Know-how on tap everywhere

Ever shorter product cycles, constantly improved production processes, international site locations — optimising a company's own processes makes a standardised and individualised knowledge transfer all the more important. The EUCAM Project conceived by DaimlerChrysler in Mannheim has been designed to do just this. DEKRA Akademie is involved as a partner.

hether during one's apprenticeship or after many years of professional experience — there is always something new to learn, and this is especially true of highly technical sectors such as the automotive industry. Yet, poring over old text books is not enough any more, the breakneck pace of progress no longer allows the luxury of time-consuming reading. What is called for is up-to-date knowledge which can be accessed at any time and, as far as possible, from all over the world. This is a requirement which can only be satisfied by employing a fully developed computer network.

With the Production Learning System (PLS) DaimlerChrysler AG established such a network for its commercial vehicle plant in Mannheim in 2005. It enables, for example, production and assembly workers to access pooled data on work processes and competences per intranet directly from their workplace. The contents are being developed by a project team working alongside experienced staff and specialists drawn from different sources; they are then prepared and made available on a database.

"It turns the place of work into a place of learning and both initial and advanced training can take place directly at the workplace", explains Volker Engert, Project Manager at DaimlerChrysler. New developments and experiences within the company are incorporated into the system on a regular basis just as much as the knowledge acquired from suppliers and machine manufacturers. So far, the results have been very positive: "We have been able to use the system to further improve our qualification measures," confirms Engert.

In conjunction with project partners such as the DEKRA Akademie, the Stuttgart-based software company Infoman or the Language Technology Centre in London, the EU-supported project PLS is now to be introduced in DaimlerChrysler's international



Auch im DaimlerChrysler-Werk Aksaray in der Türkei ist das Produktions-Lern-System im Einsatz.

The production learning system can also be found in use at the DaimlerChrysler plant in Aksaray in Turkey.

commercial vehicle plants by the end of September 2007 — in the appropriate language for the country concerned and taking into account the cultural specifics as regards learning. EUCAM (Multilingual Communication in European Car Manufacturing)

»Wir haben DEKRA bewusst als Partner gewählt, weil die Akademie als Anbieter von Fortbildungsmaßnahmen eine wichtige Rolle spielt!« »We deliberately enlisted DEKRA as a partner because the Akademie plays an important role in providing advanced training measures!« makes it easy and inexpensive to transfer knowledge beyond plant and national borders.

The DEKRA Akademie, one of the country's largest further training establishments, is lending its support to this project. "EUCAM is intended to clarify how far the results can be applied to other branches in order to also further optimise our own further training offers in the same way," said Dr. Peter Littig, Director of Training Policy at the DEKRA Akademie. This is because one thing is clear — "further training is all the more efficient, the better the disseminated contents can be actually dovetailed into the actual work and problems at the workplace."



Volker Engert, Projektleiter Produktions-Lern-System, DaimlerChrysler.

Volker Engert, Project Manager – Production Learning System, DaimlerChrysler.



Dr. Dipl.-Math. Peter Littig
Direktor Bildungspolitik/-strategie
Director of Training Policy / Strategy
DEKRA Akademie GmbH
Tel +49.7 11.78 61-29 65
Fax +49.7 11.78 61-26 55
E-Mail: peter.littig@dekra.com