# E-learning in Engineering Design Education – some experiences

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### Two case studies

- EGPR international distant learning course
- e- courses at FSB
- Lessons learned

### European Global Product Realization Course (E-GPR)



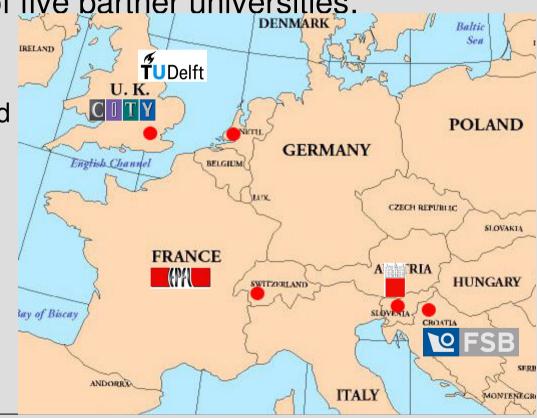
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### What is EGPR?

 The European Global Product Realization is a course organized by an academic virtual enterprise consisting of five partner universities:

- Delft Netherlands
- Lausanne Switzerland
- Ljubljana Slovenia
- Zagreb Croatia
- London UK

Industrial partner.



### Course Objectives

Besides standard objective of any course in engineering curriculum EGPR course has some specific objectives:

- conduct product development in international teams by using videoconferencing and collaboration support technologies,
- define and conceptualise new global products by applying state of the art knowledge and collaborative methods,
- extend and apply their knowledge related to product technologies, product structuring and adaptability, use and recycling of materials, technologies for manufacturing, and economic and environmental aspects,
- realize global product concepts in the form of virtual and physical models and prototype, and
- acquire communication skills: by organizing presentations using the communication equipment individual ideas have to be presented to other team members using the available communication media (videoconference equipment, messages sent by e-mails, chat sessions, using "blackboard" service, etc.)

### **Motivation**

- Expose students from partner universities to real life product development process in international teams on and see how well they perform:
  - students differ in culture, skills and domains of interests
  - they are expected to work in a collaborative way in a virtual environment
  - student have to assign responsibilities, share ideas, tasks and opinions on their meetings
  - to overcome the physical distance between the participants, students learn to use the videoconferencing as one of the key communication tools
  - work is coordinated and supported at each location by staff members and teachers giving lectures regarding given project.

### Goals

### Enhancement of student education:

- students gain additional professional knowledge ,
- they acquire communication skills using videoconference equipment,
- students learn working in teams (virtual teams),
- and in the end they materialize the concept.

# Course history

- EGPR 2007 development of a point of purchase (POP) display
- EGPR 2006 development of a novel small transport device
- EGPR 2005 Research in and conceptual development of micro spraying equipment for the viticulture industry
- EGPR 2004 Welding mask that would use cameras and LCD screens instead of a conventional darkened glass







### Course elements

- Project definition (industrial partner)
- Lectures composed to adress project needs (partner universities)
- Students must produce 3 written reports presentated online sinhronised to PD phases:

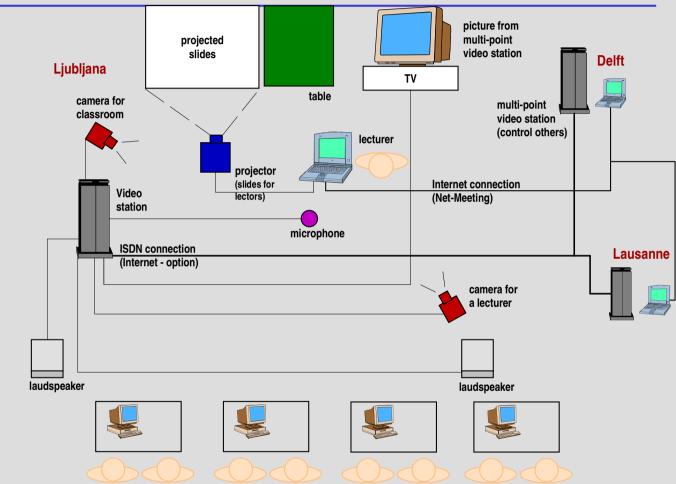
Identifying customer needs, requirements spec., SWOT analysis, Functional analysis, presenting and evaluating concepts, Embodiment and detail design.

- Final workshop
- Prototype assembly and testing
- Final presentation
- Exhibiton

# Education process schedule

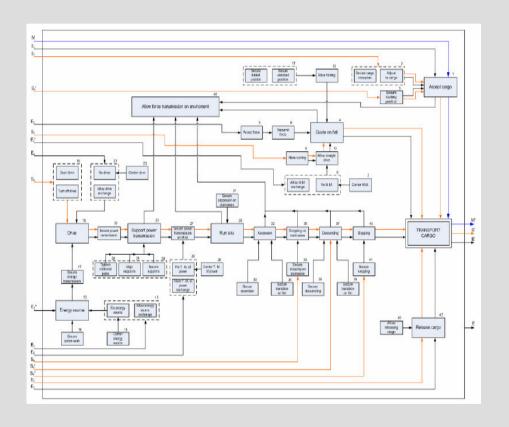
	Class tin	ne: 13,00 - 14	,45 CET (12	,00 - 1	3,45	GMT	)			V-07	9.2.2006										- 105 min - 2nd Project Review - Teams 4,5,6			
Week	Session No	Day	Date	De	La	Lj l	_o Za	Session type	Title	Lecturer	Moderator	Comments		19	Monday	16.4.2007	De La		Lo Za	Student team	- product concepts	Students	Delft	
	1	Monday	12.2.2007	De		Lj l	Lo Za	Opening presentation Discussion	- 5 min - Opening EGPR 2005 - 50 min - Introduction of students and presentation about universities - 10 min - Introduction of the teams	Prof Horvath Students Dr Kolsek	Ljubljana	Introductory bio	10	19	Thursday	19.4.2007	De La	Lj l	Lo Za	Open discussion with	preliminary design, make or by policy     15 min presentation + 15 min questions      105 min - Consolidation of 2nd project review.     - Concepts accepted for final design	Students NIKO	London	
1	2	Thursday	15.2.2007	De.		Li l	0 78	Interactive ora	- 20 min - Project assignment - 45 min - Basic information about company and product and expectations from company	Dr Kovacevic Prof Duhovnik NIKO	Delft	Product, comp: & technology		20	Monday	23.4.2007	De La	Lj		teams Interactive oral presentation	- 90 min - Advanced forming technologies	Instructors Prof. Kuzman	Ljubljana	
				H		1		presentation	45 min - Issues of new product development in global content     5 min - Collaboration in video-conferencing based virtual environments	Prof. Schoormans Mr J. Krek		related block	11	21	Thursday	26.4.2007	De La		Lo Za	Interactive oral presentation	- 45 min - Introduction to basic control concepts	Prof S. Milonidis	Lausanne	
2	3	Monday	19.2.2007	De		Lj l	Lo Za	presentation	- 45 min - Using advanced design support systems in virtual environments	Dr A Kovacevic	Zagreb				Monday	30.4.2007					- 45 min - Design with new materials London Queen's birthday	Prof Mladen Franc		
	4	Thursday	22.2.2007	De		Lj l	Lo Za	Interactive ora presentation	- 90 min - Research methods to support Innovative product development	Prof. Horvath	London		12								- 45 min - Advanced Prototyping techniques (Plastic materials, constraints, production capabilities)	Prof. Marjanovic Benedicic,Represe		
3	5	Monday	26.2.2007	De		Lj l	Lo Za	Interactive ora presentation	characteristics and realization principles	Prof. Marjanovic	Ljubljana			22	Thursday	3.5.2007	La	Lj	Za	Interactive oral presentation	- 25 min - Čapabilities for prototype finalising in Ljubljana and in company NIKO - 15 min - Preparation for 3rd design review	ntative of NIKO Instructors, Dr Stroud	Delft	
	6	Thursday	1.3.2007	De		Lj l	Lo Za	Interactive ora presentation	45 min - Creative team work     45 min - Alternative energy sources and human powered products	Dr. van De Lugt Ir Arjen Jansen Prof. Duhovnik	Delft			23	Monday	7.5.2007	De La	Lj	Za	Lectures	- Committee of the comm			
_	7	Monday	5.3.2007	De		Lj l	Lo Za	Interactive ora presentation	- 45 min - Concept generation, selection and testing - 15 min - Preparation for 1st project review	Instructors Dr .A. Kovacevic	London		13							Student team	- 120 min - 3rd Project Review - detailed design			
4	8	Thursday	8.3.2007	De		Lj l	Lo Za	Interactive ora presentation	- 45 min - Research for better products in Industry (case study) - 45 min - Selecting and integrating product technologies	Dr. Tavcar Dr. Poelman	Zagreb			24	Thursday	10.5.2007	De La	Lj	Za	presentations	- analyses & simulations - prototyping 10 min presentation & 10 minutes Q/A	Students	Zagreb	
5	9	Monday	12.3.2007	De	La		Lo Za	Student team presentations	120 min - 1st Project Review: 20 min/team     company and market analysis     problem definition and specification     project definition checking	Students	Lausanne			25	Monday	14.5.2007	De La	Lj	Za	Student team presentations	- 120 min - 3rd Project Review - detailed design - analyses & simulations	Students	Zagreb	
	10	Thursday	15.3.2007	De	La	Lj l	Lo Za	Open discussion wit teams	- 10 min - Final teaming 1 - 90 min - Consolidation of 1st project review	Students NIKO Instructors	Ljubljana		14							Open	- prototyping 10 min presentation & 10 minutes G/A Consolidation of 3rd Project Review	Students		
	11	Monday	19.3.2007	De	La	Lj l	Lo Za	Interactive ora	- 45 min - Social processes in design - 45 min - An Engineers guide to Intellectual	Prof. P. Badke- Schaub	Zagreb			26	Thursday	17.5.2007		Lj		discussion with teams Coordination	15 min per group	NIKO Instructors	Ljubljana	
6						+			Property Law (IP) & search IP database  - 45 min - How other companies are developing global products	Mrs T. Khan Uljanik shipyard Mr.sc. Milan			15	27	Monday	21.5.2007	De La	Lj l		meeting	Preparation for closing workshop	Prof Duhovnik	Lausanne	
	12	Thursday	22.3.2007	De	La	Lj l	Lo Za	Interactive ora presentation	- 45 min - Rules for design of transport handling	Milanović (Zag)  Prof Joze Duhovnik	Lausanne			28	Thursday	24.5.2007		Lj l	Lo Za	Student working time				
	13	Monday	26.3.2007	De	La	Lj l	Lo Za	Interactive ora	45 min - Financial analysis of the costs at product development     45 min - Ergonomy in design	Dr D. Peljhan Dr. ir. N. CCM Moes	London		16	29 30	Monday Thursday		De La De La	-	LO Za	Student working time Student working time				
7	14	Thursday	29.3.2007	De	La	Lj l	Lo Za	Interactive ora presentation	45 min - Consideration of environmental aspects of design     15 min - Preparation for the 2nd project review		Delft				Monday Thursday Sunday Wednesd.	4.6.2007 5.6.2007		Lj Lj	Lo Za Lo Za Lo Za	Workshop in Lo	ndon	ı		
	15	Monday	2.4.2007		La	Lj l	Lo Za	Interactive ora presentation	- 90 min - Design for assembly, maintenance and recycling	Prof. Xirouchakis	Zagreb				Saturday		De La							
8	16	Thursday	5.4.2007		La	Lj l	Lo Za	Interactive ora presentation	- 105 min - 2nd Project Review Teams 1,2,3 - product concepts - preliminary design, make or by policy 15 min presentation + 15 min questions	Students	Lausanne													
9	17	Monday	9.4.2007	De	La	Lj l	Lo Za		Easter Mond	ay														

### Schematic of a virtual classroom



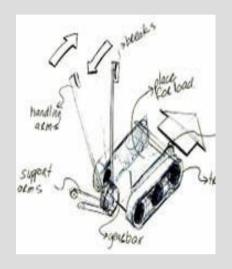
According to Tavcar, J. et. al. Active Learning At An International Virtual Product Development Project 1st International Science Symposium – Project Learning

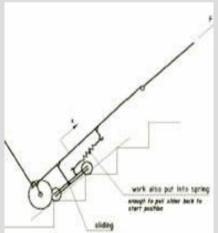
# Functional analysis (EGPR 2006)

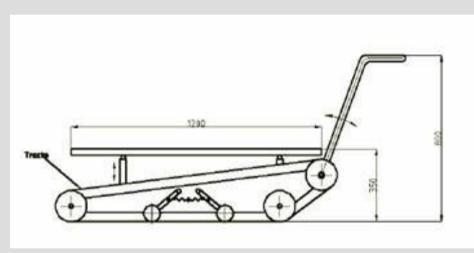


	N1	N2	N3	N4	N5	N6	N7
options of moving [1]	pulling	pushing	control panel				
lifting loads [2]	hand lifting on the dence	self-biting by using the device	with use of lever	with crane			
drive [3]	by hand	by motor	by grainty force				
source of power [4]	battery	electricity from	sokar cells	internal combusting engine	compressed air	proper bowa.	
brake [5]	hand brake	self-locking	Tologre ano	disk			
elements for moving on flat [6]	wheels	legs	caterpilars	slipping			
elements for moving on stairs [7]	wheels	legs	caterpilars	stair-chrobing mechanism	with use of winch	pnevanatic	strewjack
carrying the load (place on which will be the load) [8]	plate	forks	basket	Combination of forks and plates			
load regulation [9]	worm gear	hydraulic	pneumatic	small bandle mechanism	by angle		
securing the load from falling [10]	belt	with pin	with plate				

# Conceptualization (EGPR 2006)









# Presentations (EGPR 2006)

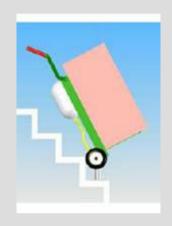


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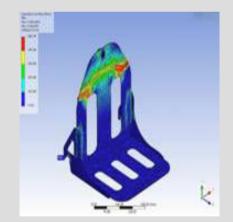
# CAx virtual modeling and testing (EGPR 2006)













# Prototype manufacturing (EGPR 2006)



# Prototypes testing (EGPR 2006)







# EGPR 2007 - Course highlights

 EGPR 2007 – The project task is to develop a technologically and technically advanced POS display which will be used for displaying male grooming products produced by a brand at the premium range.

#### Requirements:

- System requirements
  - Floor standing or counter display.
  - Interaction with the client.
  - Stability.
  - Generic retail display.
  - Display and storage of a product

#### Mechanical requirements

- Testing of product displayed.
- Non invasive skin testing
- Movement for exchange of products or emphasis of a brand
- Interchange ability i.e. shelves must be adjustable.

#### Electrical requirements

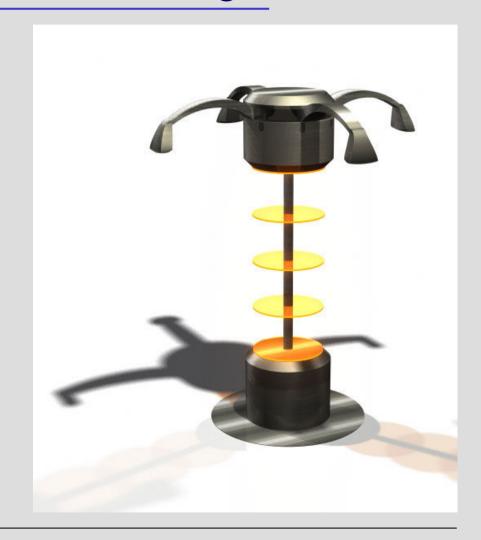
- Illumination
- Modern electrical equipment i.e. LCD Screens.
- ROSH and CE compliant.

#### Human requirements

- Easy to assemble.
- Must be able to be lifted by two people

# EGPR 2007 - CAx virtual modeling





# Prototype manufacturing (EGPR 2007)







# Prototype manufacturing (EGPR 2007)







# Prototype testing (EGPR 2007)





### Lessons learned 1

### Teachers' viewpoint

- Differences in course planning and constraints
- Different course visions at the beginning
- Unequal number of students from participating universities
- •Not all lectures directly tied to the project
- Difficult to build the momentum to keep the project going

### Students' viewpoint

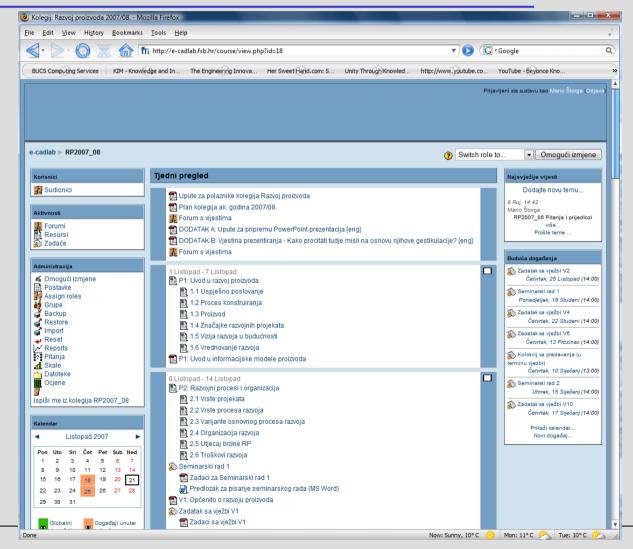
- •Great experience, to implement more of such practical assignments in curriculum.
- Great improvement in language communication skills.
- •Felt how is to work in team.
- Very hard course, lot of work.....

### e- courses at FSB or Moodle at e-cadlab portal

- usage history: since 2005.
- current number of courses: 4 (+1 in preparation)
- number of active students: cca 400
- number of teachers: 6

### e-cadlab portal

### course page screenshot



### **Motivation**

- easy and fast access to the all necessary information in order to support classical classroom engineering education
- time independence and the possibility for an individual study pace - pre-lecture access to materials could motivated students to spend more time studying the subjects concerned and to come to class better prepared
- dynamic and more interactive communication between teachers and students

### Goal

 Support engineering design courses by online access to the resources and tasks from anywhere and at anytime

### Moodle e-cadlab implementation elements

- Lessons teaching material prepared by a teacher, who defines control questions for each chapter
- Tasks –students should solve and upload a file for evaluation and reflection of results (for example a drawn diagram, source code, written project)
- Forum publishes work of course participants, which can be searched through and displayed with different points of view and evaluated. A part of each forum is a section for News serving a role as a notice board with up-to-date information
- Surveys allow a teacher to ask a question and offer a few options for answering
- Vocabulary enables students to understand and continuously maintain a list of definitions and terms. Each term can be searched and displayed in different formats and can have links to an index
- Administration management of the participants, roles, results, etc.

### Implementation issues

- course materials that require significant use of sketching and drawing have not been as easy to implement as topics that require only text-based discussion
- significant amount of time and work invest in preparing the online resources/tasks through several course cycles
- efficient support to specific organizational aspects of the engineering design education (small working groups, needs for often interaction between teachers and students working on a projects and discussion of the informal information on hard copy media)
- difficulties to run online tests that contain need for engineering input (sketch, drawing) – students are often more focused on computer tools that on their creativity and innovatively
- new media for communication additional time necessary for regularly updating and answering all kinds of questions that students much easier asking by using online tool – for inexperienced teacher is easy to stuck in 24 hours per day answering scheme

### Lessons learned

- challenges to all parties involved in the education process teachers and students since specific topic
- students are more affected and involved in whole process, sometimes answer on forum is given by other student, even faster then would be provided by teacher
- students feedback about Moodle e-cadlab portal implementation is significantly positive (98%), the satisfaction with course materials was increased from 50% on up to more then 70% after introduction of the Moodle e-cadlab portal
- the time invested in preparing on line course materials start to return already in the next course cycle
- the assesment procedure appears as more transparent and available to everyone
- easier administration of the course available online for the teachers
- new improvements and implementation of additional features is planned (wiki, etc.)

### Lessons learned

- Specific techniques of course writing and instructional design
- Specific methods of communication
- Specific organizational and administrative arrangements
- Well accepted among the students if (and only if):
  - the quality of online resources and tasks IS comparable to or better than the traditional classroom
  - the resources and tasks are available when needed and accessible from anywhere by any number of students

# Students' appreciation

# Extracted from EPFL local newspaper, October 28, 2003:

« [...] then came the time to materialize everything. To do so, we went to Delft: the emails became words, the images on screens became real persons and the drawings of our project became a working prototype. It took us a whole hard working week that was very instructive, not only from an engineering point of view but also from a human point of view. [...] »

C. Tapparel, G. Collet, M. Bellino, Y. Freese, I. Saglini, T. Sigrist



Thank you for your attention!



Global Product Realization