

Business field specific qualification  
for the Second-Hand sector  
„specialist for used electrical appliance“



Summarization of the national qualification concept  
for Slovenia

Neža Pavzin, Blaž Weber, Marinka Vovk

**Contact in Slovenia**

Neža Pavzin  
Šolski center Nova Gorica  
Medpodjetniški izobraževalni center-MIC  
Tel.: +386 5 6205 736  
[neza.pavzin@scng.si](mailto:neza.pavzin@scng.si)  
[www.scng.si](http://www.scng.si)  
Blaz Weber  
Tel.: +386 5 6205 734  
[blaz.weber@scng.si](mailto:blaz.weber@scng.si)  
[www.scng.si](http://www.scng.si)

**Project management and  
coordination of the project**

Heike Arold – INBA nachhaltige  
Berufsbildung und Arbeit  
Tel.: +49 (0) 4331 148791  
[arold@inba-sh.de](mailto:arold@inba-sh.de)  
[www.inba-sh.de](http://www.inba-sh.de)  
Ralf Kaufmann – nordprojekte  
Kaufmann&Partner  
Tel.: +49 (0) 4331 – 7707711  
[kaufmann@nordprojekte.de](mailto:kaufmann@nordprojekte.de)  
[www.nordprojekte.de](http://www.nordprojekte.de)

## Content table

<b>1. European concept as the basis for the national concept</b> .....	3
<b>2. Recommendations of the European concept</b> .....	3
<b>3. National concept</b> .....	3
3.1. Key factors for Slovenia.....	4
3.2. National concept in practice and dilemmas .....	4
<b>4. Aim of the qualification</b> .....	5
<b>5. Quality standards</b> .....	5
<b>6. Modules and learning areas</b> .....	5
<b>7. Current practice in Slovenia and finalization</b> .....	6

## 1. European concept as the basis for the national concept

The basis for the national concept provides the European concept for a business field specific qualification for the Second-Hand sector “specialist for used electrical appliance” that has been developed in the Erasmus+-project “QualiProSH Electro” and the related qualification profile and the quality standards that have been developed in two previous Leonardo da Vinci-projects “QualiProSecondHand” and “QualiProSH II”. The respective teaching and learning contents and aims as well as the competencies and skills that are taught in the context of the qualification were identified in the previous projects by detailed work process analysis by the Institute Technology and Education (IT+B) of the University of Bremen” under the leadership of Heike Arold. The content and the structural implementation has been adjusted in accordance with the national framework of the Slovenian vocational and education system, possible potential labour market conditions and the need of the target group in Slovenia. The present national qualification concept was developed by the Slovenian partner of the Erasmus+ project “QualiProSH Electro” Nova Gorica School Centre under the leadership of the “nordprojekte Kaufmann&Partner” und “INBA – Institut nachhaltige Berufsbildung und Arbeit”.

## 2. Recommendations of the European concept

The Waste Framework Directive 2008<sup>1</sup> significantly supports preparing for re-use being the second priority in its extended waste hierarchy. The 7<sup>th</sup> Environment Action Programme 2013<sup>2</sup> says "In 2050, we live well, within the planet's ecological limits. Our prosperity and healthy environment stem from an innovative, circular economy where nothing is wasted and where natural resources are managed sustainably ...". One out of three key objectives is “to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy”. Core elements in the new Circular Economy Package 2015<sup>3</sup> of the European Commission are (durable, repairable and) reusable products. The Circular Economy Action Plan and the latest opinions and publications from stakeholders show the need of qualifications for the emerging re-use sector: „Realising the benefits will also depend upon how well and quickly adequate skills and education for the circular economy can be developed and rolled out“ says the European Environment Agency in its EEA Report No 2/2016. “Investment in education and training will be critical“ says the Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee (NAT/676 – EESC-2016-00042-00-00-APA-TRA).

## 3. National concept

The national qualification concept based mainly in the 2005 revised Lisbon Strategy for sustainable growth and jobs und contributes to the professionalization of the Second-hand business field “used electrical appliance”.

In the following chapters the concept will be described on one hand in general and on the hand its implementation in detail. The quality standards and the EU-concept as well as the didactic elaboration of individual parts (modules and their schedules, content tables and teaching and learning materials) as well as additional products like an assessment instrument to identify lack of skills and an instrument to evaluate the quality of the qualification can be downloaded on the project website **[www.qualiprosh.eu](http://www.qualiprosh.eu)**. It can be also ordered by the above mentioned contact persons.

### **3.1. Key factors for Slovenia**

Effect on the environment which is connected with electrical and electronic equipment (EEO) is relatively large, throughout its life cycle in comparison with other consumer products. Setting priority tasks of re-use OEEEO is approach proposed by the EU to reduce the effects of production and reduce the burden of the life cycle .

Slovenia should treated two key questions in the field of re-use of EEO:

1. How to ensure the reuse of electronic products?
2. What general conditions should be included in the working processes that industry will accept reuse?

It is necessary to examine the critical factors that companies can successfully operate in this area. Preliminary proposals for the inclusion of reuse / refurbishment practices in Slovenian management structure is already proposed OEEEO, which is focuses on the social dimension of reuse.

In the national concept is necessary to take into account the specifications for improving the conditions for re-use and restoration of electrical and electronic equipment that has reached the end of their first life. Consumers must be ensured that any re-use of electrical and electronic equipment is suitable for use in terms of security and function.

It is therefore necessary to include in the education the requirements of PAS141 standard which defines how to manage the preparing process for used electrical and electronic equipment. This ensures that all equipment is inspected and tested in accordance with the requirements. Each piece of equipment is through the preparation process for reuse recorded on all the tests. So, a national concept in Slovenia must be consistent with the standards and it is necessary to adjust the modules for education and training.

### **3.2. National concept in practice and dilemmas**

National concept has been adapted to the state of art of second hand sector in Slovenia. In past few years this field has been progressing, but is still very slow. The reason for that is in lack of funds and disorganisation of the system. One of bigger enterprises dealing with receiving, repairing and reuse of used goods is Center ponovne uporabe d.o.o. , SO.P. , which operates on to the principles of social entrepreneurship and has 9 business units in Slovenia. It is acting as REUSE net .

Šolski center Nova Gorica has offered cooperation at implementing the project to Reuse centres. This is how the testing of the whole qualification “expert for used electrical appliances” has been carried out .

Testing has been done in the business unit Reuse centre Ljubljana. In this bussines unit receives used goods which could be reused, such as furniture, information computer technology, books, home furniture and equipment for spare time, sport equipment, clothes, toys. In Reuse centre goods are prepared for reuse and are on sale for symbolic price. These centres have been developed in the project USE-REUSE and are situated in nine different locations. Promotion, marketing, applying for projects is unique for all centres. Goods are transferred among centres each five weeks which enables circulation of goods depending on different geographical areas.

Testing has been done with a group of employees in the reuse centre and gave them an insight in qualification profile “specialist for used electrical appliance”. This is how employees

gained wide knowledge of the whole process in second hand sector and therefore achieved sustainable use of qualification. If successful then, with cooperation of reuse centres and Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for vocational education and training (CPI), a proposition for development of new national vocational qualification which can be integrated in qualification frame has been prepared.

Testing group has examined qualification frame and gave suggestions regarding their work experiences. Testing of modules has been implemented with smaller group of employees, meaning that group has been formed of eight employees.

Testing group is unifying people of different profiles, mostly employees with secondary or higher level of education. Employees in social enterprise are from hardy employable categories, such as young as much as elder with rich working experiences, highly educated, long-term unemployed, young finishing school, women in their forties etc. They have problems finding job in the field of their profession because of globalisation influence and abolishing production capacity. Mostly are experts in their field of profession but they lack of marketing knowledge which would help to intensify marketing and sales in reuse centres.

#### **4. Aim of the qualification**

Main aim of the qualification is to give an insight in competences and knowledge needed for person working as a “specialist for used electrical appliance” in second hand sector.

#### **5. Quality standards**

The basis for the European comparability of the qualification „specialist for used electrical appliance“ are on one hand the same teaching and learning objectives and contents as well as the same competencies that are taught. And on the other hand the quality standards, which must be considered by each national concept.

To clarify the relevance of different quality standards we have pooled them in clusters that are called input, process and output. The input covers all quality standards that describe the framework of the qualification, the process covers sector-specific criteria and the output covers the results which have to be reached by the qualification.

A detailed presentation and list of all quality standards which have to be considered are summarized and described in a separate document, that can be downloaded on the project website [www.qualiprosh.eu](http://www.qualiprosh.eu) under „**documentation and downloads**“ under **chapter 2.4**.

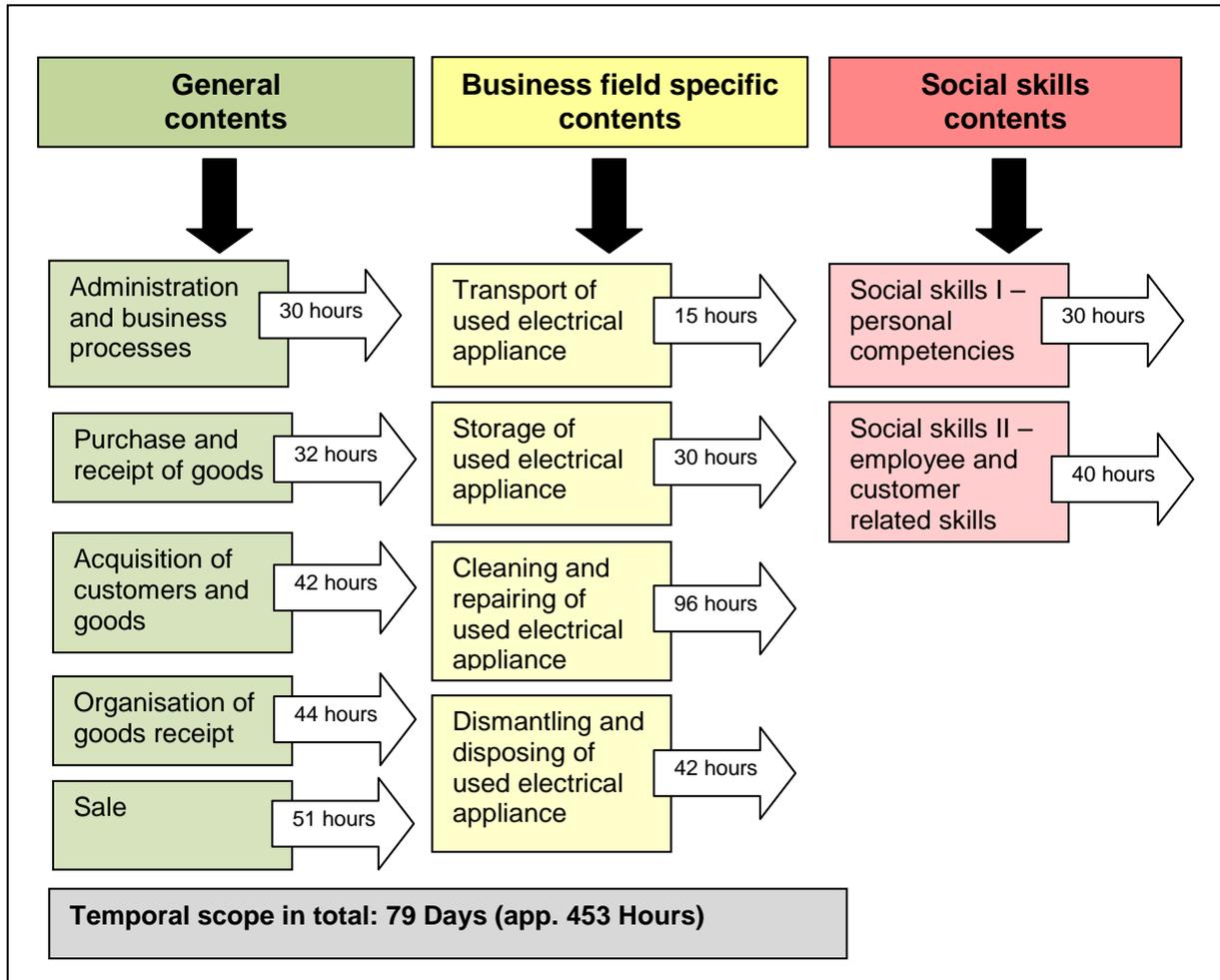
#### **6. Modules and learning areas**

The qualification „specialist for used electrical appliance“ covers three different learning areas:

1. General contents that can be also used in other Second-Hand business fields.
2. Business field specific contents that take into account the specific work processes in the business field „used electrical appliance“.
3. Contents that promotes necessary social skills.

The assignment of the individual modules to the three different learning areas shows the following graph as well as the temporal scope. The temporal scope of each module refers to

the required time, which is targeted for the theoretical transmission of the the knowledge/learning contents. Because the qualification also includes practical learning periods the real scope is much higher and depends on the organisation of the implementation of the whole qualification. The named scope is only a temporal benchmark



## 7. Current practice in Slovenia and finalization

Net CPU has its location in close proximity to assembly centers. So users (citizens) have the possibility to award waste in collection center and useful products in the center of reuse. The frequency of driveways, therefore, does not allow suspension of work. At first it is necessary that all accepted products are diagnosed and then focus on the working process of "preparing for re-use."

In the future it will be necessary to take into account everything we noted in section 3.1. . This will allow further development of this area, which is now just beginning to develop well which proves the first true social enterprise in this area - CPU.