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## Hello SAM readers!

Welcome back to our **yearly newsletter**! After the flash news you received in the last months, we wanted to update you about all the **developments** that regarded the project during the last year. 2021 has been a year full of changes and the world seems to start again opening, thus generating new opportunities. In these challenging times, our team has been more active than ever!

We are pleased to send you the third edition of the Sector Skills Strategy in Additive Manufacturing (SAM) project e-newsletter with the latest **updates** on the project, **events**, and other related **news** about what happened during the third year of the project.

We wish you a **wonderful holiday period**, and we hope you'll be able to spend it with your family and recover well ahead of the new year!

**SAM project team**

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## 1. SAM: The Sector Skills Strategy in Additive Manufacturing

A large part of the existing industrial workforce does not have a background in emerging areas like additive manufacturing. As such, many companies are facing difficulties in employing competent engineers, operators, and technicians.

**In the additive manufacturing sector, the European project Sector Skills Strategy in Additive Manufacturing (SAM) is working on solving this issue.**

The **SAM project** started in January 2019 and will continue until December 2022. Therefore, we are approaching the **last year of activities**, aimed at developing an effective system to identify and anticipate the right skills for the Additive Manufacturing sector demands and a platform that will work in the **long term**.

Most of the planned activities have been already put in practice and great achievements have been reached! We extracted for you the latest and most relevant news about the project and the goals reached by the consortium, **a professional team made of 17 partners from 9 countries and supported by a wide network of experts**.



**SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL**

Stay up to date with SAM activities, events, evolutions, and webinars



## JOIN OUR LINKEDIN GROUP

The SAM project observatory promotes a wide range of relevant education and training offers in the field of AM, designed by our experts on direct input from the industry.



## TAKE OUR SURVEY

It won't take you much of your time, but the results are of huge importance for the AM community to assess its current state of play.

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## 1.1 Surveys

Complete the surveys we are currently running by clicking the links below, it will take you only a few minutes, but for us, it is of paramount importance!

### 👉 [Survey on AM Skills & Trends for RTO's](#) 👈

- To be answered by people from **Research and Technology Centres**
- Aim: Understand which are the technological trends for the next years in AM

### 👉 [Short-Term Survey on AM Training Practices and Challenges](#) 👈

- To be answered by **Training Centres and Universities**
- Aim: Understand which are the Needs and challenges faced by organizations delivering Training in AM

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## 2. Project News

### 2.1 European AM Observatory Activities

The [European AM Observatory Platform](#) is accessible through the SAM website, bringing relevant information about the AM market world, thus covering the anticipation of AM skills needs, the mapping of initiatives, job offers and training opportunities. One of the most important sections is our International Additive Manufacturing Qualification System (IAMQS), which has been updated with new qualifications and different learning modules on a regular basis. The Observatory ensures the implementation of the IAMQS through its network of training centres.



👉 If you wish to become an **Approved Training Body for AM** in your country and start delivering training aligned with the IAMQS, or you would simply like to know more, visit our [dedicated page on the SAM Website](#).

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## 2.2 AM Councils & Experts

In 2021, the International Additive Manufacturing Qualification Council (**IAMQC**) and the International Additive Manufacturing Industrial Council (**IAMIC**), the two bodies of the AM Observatory, have been consolidated with the setting up of Working Groups (WG). Namely, within the IAMQC, the AM Metal WG and the Polymers WG implemented their activities to update and create new sets of qualifications and learning units for AM. On the other hand, the IAMIC, involving experts from industry, has validated the AM skills needs and technological trends to be addressed as a priority in SAM.

You can find more information about our experts on the dedicated pages in the AM Observatory. In detail, David Wimpenny from MTC leads the 👉 [Metal WG](#) 👉, Paula Queipo from IDONIAL leads the 👉 [Polymer WG](#) 👉, while Martin Schaffer from Siemens leads the Industry Council.

👉 If you would like to have an active role in the AM community building and bring your added value, submit your application to our [Call for Experts!](#)

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## 2.3 AM Skills Needs and Foresight Report

Read the reports issued in 2021 addressing the [AM Skills Needs](#) by industry and



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## 2.4 SAM Pilot Training in AM

The SAM project platform promotes a wide range of **relevant education and training offers** in the field of AM, designed by our experts on direct input from the AM industry.

After the first online course, launched in November 2020, the consortium's activities concerning courses have intensified during 2021.

In February, the first phase of pilot training activities took place with around **500 students**. On this occasion, the qualification of International PBF-LB Process Engineer has been delivered by the consortium.

During summer, the second stage of pilot courses in AM has been realised, confirming the adequacy and usefulness of the training programmes. In particular:

- In June, the second free online course has been delivered and has covered the topic "**AM Polymer Materials and Properties**".
- In July, MTC organised a training course on **Design for Polymer**, including the design of polymer AM parts from initial process selection through to finished and ready-to-build part designs.

In November 2021, further training has been successfully held with participants representing different industrial sectors, namely "**Through the AM Industrial Sectors: Certification, Standardization and Qualification**".

👉 Did you miss them? Do not worry! **Our team is already working to provide you with other several AM FREE courses in 2022. Check out our latest [training offers](#) and register now. Registration is free but places are limited.**

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## 2.5 Podcast Series

In 2021, SAM consortium has published three podcasts that you can find

👉 [clicking here](#) 👉

- The first one focused on the relationship between **Additive Manufacturing and standards**.
- In the second episode, Mr Jason Jones from *Hybrid Manufacturing* explained the advantages of **AM/3D Printing in the context of Industry 4.0**. The talk was guided by Ruaridh Mitchinson from MTC.
- In the third podcast, Mr Georg Schlick from *Fraunhofer IGVC Germany* provided insights on what to expect from **research in AM** for the next years. The talk was guided by Simona Masurtschak from LORTEK.

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## 3. Events

SAM held its events in a hybrid version: for the first part of 2021, all the events went fully digital while after summer the project participated in the first live events after the pandemic: EMO MILANO 2021 and the POLIMI Open Day. Nevertheless, several webinars have been still held remotely either for the worsening of the pandemic restrictions or to exploit the possibility of wider participation.

**Check out what we have done this year and prepare yourself for more engaging activities in view of the last year of the project!**

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### 3.1 EMO Milan 2021

EMO Milan has given a great in-person platform to discuss and promote a career in the manufacturing sector.

CECIMO contributed to this goal by organizing a booth with AITA3D, **from the 4th until the 9th of October**, to support additive manufacturing technology, its applications and the importance of having a skilled and well-trained workforce.

In particular, the CECIMO staff promoted the **SAM project distributing the communication materials and giving two dedicated speeches**, which provided an overview of the latest project activities.

Students' groups, end-users and other stakeholders from both machine tools and the additive manufacturing sector received detailed information about the project objective and the upcoming activities.



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### 3.2 SAM Webinar Series

In 2021, [👉 ten new chapters 👈](#) have been added to the list of our webinar series. **Check out the upcoming events and register for FREE.** In the meantime, you can have a look at a couple of Webinars realised in the past months.

#### 22th of October

During this webinar, **policymakers, researchers and industrial associations** provided several perspectives from different sectors about the major challenges and needs in Additive Manufacturing.

Before the debate, each speaker presented an overview of the Blueprint project results in the field of **Automotive, Defence, Construction and Maritime.**

You can find the recording on the SAM website [👉 clicking here 👈](#)

PANEL: Understanding the sectoral needs for skills in AM

The slide content includes the following details:

- SAM** logo
- DRIVES** logo
- ASSETS+** logo
- CONSTRUCTION BLUEPRINT** logo
- mates** logo
- Paula Queipo**, IDONIAL, SAM, coordinator
- Jakub Stolfa**, VŠB, DRIVES, coordinator
- Gualtiero Fantoni**, UNIPI, ASSETS+, coordinator
- Silvia Santos**, FLC, Construction Blueprint, coordinator
- Lucía Fraga**, CETMAR, MATES, coordinator

### 3.3 TECH4KIDS - Bringing 3D Printing to Future Generations

In November, our partner EPMA conducted several **3D Printing activities** with children and young students from the **Lycee Marie Curie** in France. The event was a great opportunity to motivate the participants, from students to teachers, towards the advantages of AM and its main applications. In the end, all created their 3D models with *Thinkercad* and experienced the printing process.

👉 Check the details on our [website dedicated page!](#)

### 3.4 AM Open Day

As part of raising awareness and outreach activities by the SAM Project, an AM Open Day event was organized in the framework of the first edition of the *Festival dell'Ingegneria* held by the Politecnico di Milano, which took place **from 10th to 12th September 2021**.

Specifically, the AM Open Day was part of the **POLIMIopenLABS**. During the event, the two PoliMi Departments involved in the SAM Project presented the current state of research and **industrial applications related to Additive Manufacturing**.



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### 3.4 IAMIC Meeting

On the 14th of December, the [👉 2<sup>nd</sup> IAMIC meeting\\_ 👈](#) took place with the AM Industry experts. Along with the session, SAM last findings were shared and the strategy for **reskilling the European AM workforce** was discussed. The IAMQS was presented as an important tool to reduce skills gaps in AM and to foster the **collaboration between Industry and Education**. Alongside, the hands-on session enabled us to validate the Process Engineers structure and to align the AM and DIGICOMP frameworks.

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## 4. Project articles

Read our latest publications by clicking directly on the icons:



The Impact of Additive Manufacturing towards Environmental Sustainability, published in November.



Relevance of SAM for  
Academia, published in  
September.



Relevance of new AM  
developments for AM Supply  
Chains, published in April.

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## 5. Join our community!

Do you work with Additive Manufacturing technology? Is your company implementing 3D printing process? Are you developing an innovative process or you want to endorse our strategy for skills recognition in Additive Manufacturing?

Good news! There are several ways to be involved in the SAM project with your expertise or endorsement, or both.

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### 5.1 Become a SAM Associated Partner

If you would like to be more actively involved in the development of SAM objectives and be directly involved in the project, you can send your request to become a **SAM Associated Partner**. You will have entire access to our internal material and you will contribute to the creation of a new European strategy for Skills in Additive Manufacturing, and ultimately support the growth, innovation, and competitiveness of the sector.

👉 [Contact us](#) to receive all the information needed  
to become an Associated Partner.

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## 6. More to come in 2022

If 2021 has been full of news and events, 2022 will be even better!

the pipeline further pilot courses, additional webinars, the realisation of a European Final Conference on Additive Manufacturing and much more.

👉 **Follow us on our social media channels to know more, or subscribe to our newsletter to receive exclusive event invitations!**



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Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

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