlled conditions) of the European Core Chemistry Competences over a large number of European sites and beyond. *More in general, the VEC SC coordinated TCs activities are making the ECTN Association the reference sustainable European “Open Molecular Science Cloud” (OMSC) community in Education.*

### MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR 2018

After the end of the EC2E2N2 project, during the years **2016** and **2017**, the VEC SC did:

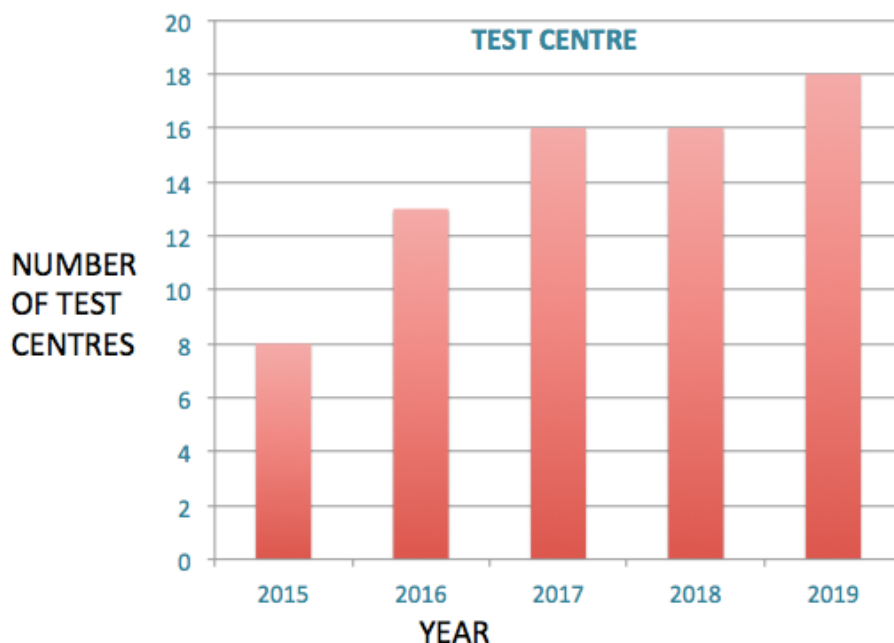
- port on LibreEOL the EChemtest<sup>®</sup> Libraries of Questions and Answers (Q&A);
- adopt the Prosumer model in which the TCs are both Producers and Consumers.

In the year **2018** (<http://services.chm.unipg.it/ojs/index.php/virtlcomm/issue/view/29>) by leveraging both activities the VEC SC did:

- ◆ **run** more than 2500 SEs (see the Table for details),
- ◆ **increase** to 15 the number of TCs and planned 2 more for the year 2019 (see the Figure),
- ◆ **hold** 2 training events and planned 2 more for the year 2019,
- ◆ **start** the second non-EU TC and its SE activities (La Paz, Bolivia),
- ◆ **issue** altogether about 50 Individual Proficiency Certificates (IPCs) with qualifications “Pass”, “Good” and “Excellent” for scores  $\geq 30$ ,  $\geq 50$  and  $\geq 70$ , respectively.

	GC1	GC2	AC3	BC3	IC3	OC3	PC3	CH4	Total
AMSTERDAM		56							56
BUDAPEST			79	41	88	84	92		384
GENOVA		40	39		27	41	39		186
KAZAN		98							98
KRAKOW	360	174	52		58	60	36		740
LA PAZ	1								1
MILANO	63	2	128		126	126	126		571
PERUGIA			2		9	39	4		54
SIENA		12				13			25
THESSALONIKI	16	15						28	59
VIENNA		447							447
Total	441	844	300	41	308	363	297	28	2622

**TABLE – SEs RUN BY THE DIFFERENT TEST CENTRES IN THE YEAR 2018**



**FIGURE –EVOLUTION IN TIME OF THE NUMBER OF TEST CENTRES**

- ◆ **analyse** the number of run SESs (see the Table) and single out that the use of GC1 and GC2 Q&A Libraries equals that of all the other ones. This has prompted more effort for their maintenance and improvement during the the planned Library panel coordinators meeting in the year 2020 at the ECTN General Assembly of Perugia.
- ◆ **organize the EChemtest<sup>®</sup> training activities** within the ongoing European Open Science Cloud **Pillar** project OMSC Workshop (Sept 3-5, [www.dcbb.unipg.it/euco2019](http://www.dcbb.unipg.it/euco2019)).
- ◆ **implement** Mechanisms and Dynamics of Chemical Reactions LOs (assembled with the help of the Multimedia Centre of the University of Perugia) as videos into a private youtube location.

## MAJOR OUTCOME FROM THE MEETING

The meeting confirmed the need for:

- ◆ **yearly reporting/planning** TC activities using the electronic forms of the Chem-Learn portal by coordinating related requests within projects to be approved by the VEC.
- ◆ **further enhancing the sustainability of the EChemTest<sup>®</sup> Prosumer model** (that has already led to a drastic reduction of the costs thanks to the active role of the TCs) by:
  - using credits gained when providing services to offset the costs,
  - training the personnel of member Institutions to ground TC activities on ad hoc projects,
  - getting incomes from EChemtest<sup>®</sup> services (like certificates) to third parties.

During the meeting, advances were made on:

- ◆ **negotiating** with EuChemS the use some EChemtest<sup>®</sup> Libraries to disseminate Chemistry Competence jointly with its National Societies;
- ◆ **defining** with La Paz a roadmap to the establishing of the Bolivia National TC
- ◆ **consolidating** an editorial line for modular Learning Objects, short reports (for publication on the ECTN Newsletter) and longer papers (for publication on Open Journals like VIRT&L-COMM).

## INFORMATION ABOUT SETTING NEW EChemtest<sup>®</sup> ACTIVITIES

**Is your University already member of ECTN?** If yes write to [lagana05@gmail.com](mailto:lagana05@gmail.com) to start the procedure for activating an EChemtest<sup>®</sup> Test Centre.

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**Is your University member of ECTN?** If not write to [anthony.smith@cpe.fr](mailto:anthony.smith@cpe.fr) to start the procedure for registering it as an ECTN member