

SAM's Unveiling of Additive Manufacturing Skills Strategy

Brussels, 21.07.2023 – The [SAM project](#) funded by Erasmus+, stands at the forefront of shaping the future of Additive Manufacturing (AM). With great anticipation, this initiative unveils its updated Skills Strategic Roadmap to 2030, a game-changing blueprint that charts the course for AM's education and training landscape. This comprehensive roadmap identifies seven key impacts, presents 30 strategic recommendations to overcome challenges in the AM industrial implementation process, and introduces the International Additive Manufacturing Qualifications System (IAMQS). The IAMQS comprises a collection of professional profiles, qualifications and courses, and an European Observatory Platform that displays updated data on AM trends, skills shortages and mismatches, together with captivating content such as, articles, reports, enriching events, and information about AM education and training courses. The SAM project has enriched the AM landscape, propelling it into an era of boundless possibilities.

Over the course of four and a half years, SAM has spearheaded diverse initiatives that have engaged students, trainees, trainers, and European citizens of all ages, unlocking a world of opportunities for career growth. Within this context, the recently updated [Skills Strategy Roadmap 2023](#) emerges as a visionary framework, meticulously bridging industry gaps by identifying strategic initiatives and corresponding activities.

Operating in harmony, the "Roadmap" structure and accredited training providers enable the implementation of each strategic initiative through the [AM Observatory](#) and the deployment of the ground-breaking ([IAMQS](#)).

Some of the existing qualifications in AM, already contemplated in the IAMQS such as [the Metal AM Coordinator](#), the Metal AM Engineer for PBF-LB, were revised during SAM while new qualifications and/or competence units were designed according to the needs of the labour market. As an outcome, an Online Qualifications Catalogue was developed to compile the AM training offers. The IAMQS education and training activities were regularly conducted from 2020 to 2023, through 34 courses (most of them remotely) focused on advanced and specialized subjects in the field of AM processes, materials, design, standardization, and even business development and sustainability, reaching more than 900 participants.

As part of SAM activities, the implementation of the IAMQS and delivery of AM training was ensured through a consolidated network of training centres complying with the EWF Quality Assurance System. The implementation process followed a top-down approach, meaning a transnational curriculum for AM was defined, addressed by harmonised training guidelines, and then up taken at the national level by each training centre, under supervision of the representative organisation in the AM field.

A total of 17 [training organisations](#) are now authorised for the IAMQS implementation in Italy, Spain, Germany, Portugal, Turkey, Ireland, England and France.

Additionally, SAM has organized eight highly successful National and Regional Roll-out events for the IAMQS, expanding AM expertise across diverse geographical locations.

The resounding success of the SAM project is exemplified by tangible accomplishments. A good example of cooperation was reached between Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Higher Education (HE) institutions, which through a joined effort, delivered the 1st European Course for Metal AM Coordinators, thus mobilizing their expertise and resources to qualify the first group of AM Coordinators for Industry. Notably, the project's impact is demonstrated by the completion of the

inaugural "[International Metal Additive Manufacturing Coordinator](#)" course in May 2023 with 58 registered students and the awarding of 38 Diplomas.

The SAM project's website (www.skills4am.eu) has also evolved into a captivating platform, offering an array of engaging tools tailored for children, students, AM professionals, and teachers. Through dynamic resources such as flyers, quizzes, interactive sessions, thought-provoking podcasts, a captivating comic series, and informative presentations ([3D Printing](#)), the website captures the attention of learners, immersing them in the world of 3D printing. Among SAM's engaging activities, TECH4KIDS hosts interactive hands-on sessions, fostering curiosity and knowledge among children, leaving an indelible mark on the project's impressive legacy. To ensure that no significant insights are missed, the project has compiled a [Booklet](#) featuring all 13 articles developed by the consortium, covering various aspects of AM.

As the SAM project triumphantly concludes, its unwavering commitment to sustainability and leaving a remarkable legacy is evident. With around 3500 participants enrolled in Open-day events and 4315 children/youngsters involved in dedicated Tech4kids events, approximately 500 quizzes, and thousands of people reached, the project has significantly increased its social media following. Embrace the chance to join our dynamic community of ambitious [Students, Trainees & Jobseekers in Additive Manufacturing](#) gaining exclusive access to upcoming insights that will fuel your success.

About the SAM project:

SAM project is the Sector Skills Strategy for Additive Manufacturing. It is coordinated by EWF, and the consortium is formed by the following 17 partners for nine countries: AITTIP, ANSYS, Brunel University London, CECIMO, EC Nantes, EPMA, FAN 3D, IDONIAL, IMR, ISQ, LAK, LMS, LORTEK, Materialise, MTC and Politecnico di Milano.

For those interested in being part of the AM Community network and participating in implementation and/or development of IAMQS, please contact us at ewf@ewf.be.

If you would like to know more about the Sector Skills Strategy Roadmap to 2030, visit our website (<https://www.skills4am.eu/>) and get actively involved in our activities.

[SAM Podcasts](#)

[SAM educational material for Children](#)

[SAM educational material for Youngsters](#)

Together, we shape the future of Additive Manufacturing!