



Helping teachers grow & develop



July 2017

Features:

- *Overview from Jana*
- *Pilot training (Tourism) - France*
- *Interview with Božena Orolínová (PSA Group)*
- *Pilot training (Automotive) - Slovakia*
- *Interview with Andrew Schembri (Malta)*

Issue N°6-7

Overview from Jana

Dear Prolant Cap fans,

It's my greatest pleasure to be opening this issue of the Prolant Cap newsletter especially because of the activities you will read about shortly. What we have been doing in this project could be easily described as „going beyond what's possible for a language school“ – reaching the almost „impossible“.

We managed to organize our pilot training courses in two European countries – Slovakia and France where the employees from the two approached industries – automotive and tourism – played the most important role. They tested two pilot training courses. First the Prolant Cap for Tourism was held in March 2017 in France and then, two months later the Prolant Cap for Automotive was held in May 2017 in Slovakia.



When you go beyond what's possible, it's almost always a process full of doubts about one's abilities, competences and self-image. Above all it's about one's courage to undergo this step and be first to create an original solution for the customer. And this is what we have done. Our trainers, lesson plan writers simply took this opportunity to excel from others and grow and professionals in the sector-specific industries along with their fellows from other countries.

The atmosphere in these pilot training courses was simply energizing and uplifting and I would like you – the reader – to have the possibility in the future to experience the Prolant Cap difference soon!

We are almost ready. Just a few more adjustments and the Prolant Cap training courses will be launched to you – our customers.

May you find happiness and joy in our lessons that will inspire you to grow and be a better, more valuable person!

Kind regards,

Jana Chynoradská



Prolant Cap pilot CLIL course in Tourism



Following on from the initial training courses that were trialled in Malta, a pilot course in Tourism was hosted by CNTC the French partner, in Pau, South West France, on 20–24 March 2017. Eleven teacher representatives from the other five European partners arrived on Sunday to join the French team and were accommodated in the local hotel where the pilot course was to be delivered. On Sunday evening people were welcomed with apertifs and pizzas by Nicki & Philippe Abadie, owners of CNTC. It gave everyone a chance to catch up and discuss the week ahead.

The French team had prepared both the week's training course and a social programme for the partner representatives. The course began early on Monday morning with student registrations followed by a short introduction to the project, the course, the CLIL methodology and, of course, the teams involved. Each of the students gave a short personal introduction before the first lesson of the day commenced. Every lesson offered relevant content and language and allowed ample opportunity for the students to develop their communication skills, whilst raising awareness of cultural aspects of the various topics. Many of the students joined the teachers for lunch and carried on practicing their English speaking skills while eating together.



Throughout the week a total of fifteen different sample lessons were delivered by three partner teams - Linda (UK), Kyle & Mandy (Malta) and Tom, Alison & Vicki (France). Students attending the course were from various local tourist organisations - the Tourism Office in Pau; the Château of Pau; the Casino of Pau; a catering school and also included a number of private individuals who were interested in the course. These fifteen lessons introduced the students to a mix of themes and topics that will be offered in the full course.



During the training; the project partner representatives either actively observed the lessons or participated as students so adding an increased international and multicultural dimension to the course. Once the daily lessons had been delivered, a feedback session was held, firstly with the students to receive their thoughts and then with the observers and fellow teachers to provide valuable input into further lesson and course development. As the week passed, a wonderful rapport developed amongst and between the students and the teachers. Both students and

observers gave mainly positive comments in their feedback sessions and any negative comments had positive solutions offered. What a remarkable team of teachers and observers. Bravo!

After the hard work of the day had been completed the evening activities commenced for the Prolant Cap project delegates. A different restaurant was enjoyed each evening, where diverse gastronomy was sampled, ranging from traditional local French cuisine,





Prolant Cap pilot CLIL course in Tourism



Irish pub food to an Armenian / Lebanese discovery meal. Before eating, a number of social & cultural activities were experienced, including a guided tour of Pau on a traditional red double-decker London bus (owned by CNTC); a wine tasting evening; a guided walking tour around the old town of Pau with even a little for souvenir shopping! The week's cultural activities ended with an introduction and demonstration of a popular local sport "Pelote Basque", followed by dinner in the upstairs restaurant where it was possible to observe the finals of an amateur team tournament.

This was a completely new method of learning a foreign language for all the students and everyone was delighted with the lessons. It was an added bonus to be presented with a certificate of attendance at the end of the course by Philippe Abadie, CNTC. Although a number of cultural activities had been experienced, due to the time that the course finished each day it had not been possible to visit the Château of Pau in the centre of town, where King Henry IV of France & Navarre was born and which was once used by Napoleon as a holiday home during his period of power. A plan for the next visit to Pau!



Dee McGinty



Interview with Cécile Morote, participant in the Prolant Cap pilot training course.

Cécile works as a Customer Advisor for the Tourism Office in Pau where she has spent the last six years helping visitors get the best out of their time in the town and surrounding area. A native Béarnaise, she has also lived in Paris and Dublin.

"I really love speaking English so I was very happy to take part in the training course. I enjoyed the variety of subjects taught, some of which I had never studied before. I also appreciated the variety of trainers, each with their own teaching style - and accent! Being in a small group gave us

the opportunity to practice the language and I would have liked to have even more interactive exercises. Some of the subjects were a little complicated (such as Marketing) and the lessons were a bit too short for the amount of detail. My colleague Stève, however, found the Marketing lessons very interesting but was not so keen on the Social Media one which I really enjoyed – so there was something for all tastes and interests!

Most of all I liked having the opportunity to speak English with the other students and trainers. I am normally nervous about speaking in public so it was great to be able to present my town and its attractions in front of the group. If I could recommend any change to the programme I would suggest having some sessions outside the classroom – perhaps a visit of the town with the students acting as guides. I liked that the training was intensive over one full week rather than one lesson per week over a number of months because I feel that students learn and remember better that way. I would certainly be interested in doing the full programme when it becomes available in Pau!"

As told to Tom McGinty



Interview with Božena Orolínová



AUTOMOTIVE SPECIALIST CONSULTANT

Božena Orolínová is a Lean Management Leader in the PSA GROUPE in Trnava.

She graduated from the Faculty of Chemistry, Technical University in Bratislava. She started to work in the automotive industry back in 2000. She has over the years, been responsible for many areas within the automotive sector, such as geometry, exterior and interior in the Engineering department, assembling, training and lean management. She has managed teams comprising of ten to a hundred members, and she has learned through experience that the automotive sector is really complex. She can clearly see the interconnections and complexity of the industry. Her core values are responsibility, life-long learning and human relationship, and she tries to practice and embody these fully every day. In her free time Božena enjoys spending time with her family practicing various outdoor sporting activities, such as swimming, cycling and walking in the countryside.

She worked with the Prolant Cap Project as an Expert Consultant for the Automotive Industry training programme.

1. What was your motivation to become a Prolant Cap expert consultant?

- It was a challenge to try something new, to try if I could do it.
- I used to teach Slovak in Austria (at a non-professional level).

2. How would you describe the role you have played in the development of the Prolant Cap Programme for automotive industry?

- A summary of the underlying documents for creation of a curriculum
- A first draft of the structure of respective classes

3. What challenges did you have to face working on this project?

- It was not always easy to find the underlying documents, despite the fact that I work in automotive industry.
- As you know, I have not managed to get everything I wanted from my colleagues/head office...
- Moreover, the tasks was solely my responsibility, i.e. I had no one whom I could consult/discuss individual topics with (expertise).
 - Since I cannot be an expert in every field - I can only hope that the underlying documents will be OK.



Interview with Božena Orolínová



4. What was the best positive surprise for you?

- Although going through the demanding period, I found the time for preparation of the underlying documents.
- It was my inner power driving me on that surprised me.
- What I appreciate is that I have learned new things which I would not have experienced otherwise...

5. What makes this programme unique?

- It is tailored to the needs of the market/customer.
- The Slovak automotive market is large, so I hope there should be enough people interested in it.

6. What has the cooperation with our teachers and consultants brought to your professional life?

- A different perspective of some topics - to focus less on detail.
- Jana showed me her view of life, how to follow one's dream.
- What drew my attention: a collective search for the motto and description of my job
- It was dynamic, quick and to the point.

7. The motto that defines your role in the programme is

"Keep discovering the WHY in your life."

Please can you explain to us how did you find it and what makes it characteristic of this programme?

Everybody wants to move forward.

I like to discover, learn new things...

8. Where do you see the programme in the future? What would you wish to its future students?

- Since the programme will be constantly updated, one does not have to worry about its future.
- Its students would benefit from a mixed study groups with students coming from various plants/suppliers.
- Contacts, sharing experience

And what to wish them?

Lots of energy, enthusiasm and drive == to absorb/listen/learn/move forward...



Prolant Cap pilot CLIL course in Automotive



The pilot training for the automotive industry took place from 15th to 19th May 2017 in Slovakia. Two teams had been formed – one team in Zavar, near Trnava and the other team in Bratislava. The premises for the course were provided by the PSA Groupe (Zavar) and DualnaAkademia (Bratislava). Altogether there were 38 participants in Zavar and 50 participants in Bratislava.



The project partner participants were also divided into two teams and spent the whole week in their allocated location. This ensured that we – as the learning trainers – were able to see the progressive development of a pilot training course. It was also very important from the aspect of being on-site at a potential customer as some arrangements needed to be modified throughout the course. The main change we needed to do in Zavar after the first day of training was to integrate some trainer-

observers into the actual training course, thus creating a more international aspect. The participants' highly appreciated this and showed us a possibility of how further training could be organised once the project is finished.

Brilliant Bratislava!



The social and cultural activities in Bratislava were amazing and the highlight of the trip for me. (I did enjoy the teaching as well!) We visited a different restaurant every night as well as having a guided bus and walking tours of the city. The weather was beautiful and the views of Bratislava breathtaking. It was great for us all to have the opportunity to relax after a hard day teaching and training and to have the chance to get to know our Prolant Cap team better.

With people from all over the EU in our group there was always plenty to talk about and everyone was really friendly.

My favourite restaurant was the [Bratislava Flagship](#) – it felt like being in a medieval castle in there and the food was great. Highly recommended.

We also had a tour of Peugeot car factory during our stay which was enormous and very modern with much of the assembly being done by machines. We weren't allowed to take pictures in there so you'll just have to imagine it :-)

All in all my time in Bratislava was awesome and I'd encourage you to visit ... soon!

Dan Methven, Anglolang, UK





Prolant Cap pilot CLIL course in Automotive



Feedback from some of the participants:

- This lesson reminded me about real situations I have experienced. Most of the time I'm a leader but there are situations where I'm a victim. A good choice of words can help people to stop and treat the problems as an opportunity. Very useful lesson.
- I learned a bit about other countries, their traditional ways of thinking etc. Also I learned about the history of Italian and Slovak cars. We also talked a bit about flying cars which was interesting
- 10 different aspects of industry 4.0 and how many questions and challenges it will bring

We all agreed that this pilot training was of high importance and our trainers got lots of feedback from the participants on their approach, content and overall delivery. This feedback is now part of the finalisation of all the lesson plans that have been put together in this project. Once these changes have been implemented we feel ready to launch these 5 industry-specific courses to our customers throughout Europe.



We would like to take the opportunity to thank Dualna Akademia and its representatives Mrs. Jana Siroka, Mr. Milan Rachela and especially Mr. Igor Krucovcin for their perfect cooperation on the project and for the role of advisor to our Industry 4.0 theme.

We are also grateful to PSA Groupe for their fantastic cooperation, especially to Stéphane Castets and Božena Orolínová the technical consultants, who made sure that the content and materials chosen for the other four themes: Language and Leadership; Working in the automotive industry; Automotive industry today and the Technical world.

We look forward to the language content-specific (automotive) future with our trainers and customers!





Interview with Andrew (Malta)



Hi I am Andrew Schembri and I work at am Language Studio as an English Teacher. I teach teenagers and adults of varying levels and for a number of purposes.

Teaching at am Language Studio is a wonderful experience as I am able to meet so many people from all over the world and share in their experiences of Malta and learning English.

I'm a self-confessed bookworm and am interested in psychology and spend much of my time trying to understand people and why we make the choices we do.

My first love is sports and because of my sports background I always try to bring a positive atmosphere and a sense of teamwork at my school.

What did you gain from your trip to Slovakia?

A: On a personal level it was a positive experience. I got the chance to meet a lot of professionals with whom I discussed new lesson materials and CLIL methodology, which was an entirely new experience for me.

What did you enjoy the most?

A: I enjoyed experiencing a Central European country as well as the fact that everybody was able to present ideas and discuss them on an equal footing.

What were you surprised about?

A: I was surprised about how willing and how strong the participants were when communicating in English about topics that were directly related to their work. I was taken aback by the level of spoken English in the country.

What is the added value of this project to you?

A: The trip and project allowed me to understand what I would like to achieve in life and what I value as success. Many of the people involved are truly inspirational and high functioning individuals.