

Trial the e-learning for free!

From its launch until the end of August the trial version of the complete REAL SKILLS EUROPE refrigerant leakage e-learning programme is free.

In return we ask that users provide some feedback on its usability, level of detail and suggest any improvements necessary. Those who complete the trial and pass the assessments can apply for REAL SKILLS EUROPE CPD (Continuous Professional Development) Certificate proving their expertise and knowledge in optimising the reduction of refrigerant leakage.

The e-learning package is based on industry input from site surveys, and has been subject to expert review from seven EU countries including Germany, Poland, UK, Belgium, Estonia, Greece and France.

What you will learn from the trial

The purpose of the programme of guidance, tools and e-learning is to

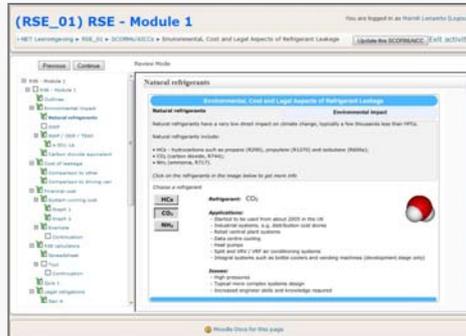
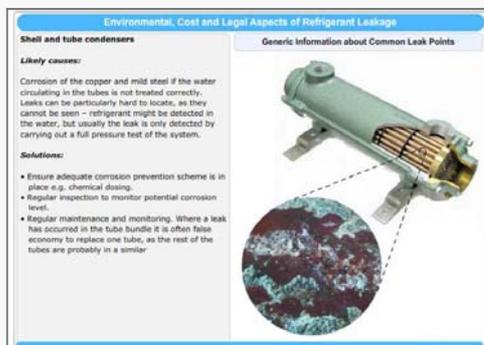
improve knowledge and understanding of refrigerant leakage. The programme comprises modules covering:

- Environmental awareness, financial impact, regulatory framework, and TEWI-concept.
- Legal obligations of RAC-system owners, operators and maintainers and practical tools to help fulfil these.
- Importance of system design, installation and commissioning for minimising leakage
- RAC-system maintenance concepts, best practice regimes and methods including direct and indirect leak detection methods.
- Analysing and diagnosing problems
- Tools to help communicate with system owners the business benefits of improved containment.
- A methodology for more detailed site surveys and comprehensive reporting for clients

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coming soon..

- 6-7 June 2011** - Partner meeting at EERC, Tallinn, Estonia
- 8 June 2011** - Launch event in Tallin, Estonia organised by EERC
- End June 2011** - Open day and launch in Belgium organised by KHLim
- 4 July 2011** - Launch event in London, UK organised by IOR/LSBU
- 4-7 July 2011** - Paper to be given at ECOS Conference in Serbia www.ecos2011.com/
- 21-26 August 2011** - 23rd IIR International Congress of Refrigeration in Prague, Czech Republic www.icr2011.org
- 5-6 Sep 2011** - Closing partner meeting at NTUA Athens, Greece



Sample pages from the learning platform model

UK Launch - 4 July 2011

Join us to find out more about the project, the e-learning and how your business can use this to implement a leakage reduction strategy!

The UK launch event takes place in Central London on 4th July at 1.30pm. Attendance is free for but places are limited.

Register now at <http://www.realskillseurope.eu/events>

Invitation to stakeholders

Stakeholders play an important role in the REAL SKILLS EUROPE project and have been recruited from diverse organisations in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning sector, including supermarkets, processing plant owners, building owners, trade associations and professional institutions, research institutes and training organisations, Government bodies and officials.

This project now has more than 80 organisations as stakeholders. Why are they so important? Stakeholders reflect the main beneficiaries and users of the project outcomes. The project will deliver both enhanced vocational training and transfer of skills across national boundaries.

As well as being offered advance and free access to the newly developed international guidance notes, calculators and training material. The individual stakeholders will be influential in finalising the contents, design and processes involved in delivering a relevant, beneficial and user friendly e-learning package for the sector throughout Europe.

Their direct involvement will also increase their profile as an organisation tackling environmental issues and supporting increased skills initiatives across the EU.

At this crucial stage between April -

September the stakeholders will have the opportunity to influence how this material will be delivered for their workforce in the future with a focus on:

- course content
- ease of use and navigation
- level and complexity
- ease of reference to supporting material
- relevance of assessment questions
- overall value of training module to your workforce
- suggestions to improve the content or method of delivery

You can still register as a stakeholder to take part in the trials.

New project partner CETIM joins the team

The Technical Centre for the Mechanical Industry (CETIM) has recently joined the REAL SKILLS EUROPE project team.

This is great news as this means that the material can also benefit from partner representative Xavier Cazauran's experience in the field of leakage reduction and agree a translation into French of the guidance notes and elearning material.

CETIM's is a scientific and technological institute based in France. They recently published a good practice guide for the detection of refrigerant leaks and a book on the containment of refrigeration equipment. www.cetim.fr/cetim/en

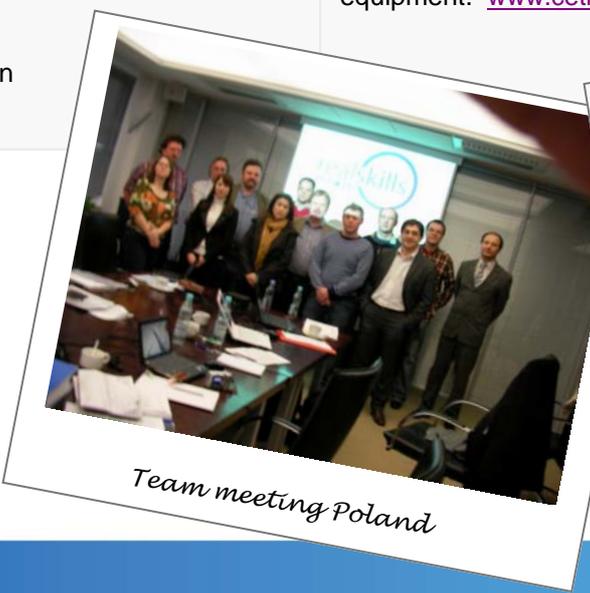
achievements, objectives & deadlines

achievements to date:

- Report on national priorities published
- Stakeholders at national and EU level engaged in the review process
- Survey of training needs and updating of material taken place
- Design and content of e-learning programme developed
- Key performance indicators and measurement tools in place
- Website areas for partners, stakeholders and communications with the general public
- Publicity and communications strategy being implemented in all partner counties

next stage activities:

- Launch e-learning training scheme
- Publication of updated guidance notes and tools
- On going evaluation of feedback and use.



Team meeting Poland



Testing the E-learning

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partners prepare for launch with Working Group meeting at the National Refrigeration Forum, Poland

In January the partners held their fourth project meeting at NRF in Warsaw, Poland. The purpose of the meeting was to finalise the e-learning design and preparations for trialling the material with stakeholders.

- There were a number of action that had to be completed to achieve this including:
- Incorporation of comments from the stakeholders in the seven EU member states taking part in the project.
- Review of proposed updates to the carbon calculator and refrigerant use tracking spreadsheets.
- Mapping of new learning outcomes to the proposed content for the e-learning and linking this to the end of unit assessment questions.

The representatives from KHLim the e-learning specialists, demonstrated some of the module screens and took feedback. The participants worked in groups reviewing in detail each of the four e-learning modules.

A list of additional videos, photos and sources of information to populate some of the module screens was agreed and partners offered collect material locally and forward this on to the developers. These included:

- Picture of a high pressure switch
- Video of pipe brazing
- Video of flare connections
- A good commissioning image
- A video of pipe bending

Preparing for the launch

In preparation for the launch of the e-learning to stakeholders the following actions were agreed for each partner:

- Reviewing the lists of stakeholders
- Preparing invitation letters
- Designing CPD certificates for those who pass the assessments

■ Arranging stakeholder events

The collection of feedback from the stakeholders who trial this draft material will be crucial to future success of the e-learning programme in the coming years. Therefore the group had a lengthy discussion of how this should be collected and what level of detail would be required in the responses.

All feedback would be gained through an on line questionnaire to be completed at the end of each module. This would include an evaluation of what the users liked, disliked, thought could be improved and how well the contents related to the assessment.

At the same time the group is preparing for a wider launch within the RAC communities in the member countries once the draft material is finished. Films, posters, newsletters and launch events are all being proposed together with extensive PR and technical papers at forthcoming RAC conferences.

Future sustainability

Finally the on going sustainability of the project was discussed. The EU Leonardo funding support concludes in September with the public launch of the e-learning material, but all partners are committed to putting mechanisms in place to ensure the widest take up of the training well into the future. This means discussion of issues such collation of results, ownership, future revision and wider use outside member counties need to be considered fully at this early stage.

The project partners concluded that the scene is now set for a truly innovative and accessible approach to improving industry skills on leakage reduction throughout the EU and are looking forward to the results of the trialling by stakeholders over the summer.

meet our partner - NRF Poland



NRF represents more than 120 companies employing 3,000 people in the Polish RAC industry with an annual turn over in excess of 250 million euro. It provides its members with information and advice on legislation and professional qualifications.

Actively participating in the creation and modification of legislation, standards and technical requirements for national and international level, NRF serve their members through

- information about legislation and draft legislative acts
- developing professional qualifications and training system
- working with four regional Centres for Training and Certification.
- co-operating with leading Polish scientists working in national technical universities.

NRF is responsible for leading the work package on piloting and testing of elearning material and guidance

KRAJOWE FORUM CHŁODNICTWA - Związek Pracodawców

National Refrigeration Forum - Association of Employers (NRF), Poland.

<http://www.kfch.pl>

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project outcomes and milestones

project result	date available
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website set up with public, stakeholder and partner areas. 	Completed www.realskillseurope.com
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overviews of national situation on refrigeration emissions & leakage reduction training needs published 	Completed report available
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated refrigerant leakage guidance notes and calculators issued for review by stakeholders 	Revision of calculators completed. Guidance Notes being finalised.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifications for the training scheme developed in consultation with stakeholders 	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-lingual versions of revised guidance notes and tools previewed to stakeholders 	To be completed during April 2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e-learning and assessment scheme set up for multi lingual trialling 	Launching April 2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance Notes and tools launched formally on the public website 	Spring 2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed e-learning package launched publicly in all partner countries 	June/July 2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring of take up and survey of users 	September 2011

the EU Leonardo da Vinci programme

The Programme funds practical projects in vocational education and training as part of the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme. Activities include 'mobility' initiatives enabling people to train in another country, co-operation projects to transfer or develop innovative practices, and networks focusing on topical themes in the sector.

It enables organisations in the vocational education sector to work with partners from across Europe, exchange best practices, and increase their expertise. A core objective is to help people to gain new skills, knowledge and qualifications, and boost the competitiveness of the European labour market.

Innovation projects are key to the programme. They aim to improve the quality of training systems by developing and transferring innovative policies, courses, teaching methods, materials and procedures.

http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-programme/doc82_en.htm

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