

WEKIT Press Release 1

Editors: Veronika Kupriyanova
Mikhail Fominykh



Wearable Experience for Knowledge Intensive Training
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WEKIT PRESS RELEASE

In the context of the Horizon 2020 Project WEKIT, a call for expression of interest is launched. The purpose of this call is to support the design of a new method for learning and training using augmented reality and wearable technology and to invite all interested stakeholders to join its newly formed WEKIT community.

Brussels, 28 February 2016 - The European consortium implementing the three-year Horizon 2020 Project WEKIT: *Wearable Experience for Knowledge Intensive Training* is announcing a call for expression of interest to join a community of stakeholders willing to contribute to the design and later testing of a new technology platform and to benefit from the new opportunities this area offers. This platform will be used for industrial learning and training employing augmented reality (AR) and wearable technology (WT).

“The EU and USA are still enjoying the fruits of past generations’ investments in high-skills, high-standards training. To maintain their income-per-head differential and have full employment, Western economies must become much more competitive. A step-change is possible in the time and cost of training large numbers of people, if the Technology Enhanced Learning community comes together to make a learning platform that is a truly game changing product, one that they and their friends want to use themselves. We believe this is the right time for such a platform to be started”, explained Paul Lefrere, CCA Director and Innovation Manager of WEKIT.

How does the WEKIT framework work?

WEKIT captures expert experience using AR/WT and transfers it to trainees via immersive, in-situ learning. Trainees get access to and benefit from tacit expert experience which goes beyond common knowledge embodied in technical documentation. As a result, the learning and economic effectiveness of training is projected to significantly increase and to improve operational performance and satisfaction of workers.

How to collaborate with WEKIT?

- ◆ You can join the WEKIT community (<https://wekit-community.org/>) of AR/WT and training experts and enthusiasts to participate in our online discussions of key trends and opportunities, and attend our face-to-face consultations (workshops and hackathons).
- ◆ You can share your ideas about possible applications of AR/WT in industrial and other learning settings via the WEKIT [Requirements Bazaar](#). The best use case will be implemented by WEKIT.
- ◆ You can help us define the requirements of the developed system by taking part in our [survey](#) (published on February 25, 2016) and focus groups.

Who can participate?

WEKIT is willing to partner with a broad range of players that are already involved or seeking to expand their activities in AR/WT-based training. We invite individuals and teams from both public and private organisations, such as:

- ◆ Research labs and universities working in the areas of AR/WT-based learning and industrial (vocational) training
- ◆ Public and private developers of AR and WT hardware and software
- ◆ Designers of AR/WT-based educational technologies and content

- ◆ In-house training centers and HR companies interested in enhancing their training programmes with AR/WT elements
- ◆ Industrial and other users of training programmes (e.g., factories, service companies)
- ◆ Trade unions, labour organisations, professional associations, local communities and public organisations interested in defining new standards and policies in AR/WT-based learning and testing new solutions.

Why to become part of the WEKIT Community?

The WEKIT community connects visionary researchers, developers and industrial players willing to contribute to the advancement of industrial learning and training mediated by AR/WT, and shape the future of this industry in Europe. WEKIT community members will be able to tap into the following benefits:

- ◆ To join the frontrunners of AR/WT-enabled industrial training, setting the trends for this new exciting field
- ◆ To shape the future of AR/WT-based training by helping to define new standards and, thus, ensure interoperability with your technologies and systems
- ◆ To define new use cases and applications and engage in exploring the evolving business opportunities
- ◆ To establish professional networks in the field of AR/WT industrial training and beyond.

Press Contacts

For science and technology aspects, please contact Dr. Fridolin Wild, Scientific Director of WEKIT (Email: wild@brookes.ac.uk).

For general enquiries about the WEKIT project, please contact Veronika Kupriyanova (Email: veronika.kupriyanova@euoplan-uk.eu).

Notes to the Editor

About WEKIT

Launched on 1 December 2015, WEKIT is an ambitious European research and innovation project supported under Horizon 2020 to develop and test within three years a novel way of industrial training enabled by smart WT. With EUR 2.7 million of EU funding, thirteen WEKIT partners representing academia and industry from six countries in Europe will build a ground-breaking industrial-strength learning technology platform and unique methodology to capture expert experience and share it with trainees in the process of enabling immersive, in-situ, and intuitive learning. In this way, WEKIT will bring learning content and technical documentation to life via task-sensitive AR, making industrial training more efficient, affordable and engaging. You can learn more about WEKIT by watching our video "[WEKIT explained in 90 seconds](#)".

About WEKIT consortium

WEKIT consortium is led by an experienced IT company (GFT, Italy). Five academic partners - Oxford Brookes University (UK), Ravensbourne (UK), University of Tromsø (Norway), Open University (The Netherlands) and RWTH (Germany) are responsible for the lion's part of the project research activities.

One of the strongest European research centers VTT (Finland) and a high-tech SME MyndPlay (UK) together with the OBU are leading the development of two major components of the WEKIT technological platform.

Three industry partners - Norway-based Lufttransport as well as Ebit and ALTEC from Italy - are leading evaluation cases to test the WEKIT training methodology and technological platform in real practical settings. Two innovation companies (Europlan UK and CCA) are responsible for dissemination, exploitation, and roadmapping activities.

For more information on the WEKIT project, visit our website www.wekit.eu.

