

Dear reader,

I am glad to inform you that last 25th November, Cotance, Euratex and IndustriAll, the Social Partners of the Textile, Clothing and Leather Industries met for kicking off the second year of activities of the EU TCL Sector Skills Council.

This year the planned activities are structured in 5 phases (1. User based harmonisation; 2. Council meetings; 3. Researches and reports; 4. Involvement and awareness; 5. Annual conference). The Social Partners have just completed the first phase. In co-operation with the EU Commerce Sector Skills Council, we have explored the positioning of EU Sector Skills Councils in relevant EU policies. That exercise has finished with an Information Exchange workshop with representatives of the European Commission and other Stakeholders.

The members of the TCL Skills Council have also made good progress in "Involvement & awareness"; the network of the Skills Council is getting larger. On one hand, the Board welcomed our colleagues from CEC (European Confederation of the Footwear Industry). And on the other hand, the network of ISP's has been enlarged with the adhesion of Fundacion Tripartita para la Formacion en el Empleo, the Spanish Observatory. Both, CEC and Fundacion Tripartita, already attended the first TCL Skills Council on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

In this issue, among other information, our ISP's tell us about some of their activities done during last year. We collected their activities related with best practices, people trained and people who start apprenticeships in the sectors.

I hope you enjoy the reading.



**Gustavo Gonzalez-Quijano**  
COTANCE Secretary General and  
Board member of the EU TCL SSC

## Latest news:



Confédération Européenne de l'Industrie de la Chaussure  
European Confederation of the Footwear Industry  
Rue de la Sablonnière 10/12 Bruxelles  
Tel: +32 2 205 44 51 [www.cec-footwear.eu](http://www.cec-footwear.eu)

Brussels, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013

To: Mr. Francesco Marchi  
Secretary General  
European Apparel and Textile Confederation  
Mr. Gustavo Gonzalez-Quijano  
Secretary General  
Confederation of National Associations of  
Tanners and Dressers of the E. C.

Mr. Luc Trépoigt  
Deputy General Secretary  
IndustriAll Europe

(Only by email)

Dear Sirs,

Subject: European Skills Council for Textile, Clothing and Leather

As you know, the European Confederation of the Footwear Industry and IndustriAll Europe re-launched the Footwear Social Dialogue at European level on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2013 in Brussels. On this occasion both parties representatives agreed in to give priority to education and employment in our sector, in particular by promoting activities addressing skills needs and job opportunities.

We consider that the European Skills Council for Textile, Clothing and Leather offers the appropriate platform to address activities and interchanging of good practices in this field. Our "main job sector" face similar problems and challenges to face and together we could identify the best options while benefiting from synergies.

I would therefore like to formally request the enlargement of the European Skills Council for Textile, Clothing and Leather to the Footwear Sector.

Looking forward to receiving your news, I remain at your disposal for any information you may need.

Yours sincerely,

Jean-François Renaudin  
President

Copy to: vvv, DG Employment

Our colleagues from CEC (The European Confederation of the Footwear Industry) requested the enlargement of the European Skills Council for Textile, Clothing and Leather to the Footwear Sector.

The European Confederation of the Footwear Industry and industriAll Europe re-launched the Footwear Social Dialogue at European level on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2013 in Brussels, giving priority to education and employment in the Footwear sector, in particular by promoting activities addressing skills needs and job opportunities.






The EU TCL SSC Board accepted this request, and, in a first stage, CEC is going to be included as an observer of the board meetings and then as a complete board member.

## Some information about our ISP's ("Industry Skills Partnerships")

At the beginning of this second year of activities, the TCL Skills Council counts with 5 ISP's and we expect to enlarge this network in the upcoming months.

In the following table you can find some general information of the activities done by each ISP

<http://europeanskillscouncil.t-c-l.eu/eng/NetworkofObservatories.aspx>

	 Creative Skillset	 COBOT	 IVOC / IREC	 Osservatorio Nazionale Concia	 OPCALIA
	Creative Industries' Sector Skills Council	Center for vocational training in the Flemish textile industry	Institute for Research and Training in Dressmaking	National Tanning Observatory	OPCALIA Textile – Fashion – Leather Division
<b>Trained people</b>	In the 2011/12 academic year there were: 4,961 enrolments onto Creative Skillset Fashion and Textiles Further Education learning activities in England; 145 Wales (2010/11); 485 in Northern Ireland and 2,432 Scotland	Trained 1.856 people in the Textile Sector	Trained 3.612 people in the Clothing Sector by IVOC or trained with financial support from IVOC	- Trained 585 people (380 from Italy and 205 from other countries) through 24 courses in leather issues - LP Fashion Studio organised meetings for schools and students in leather and trained 575 people	Trained 30.083 people: 56% in Textile; 34% in Clothing and 11% in Leather Sector.
<b>Best Practices</b>	- Creative Skillset has developed two Higher Level Apprenticeship pathways in Technical Textiles and Product Development and Sourcing - The Creative Skillset Tick, a kitemark of quality indicating the courses and apprenticeship best suited for a career in the Creative Industries has been expanded into Fashion Design.			- Orientation activities for young people to improve the attractiveness of the sector - " Friends For leather": Project initiative that aims to improve the image of the leather sector in young students through different activities	
<b>Apprenticeships</b>	425 learner starts on Fashion and Textile Apprenticeships in England and Scotland during the 2012/13 academic year.	COBOT has trained 229 tutors (in different textile companies)	33 work placement of students in fashion education, accompanied by IVOC		2.365
<b>Other</b>	-Creative Skillset has partnered with Huddersfield Textile Centre of Excellence to create the National Fashion and Textiles Group Training Association, which helps employers across all subsectors meet their Training needs.	Trained 49 participants from other sectors than the Textile (unemployed, suppliers, constructor companies, etc. whose work is linked with the textile industry)	304 job seekers, teachers, employees from other industries than TCL, ... trained by IVOC or trained with financial support from IVOC	- Promotion of cultural activities in order to elevate the image of the Leather sector and to make it more attractive (The ballet "The coat of dragon skin " with 4.000 participants) - Vocabulary of Leather published in Nov' 2013 with a glossary for producers, vendors, and designers of consumer.	



## Project Activities Calendar:

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- ❖ Skills Councils - Workshop Seminar: Monday **17<sup>th</sup> March 2014** → TCL EU Skills Council jointly with Commerce EU Skills Council organise this meeting
- ❖ TCL Sectoral Skills Council meeting: Tuesday **18<sup>th</sup> March 2014**
- ❖ TCL Sectoral Skills Council meeting: **29<sup>th</sup> September 2014**
- ❖ Final TCL Sectoral Skills Council Conference: **28<sup>th</sup> November 2014**



## Interesting web-links

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The **Erasmus+** programme aims to boost skills and employability, as well as modernising Education, Training, and Youth work: [http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/index_en.htm)

European **Skills Panorama** provides information and intelligence on skills and jobs: <http://euskills Panorama.ec.europa.eu/>

**ESCO** v0: It is the European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations taxonomy. <https://ec.europa.eu/esco/home>

**Youth on the move**: package of policy initiatives on **education** and **employment** for young people in Europe. [http://ec.europa.eu/youthonthemove/about/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/youthonthemove/about/index_en.htm)

DG Enterprise & Industry > the **Leather** tanning industry  
[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/magazine/articles/industrial-competitiveness/article\\_11064\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/magazine/articles/industrial-competitiveness/article_11064_en.htm)

DG Enterprise & Industry > **Textiles and clothing** industry  
[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/textiles/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/textiles/index_en.htm)

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