



ProfDRV

**Professional driving – more than just driving!:
Qualification requirements and vocational training
for professional drivers in Europe**

Progress/Final Report

Public Part

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Executive Summary

Professional drivers range in Europe under the top ten jobs employers are having difficulty filling with qualified employees. At the same time this occupation is characterised by a fundamental increase of qualification requirements during the past decades. This situation is especially challenging for the transport industry due to the rather low level of professional qualification within this occupation and a mostly negative image of the job that characterises this occupation nearly all over Europe. Therefore, the qualification of professional drivers moves more and more into focus for industry, politics and other actors concerned by this development. In 2003 the EC introduced a directive on a common certificate of professional competence for professional drivers (driver CPC) in order to address this shortage of qualified drivers and to increase safety on European roads. This directive came into effect in 2009.

In order to respond to this increased interest in the vocational qualification of professional drivers, the project “*ProfDRV: Professional driving – more than just driving!: Qualification requirements and vocational training for professional drivers in Europe*” explored professional driver qualification in selected European countries from a vocational education and training perspective. The project invested both I/CVET qualifications independently from the European directive as well as the implementation of the European driver CPC based on directive 2003/59.

The project results confirm the rather low reputation and value of qualification within professional driving in most of the investigated countries. Generally this occupation is considered as a learning-by-doing job that doesn't need formal training. This also leads to very controversial opinions on the new driver training directive. However, the results also show that especially the implementation of this new driver CPC suffers from a serious shortfall in educational quality of the training and that the chosen input oriented approach of the directive does not lead to the aspired common minimum level of professional drivers' qualification across Europe. The ProfDRV partners explored the approach of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) with regard to its potential to provide suggestions for overcoming this situation. The results are an EQF-compatible learning outcome oriented profile for professional drivers, a set of EQF-based quality standards that consider the heterogeneity of the European VET systems as well as the characteristics of this profession and recommendations for the improvement of directive 2003/59/EC in order to reach the directives aspired aim.

This report provides a summary of the overall project implementation, its results and the future steps planned in order to ensure the project results' sustainability.

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1. Project Objectives

Today the road freight and passenger transport sector provides jobs for more than 4.5 million EU-citizens and already since 1976 (Council Directive 76/914/EEC) professional driver training is considered to be a matter of European interest. During the past decades qualification requirements changed and increased fundamentally for professional drivers because of changes in work organisation, new technical standards, changing legal regulations, market requirements and work environments as well as a fast internationalization of the transport market. These developments contradict with the rather low level of professional qualification and a missing “learning” culture in the branch that characterises this occupation nearly all over Europe and leads, together with a mostly negative image of the sector, already today to an alarming shortage of qualified drivers who possess the qualifications required by employers. Because the qualification of professional drivers is considered to be an important factor regarding road safety with high relevance for all EU member states DG Energy and Transport introduced directive 2003/59/EC that regulates common basic and continuous training for professional drivers.

One of the major aspects the project intended to address is the assignment of directive 2003/59/EC as a European VET scheme to the EQF by drafting an EQF compatible core profile and by developing EQF compatible European educational standards to facilitate real comparability of national implementation approaches. So far the European directive on professional driver qualification uses an input oriented approach that was already in previous projects pointed out to be old fashioned especially when considering that it is a European VET qualification.

The shortage of professional drivers that meets the changed qualification requirements expressed by the transport industry has been another need demonstrated in different scientific publications and targeted within this project. This need has been addressed by analysing the labour market qualification needs on professional drivers as well as by developing standards that are EQF compatible and reflect job requirements and the national realities (work reality and VET systems) and by comparing these findings and models with directive 2003/59/EC and the national implementation approaches.

Another aspect indirectly addressed with this project has been the rather negative image of this occupation that was identified to be another cause for the shortage of professional drivers. The project addressed one aspect of this negative image indirectly by exploring skills, knowledge and competencies necessary to perform competently in this occupation and by exploring possible career paths and other

retention means in order to show opportunities to make this occupation more attractive regarding the dimension of status through qualification and further development opportunities.

Therefore and in order to investigate further into this occupation with rapidly changing and increasing qualification requirements and an alarming shortage of qualified personnel, this project

- explored currently offered as well as with implementation of directive 2003/59/EC replaced or superseded VET opportunities for this occupation in the countries regarding the quantitative and qualitative impact and regarding their ability to increase road safety by decreasing the shortage of qualified professional drivers,
- defined a job/qualification profile for this occupation that describes skills, knowledge and competencies (compatible with the EQF) needed to perform competently in the workplace and therefore to create conditions for employability,
- drafted an EQF based set of quality standards for basic and continuous VET of professional drivers based on projects findings, current European VET developments and directive 2003/59/EC with a strong focus on labour market needs, on the characteristics of this occupation and on the facilitation of the lifelong learning and individual education pathways of persons working in this occupation,
- implemented measures to raise awareness for the qualification requirements necessary to perform competently in this job and
- drew conclusions from the projects findings for future attempts to develop directive 2003/59/EC further.

Furthermore this project made a step into so far uncharted terrain because directive 2003/59/EC allows to keep record of strategies, effects and consequences from this attempt to introduce an EU-wide common VET scheme. Thus it has been another objective of this project to look at this attempt from a scientific/ meta perspective and to research and to discuss this case.

2. Project Approach

In order to reach its aim and objectives the ProfDRV project applied a multidimensional approach that equally includes research, consultation with stakeholders and dialogue based development of innovative solutions. It furthermore included the investigation of the current situation of professional driver qualification in Europe, the development of an EQF compatible profile for professional truck drivers based on drivers tasks and work processes, the drafting of standards for professional driver qualification in dialogue with stakeholders and the initiation of an exchange between bodies related to the policy areas education and transport at European and national level on the implementation of directive 2003/59/EC on professional driver qualification in Europe. The overall project has, therefore, been structured into the following elements:

The exploration of vocational training schemes for professional drivers in Europe

WP 2 explored the landscape of vocational training schemes for professional drivers (incl. implementation approaches of directive 2003/59/EC) and analysed these schemes regarding their ability to address the shortage of qualified professional drivers in Europe and to increase road safety through the training they offer. Within the overall WP a strong research approach has been applied that used desk research and stakeholder interviews as its major basis.

The development of a core profile for European professional drivers

WP 3 went back to the tasks a professional driver has to fulfil and analysed the training needs that result from these tasks in order to perform competently on the workplace. Based on this analysis a core profile has been developed that is defined in "skills", "knowledge" and "competences" in order to describe an EQF-compatible qualification profile for professional driving. Within this WP also desk research has been implemented by considering different qualification profiles from Europe, Canada and other parts of the world, a questionnaire survey has been conducted involving trainers, drivers and employers in order to investigate the tasks of professional drivers and an expert consultation has been implemented in order to develop and verify the profile.

The drafting of European quality standards for basic and continuous training

European quality standards for basic/initial and continuous/periodic training of professional drivers have been developed. The standards have been based on the previous project results, the approach of the European Qualifications Framework and on the expertise of the project partners. They have been presented to a number of

stakeholders from all project countries within stakeholder and expert consultations in order to receive their perspective and point of view with regard to the possible realisation of the standards but also their applicability in the context of professional driver training. Based on the consultation results the quality standards have been revised and national implementation scenarios – highlighting already existing implementation, possibilities for implementation and deficits – have been developed for each of the project countries.

Transport meets Education

In the framework of this workpackage different activities have been implemented in order to start a dialogue between education and transport stakeholders with the intention to improve the implementation of directive 2003/59/EC based on VET considerations. For this purpose the overall project results have been summarised in order to be easily understandable for those very different target groups, joined workshops for these target groups from different disciplines have been implemented, the project provided input to the directives discussion within EP and finally a very successful final European project conference that involved stakeholder and experts from both sides has been implemented that already led to a direct impact for the German discussion.

Exploring the implementation of directive 2003/59/EC

The implementation of directive 2003/59/EC as a unique attempt to introduce a common European vocational education and training scheme from the European level has been documented and analysed within this 6th workpackage. An article ready for publication in scientific journals has been prepared on this unique case. The results have already been presented and discussed with VET experts at different European and national conferences.

External communication and dissemination of results

It has been the intention of this workpackage to inform a wider public about the project and its results. The approaches applied reached from a website, flyers and press releases, a virtual discussion forum, stakeholder workshops implemented at national and regional level in the participating countries, a project newsletter, to social media representations of the project in different languages.

Project management and Quality assurance

These workpackages oversaw the overall project in terms of project management and quality assurance. They include the organisation of regular project meeting, the monitoring of the overall project implementation and the implementation of internal and external quality assurance measures.

3. Project Outcomes & Results

The result of the ProfDRV projects research and development work is a rich pool of

- information on professional driver qualification in selected European countries,
- points of views of different groups of stakeholders such as drivers, employers, trainers, education managers, representatives of public bodies and social partners from selected European countries on professional driver qualification,
- suggestions in order to decrease the alarming shortage of skilled workers within the profession of professional driving under consideration of the “New Skills for New Jobs” initiative,
- innovative contributions to the European debate on EQF application in practice such as an EQF-compatible profile for professional driver (freight transport) and quality standards for the implementation of such an EQF compatible VET programme and
- recommendations for a sound realisation of a comparable European qualification standard for professional drivers under coherent consideration of European VET instruments that are currently applied by all EU member states.

The results can be categorised into different thematic areas, those are:

- (1) Status quo of professional driver qualification in Europe
- (2) The EQF-compatible core profile “Professional driver (freight transport)”
- (3) The ProfDRV quality standards for professional driver training in Europe
- (4) Recommendations and contributions to policy development and implementation
- (5) Further results

Please find the major results that are available on paper below. Further results/ outcomes have been implemented/ achieved in terms of events and impact reached.

All reports and studies as well as documentation of further results/ outcomes are available on the ProfDRV project website (www.project-profdrv.eu). Further outcomes/ results has been developed for dissemination purposes such as the project website, facebook sites, a project flyer and 5 issues of a project newsletter.

(3.1) Status quo of professional driver qualification in Europe

- ["Methods and Assessment in Professional Driver Training"](#), Dec 2011

This ProfDRV paper on assessment and methods within initial and further education of professional driver describes differences and similarities in the partner countries and reflect on further developments and research demands in terms of training/teaching methods applied within professional driver training and in terms of assessment methods and tools. Furthermore the importance of a well defined quality management is discussed just as the necessity to focus methods and assessment on all three EQF categories "knowledge", "skills" and "competences" instead of limiting education and training to "knowledge" as it is the case mostly at the moment.

- ["European findings on VET for professional drivers in Europe"](#), Dec 2011

The European findings summarise the major findings and conclusions drawn from the initial research undertaken within ProfDRV. It discusses the findings on directive 2003/59/EC with regard to the Europe 2020 strategy and draws conclusions on the directes implementation in this regard.

- ["Vocational education and training schemes for professional drivers in Europe"](#), January 2012

This report presents the landscape of vocational education and training opportunities for professional drivers in the countries represented in the project and summarizes its scope of application as well as its acceptance and appraisal by stakeholders in the branch. Thereby, initial and continuous vocational education and training schemes are equally considered. Furthermore the paper dives deeper into the national implementation approaches of directive 2003/59/EC being the training schemes with the major impact on professional drivers' vocational qualification in Europe since it came into effect. It describes these implementation approaches, highlights commonalities and differences and puts them into relation with the national vocational education and training systems and, if applicable, parallel VET schemes for professional drivers in the researched countries. Finally the paper displays already existing or emerging interfaces between professional driver qualification in the investigated countries and the European Qualifications Frameworks.

- **Country case studies on the implementation of directive 2003/59/EC in selected countries**, June - August 2011

[Country case study Austria](#), prepared by 3s research laboratory (AT)

[Country case study Germany](#), prepared by DEKRA Akademie GmbH (DE)

[Country case study Hungary](#), prepared by DEKRA Hungary (HU)

[Country case study Italy](#), prepared by Tk Formazione (IT)

[Country case study The Netherlands](#), prepared by VTL (NL)

[Country case study Spain](#), prepared by ASIMAG (ES)

[Country case study United Kingdom](#), prepared by FTA (UK)

(3.2) The EQF-compatible core profile “Professional driver (freight transport)”

- **["EQF-compatible profile PROFESSIONAL DRIVER \(FREIGHT TRANSPORT\)"](#)**, September 2012

This profile defines the professional profile "professional driver" in terms of learning outcomes defined in "knowledge", "skills" and "competences". The profile is based on the actual tasks a professional driver needs to perform in his/her daily work. It needs to be further specified which of the defined learning outcomes can also be assigned to already existing programmes for drivers such as the driver CPC as defined by directive 2003/59/EC.

- **["Analysis of professional truck drivers tasks as basis for an EQF compatible profile: A summary and discussion of results"](#)**, Dec 2011

This report presents a summary and discussion of tasks analysis results on professional truck drivers tasks as basis for an European Qualifications Framework (EQF) compatible profile. Here, it presents further information on the starting point of this analysis, the results of a first research on professional driver qualification in Europe and other parts of the world, the methodical approach applied in order to elaborate professional drivers' tasks, the tasks analysis results and a discussion of the results as element of the ProfDRV project.

- **["Professional driving a heterogeneous field"](#)**, August 2011

This paper intends to map the scope of the wide and heterogeneous term and occupation "professional driver" and proposes a typology of professional drivers appropriate for further discussion of this occupation within the ProfDRV project and in the context of vocational education and training. Different national education systems and approaches have been investigated in order to propose a common approach to distinguish between different groups of

professional drivers in terms of required qualifications. Based on these results and further consultation with professionals a typology has been proposed based on the criterion of service accomplished by the groups of drivers. The freight transport drivers group has been further elaborated for the purpose of the ProfDRV project in terms of possible specialisations within road freight transport.

(3.3) The ProfDRV quality standards for professional driver training in Europe

- **"ProfDRV Quality Standards for professional driver training in Europe"**, November 2012

These standards are recommendations for vocational education and training of professional drivers (freight transport) in the framework of directive 2003/59/EC and in general. They refer to the ideas of relevant stakeholders, but also to the actual developments in European policy such as the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and ECVET, focusing on learning outcomes and the three dimensions of learning: knowledge, skills and competences defined within the EQF. The standards are based on the research results of the European project ProfDRV.

- **National scenarios for possible implementation of the ProfDRV Quality Standards**, October/November 2012

[National scenario Austria](#), prepared by 3s research laboratory (AT)

[National scenario Germany](#), prepared by DEKRA Akademie GmbH (DE)

[National scenario Hungary](#), prepared by DEKRA Akademie Kft. (HU)

[National scenario Italy](#), prepared by Tk Formazione (IT)

[National scenario The Netherlands](#), prepared by VTL (NL)

[National scenario Spain](#), prepared by ASIMAG (ES)

[National scenario United Kingdom](#), prepared by FTA (UK)

- **"The Development of Recommendations on Quality Standards in Professional Driver Training in Europe in the Framework of Directive 2003/59/EC"**, September 2012

This report presents the development process and the results of the conducted interviews with stakeholders of/on the ProfDRV recommendations on quality standards for the training of professional drivers in Europe. These standards are referring to the directive 2003/59/EC and the EQF with its output orientation.

(3.4) Recommendations and contributions to policy implementation

- **ProfDRV - summarising project brochure**, March 2013
([German version](#))
- **[Input paper on the EC report on the implementation of Directive 2003/59/EC relating to the initial qualification and periodic training of professional drivers](#)**, September 2012

This paper provides an additional input based on the ProfDRV projects results for the discussion of directive 2003/59/EC in the European Parliament based on the [EC report on the directives implementation from July 2012](#). It proposes the application of the EQFs learning outcomes approach in order to address challenges in the implementation of directive 2003/59/EC and to ensure comparability of national implementation approaches by using the learning outcomes approach. It has been forwarded to EU parliamentarians as an additional input.

- **[Professional driver training in Europe: Status quo and future prospects](#)**, November 2012

This paper provides an synoptic overview about the overall project results and findings. It furthermore includes and argues the ProfDRV recommendations for the further development of directive 2003/59/EC.

(3.3) Further results

- **["2003/59/EC – standardised Europe-wide initial and continuous vocational education and training for professional drivers: Strategies, consequences, opportunities and threats"](#)**, January 2012

This Case Study discusses the implications of an EU-introduced common VET-scheme considering the experiences made with directive 2003/59/EC on the initial qualification and periodic training of professional drivers. It further discusses instruments for harmonising educational policies within the Member States of the European Union by reflecting the development and implementation of directives in the EU in general and by reflecting other relevant directives and recommendations. Based on the ProfDRV project findings conclusions and recommendations for the further development of directive 2003/59 and the development of directives that aim at introducing EU-common VET-schemes are drawn.

- **"The Study on the Shortage of Professional Drivers in Canada"**, Aug 2011

The paper provides the reader with an overview of the Canadian trucking industry and the issues that have and continue to impact the shortage of qualified drivers. It provides a historical look at the analysis of the industry going back to 1991 when the Government of Canada looked at the human resource challenges and opportunities of the industry. This study led to the establishment of the Canadian Trucking Human Resources Council in 1994. The paper also describes the work of the Council from the research conducted and the products and services developed to address the human resource challenges.

- **"VET means to approach the shortage of professional drivers in Europe"**, December 2011

This paper discusses VET possibilities to address the shortage of professional drivers in Europe based on a number of studies conducted worldwide on the driver shortage issue and on interviews conducted by the ProfDRV partners. It argues the necessity to develop and review training schemes based on the labour market needs, to open up career prospects for professional drivers in order to make the job more attractive for young people, to invest in retention and management of driver turnover and to integrate health and safety issues stronger into vocational education and training for drivers. Furthermore opportunities and limitations of European instruments such as EQF, ECVET and directive 2003/59/EC are discussed regarding their (possible) contribution to decreasing the driver shortage.

- **"Recognition of professional drivers in- and non-formal learning"**,
March 2013

This paper provides an overview about the status quo of recognition of professional drivers non- and informal learning in Europe. It shows how some of the ProfDRV project countries deal with this important issue for drivers who often worked many years only based on their driving license but without formal qualification in this profession what can lead to serious shortfalls in terms of social security measures.

4. Partnership

The project has been implemented by a trans-disciplinary partnership representing different areas of expertise for the implementation of the overall ProfDRV workplan and major key players with regard to professional driver qualification in Europe.

The ProfDRV partnership has, therefore, been composed of vocational education and training providers, competent bodies, associations, research institutes and a publishing company based in seven (+3) European countries and Canada:

- [DEKRA Akademie GmbH](#), DE
DEKRA Akademie GmbH is the project coordinator in charge of overseeing and leading the overall project implementation. As coordinator they are in charge of supporting all WP leaders in their work, ensuring interfaces between the WPs as well as of the overall project monitoring and quality assurance. They are in addition contributing the German perspective to the project.
- [ASIMAG](#), ES
An organisation providing with many years of experience in the implementation of European projects and professional driver training. They contribute the Spanish situation and perspective to the project.
- [DEKRA Akademie Kft.](#), HU
An organisation implementing training for professional drivers in Hungary. They contribute the Hungarian situation and perspective to the project.
- [Tk Formazione Srl](#), IT
TKF is an adult education provider providing training in different areas of education. They are contributing the Italian perspective to the project.
- [Freight Transport Association](#), GB
FTA is a trade organisation. Due to their special expertise they are in charge of the implementation of the European exploitation activities in the project and contribute the UK perspective and situation to the project.
- [VTL](#), NL
VTL is the Dutch centre of knowledge and expertise for the transport and logistics sector. Due to their experiences with professional driver training Europe-wide they are leading the implementation of the WP on the current status of professional driver training. In addition they are contributing the Dutch perspective and situation to the project.

- [3s research laboratory](#), AT
A research institute specialised in European education research incl. EQF and ECVET. They are in charge of providing the Austrian perspective on the project topics and research the implementation of directive 2003/59/EC as a unique case of a VET scheme introduced from the European level and implemented Europe wide.
- [University of Bremen ITB](#), DE
The Institut Technik und Bildung of the Bremen University has a specialisation in European Vocational Education and Training. They are leading the development of possible standards for the implementation of European directive 2003/59/EC.
- [University of Erfurt](#), DE
The University of Erfurt contributes its special expertise with regard to task analysis and instructional design by leading the development of an EQF compatible profile based on drivers actual tasks.
- [EuroTransportMedia](#), DE
ETM is a publisher with specialisation in transport topics. They are in charge of the overall dissemination work within the project.
- [Canadian Trucking Human Resources Council](#), CA
The CTHRC boasts many years of expertise in the development and promotion of educational standards, career pathways and research with regard to professional driver qualification. Their work done in Canada can be considered as the basis for the ProfDRV project approach. They are providing their experiences and expertise gained in Canada to the project.

Furthermore the project has been supported by a number of associated partners, who contribute their support in general and their specific expertise when need arose:

- AFT-IFTIM, FR
- CNA Toscana, IT
- FIOH, FI
- TYA, SE
- Ver.di, DE

and, due to the involvement of a number of ProfDRV partners, a cooperation has been established between the ProfDRV project and the European Transport Training Association (EuroTra – www.eurotra.org).

5. Plans for the Future

Overall goal of future activities to be implemented by the ProfDRV project consortium is the further exploitation and dissemination of the ProfDRV projects results. Major emphasis will be given to the promotion of the ProfDRV recommendations and their integration into the discussion of professional driver qualification based on directive 2003/59/EC at policy and practical level. It is the aim of these activities to promote the EQFs learning outcomes approach as an effective approach in order to improve quality within the directives implementation and to get closer to the aspired aim of a common minimum qualification level of professional drivers in Europe. The ProfDRV results provide a comprehensive set of tools, recommendations and strategies how this can be realised. The continuously progressing implementation of the European Qualifications Framework at national level can be considered and will be used as a catalyst in this context.

Especially the second project half led to a number of contact and results as well as to important awareness of stakeholders and experts for the project and its results. The project consortium will build on these outcomes now after the finalisation of the actual project implementation period. Among others the follow concrete steps are currently under preparation or already in the implementation process.

(5.1) Lobbying activities in order to introduce the project results into national/ European policy discussions on the realisation of directive 2003/59/EC:

- Integration of results into regular lobbying activities of the core partners
Most of the project partners are key players within their country or even at European level with regard to professional driver qualification. Some of them already started during the projects lifetime to integrate the ProfDRV project results into their regular lobbying activities in order to disseminate and exploit the results in this way also beyond the actual project framework.
- Close cooperation and joined activities with national key players on professional driver qualification
If not existing before already, the project opened up interesting contacts and partially even cooperation with other key players within professional driver qualification. Examples for such cooperation are for instance the cooperation with Eurotra at European level and the cooperation with the national MOVING initiative and the transport industry journal DVZ in Germany. Further future

activities that will be used in order to further exploit and disseminate the ProfDRV results are already under preparation.

- Lobbying activities towards responsible ministries and European bodies

The ProfDRV consortium successfully approached members of national ministries and parliaments as well as of the European Parliament and of the European Commission with the project results already throughout the project period. The project partners will follow up on these approaches also beyond the projects framework in order to raise further awareness and facilitate the further exploitation of the ProfDRV results in the framework of directive 2003/59/EC and its national implementation approaches. Concrete steps are already planned by the ProfDRV coordinator DEKRA.

- Starting up a dialogue with other project promoters and key players at European level on the results of related projects

During the last project phase an exchange of results has been started with other project promoters and key player at European level with regard to the implementation of directive 2003/59/EC. It became evident that different research and study results are complementary to each other and that a further dialogue and exchange would be very beneficial in order to bring the different project results together. A first exchange of results has been initiated between the ProfDRV coordinator DEKRA (DE), the coordinator of the DRIVEN project IRU (INT) and the research leader within the STARTS project AFT (FR) at the ProfDRV final conference in Bonn (DE). Further exchanges are aspired.

(5.2) Further development and application of the ProfDRV results within vocational education and training in the transport sector in Europe:

- Application of the ProfDRV results within the partners regular work

The application of the ProfDRV results in the framework of the partners' own activities is one of the first follow-up steps in order to realise the ProfDRV profile and the ProfDRV quality standards. The coordinator DEKRA is for instance currently working on EQF-based descriptions for the own training activities for which the ProfDRV profile will provide major input. The partner VTL coordinated the review of the professional driver profile in EQF terms in the Netherlands and also considers using elements of the ProfDRV profile for this work. Further activities in this regard are expected.

- Usage of the project results in the related project “ICT-DRV”

Since December 2012 the ProfDRV coordinator DEKRA also coordinates the project ICT-DRV (also an LdV, DoI project). This project will strongly build on

the ProfDRV results primarily the profile and the quality standards and will build on these results in order to develop pilots and recommendations for the integration of technology-based training within professional driver training primarily in the framework of EC directive 2003/59 dealt with in the framework of ProfDRV. This project can be considered as one of the first very concrete exploitation activities for the ProfDRV results. Further information on the project can be found on www.project-ictdrv.eu.

- Submission of a LdV transfer project in order to transfer ProfDRV results on professional drivers (passenger transport) and within further national settings
During the ProfDRV projects implementation there has been a contact established with Turkish key players in the field of professional driver (passenger transport/ bus) qualification. They have been very interested in the ProfDRV results and submitted a Tol/LdV application to the Turkish National Agency in order to transfer the ProfDRV results to the passenger transport/ bus area and to the Turkish national settings. Results of the evaluation are expected for July 2013.
- Integration of the ProfDRV results into further European project work
Besides the previously described two projects that intend to/ will directly build on the ProfDRV results, it can be expected that the ProfDRV results are also used in the framework of other projects and/or planned projects. Those are for instance:
 - _ACTUATE (a European project dealing with the qualification of professional drivers in handling vehicles with alternative engines by applying the learning outcomes approach, the project directly refers its results to the ProfDRV profile as a specialisation within professional driving), started in May 2012
 - _euVETsupport (a Tol project to support the transport & logistics branch in adjusting related VET to EQF and ECVET), started in October 2012,
 - _MetaLOG (a Tol application intending to draft a sectoral qualifications framework for transport & logistics qualifications), applied for in January 2013,
 - _GreenTransLog (a DoI/SSA application on the identification and addressing of green skills within transport / logistics qualifications), applied for in January 2013 and
 - _RPLweb (a KA3 application intending to explore web-based recognition of prior learning opportunities among others in the transport & logistics sector), applied for in February 2013.

(5.3) Communication and discussion of the ProfDRV results in the context of practical EQF implementation in Europe

- Further (re)presentation and discussion of the ProfDRV project results at conferences and within publications on European VET policy

The ProfDRV project came up with research findings on the introduction of an EU-wide common VET scheme (WP6 case study) and developed – as rather unexpected results – an interesting proposal for measures that need to be taken in order to implement the EQF properly (the ProfDRV quality standards) as well as findings and suggestions on the development of EQF-compatible profiles with regard to their structure, the integration of an ethical dimension, referencing of qualifications to qualifications frameworks, etc.. Those findings will be summarised, if not done yet, now after the projects end primarily by the scientific partners ITB (DE), 3s research laboratory (AT) and DEKRA (DE) and will be further published as articles and as presentations within the scientific and European VET community. Three of these publications are expected for 2013, further ones are intended to follow.

- Integration of the ProfDRV results into the transfer project “euVETsupport”

The Tol project “euVETsupport” defines conditions for proper EQF and ECVET application within VET in the transport & logistics sector. The ProfDRV results will serve as one of the major sources for information to be disseminated and exploited in the framework of this project. Further information on the project can be found on www.euVETsupport.eu.

6. Contribution to EU policies

It has been the project approach to combine two European policy areas that have not yet been combined¹: the European Qualifications Framework and its implementation in Europe and directive 2003/59/EC on the qualification of professional drivers. But also the “New skills for New jobs” initiative played a crucial role within the project due to the overall characteristics of the occupation professional driving and especially the alarming shortage of qualified professional drivers in Europe. This combination of initiatives and policy areas received a lot of recognition and raised significant interest by stakeholders and experts concerned with professional driver qualification at national level and during the overall course of the project.

The ProfDRV research and development results provide a rather comprehensive overview about this combination of aspects and provide concrete suggestions and recommendations for the combination of these two areas of interest. They propose and discuss:

- the implementation of directive 2003/59/EC in Europe from a vocational education and training perspective and with regard to the original aims of this EC directive,
- possible solutions for the encountered obstacles and challenges in the implementation of directive 2003/59/EC at a European scale and through the application of the EQF and its overall approach:
 - _an EQF-compatible learning outcomes and task oriented profile for the occupation/ qualification professional driver (freight transport),
 - _quality standards that equally recognise the heterogeneity of the national VET systems as well as the EQF and its requirements and
 - _a set of recommendations for the implementation of these tools.
- vocational education and training means to approach the shortage of qualified professional drivers (incl. a European perspective),
- the situation of recognition of non- and informal learning of professional drivers in Europe and in the framework of directive 2003/59/EC in the light of the just recently launched Council Recommendation 2012/C 398/01 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning,

¹ Directive 2003/59/EC contains a reference to the EQF predecessor decision 85/368/EEC(1) that has been replaced by the EQF recommendation in the meantime. However, the reference to this decision has neither been replaced within directive

- concrete input to the discussion of directive 2003/59/EC in the European Parliament in 2012 and
- the projects findings as a direct contribution to the more general European discussion on the successful implementation of the European Qualifications Framework in Europe.

The project therefore provides a whole set of background information, conclusions and innovative solutions and recommendations for further steps in the implementation of directive 2003/59/EC based on and under special consideration of the European Qualification Frameworks overall approach and with a strong focus on addressing the shortage of professional truck drivers in Europe with labour market oriented vocational education and training.

At the same time the project also provides relevant and innovative input for the discussion and implementation of the European Qualifications Framework in Europe by providing a new EQF-based profile together with interesting findings that result from the development process of this profile (description of LOs, integration of an ethical dimension, findings on referencing, etc.) as well as a set of quality standards in order to implement the learning outcomes approach and further EQF as well as ECVET features practically in different national settings.

