



PRESS RELEASE

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Employment and competitiveness in the automotive industry: A shared vision of the future

The final event of the European project “Anticipation of Change in the Automotive Industry” will take place on Wednesday, 14th October, at the European Parliament in Brussels.

During the whole-day conference experts from academia will explore good practices in anticipating and matching labour market and skills needs to increase employability within companies and regions; a rich panel of discussants from the industry, trade unions and European institutions will then debate how disruptive changes and future developments can be anticipated in order to boost competitiveness and retain a strong manufacturing base in Europe.

On this occasion the project’s partners, CLEPA and EMF, will also present a joint declaration on this subject.

“**Anticipation of Change in the Automotive Industry**” is a 12-months project (November 2008 - October 2009) co-funded by the European Commission under the Progress programme and carried out by CLEPA and EMF (and ACEA and CEEMET as observers) to implement some action points of the “European partnership for anticipation of change in the automotive industry” signed in 2007.

The main objectives of the project are:

- to investigate automotive trends for 2020 and good practices in anticipation of change both at company and regional level;
- to identify HRM strategies for increasing the skills level and the employability of the workforce;
- to analyse automotive regions and clusters.

From the three studies carried out to reach these objectives it emerges that action should be taken in order to:

- **create of a Pan European Observatory** that draws upon the best practices of different sources, acts to co-ordinate activity between the existing observatories and makes policy options available to key stakeholders in order to make decision-making longer-term oriented;
- **increase resources for primary research** on the objectives and challenges of the automotive industry, so that firms can better align themselves strategically;
- **set up specific partnerships** with the support of the **European Social Fund**, to minimise the social impact of restructuring;
- **finance** through the European Social Fund **business and education initiatives** that focus on the tools and techniques of anticipation in the automotive industry.

Stakeholders have a vital role in anticipating and managing change and are currently planning to launch a second phase of their joint initiative whose main goal will be to organise a broader debate on: mobility, quality of life and societal demands; impact of regulatory changes and integration of the supply chain.

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CLEPA is the European umbrella membership organisation representing the interests of the global automotive supply industry. 82 of the world's most prominent suppliers for car parts, systems and modules and 28 National trade associations and European sectoral associations are members of CLEPA, representing more than 3,000 companies, employing more than three million people and covering all products and services within the automotive supply chain.

Based in Brussels, Belgium, CLEPA is recognized as the natural discussion partner by the European Institutions, United Nations and fellow associations (ACEA, JAMA, MEMA, etc).

www.clepa.eu



EMF, the European Metalworkers Federation, is the representative body defending the interests of workers in the European metal industry on behalf of 72 metalworking unions (and 4 associated organisations) from 33 countries, with a combined total of 5.5 million members.

The EMF was established in 1971 and has a mandate for the external representation and coordination of the metalworkers' unions and a mandate to engage in bargaining at European level.

www.emf-fem.org