



EQUASS Newsflash

Welcome to the sixth issue of the EQUASS newsflash! This publication is an initiative of the European Quality in Social Services to provide you with regular updates about the most recent developments and achievements of the EQUASS System.

EQUASS Awarding Ceremony 2009 Congratulations to all the EQUASS certified organisations!

The EQUASS Awarding Ceremony ended the 2009 EPR Public Affairs event with a flourish on 10 December 2009. EQUASS certified organisations from all over Europe gathered in Brussels for this prestigious ceremony.

Mr. Frank Flannery, Chairman of the EQUASS Awarding Committee, presented the EQUASS Assurance and EQUASS Excellence certified organisations to the public, and

handed out the certificates to those who were present.

The Ceremony was attended by members of the EQUASS Awarding Committee and the EQUASS unit, as well as by key European stakeholders of the social sector.

Photos of the event can be downloaded at www.epr.eu/index.php/activities/public-affairs/55-public-affairs-events.com

The following organisations were present at the 2009 EQUASS Awarding event:

EQUASS Excellence:

- ☆ Centro de Reabilitação Profissional de Gaia, Portugal
- ☆ Durapart AS, Norway
- ☆ Josefsheim gGmbH, Germany

EQUASS Assurance:

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|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ☆ Ankerløkken as, Norway | ☆ Follo Futura AS, Norway |
| ☆ Astero AS, Norway | ☆ iFokus AS, Norway |
| ☆ Avigo AS, Norway | ☆ National Learning Network, Ireland |
| ☆ BFW Hamm, Germany | ☆ OrbitArena AS, Norway |
| ☆ Fretex, Norway | ☆ Stavne Gård KF, Norway |
| ☆ Fønix Kompetansenett AS, Norway | |



Some of the organisations proudly receiving their EQUASS certificates

EQUASS Assurance Certified Organisations — 2009 Overview

Forty organisations have been awarded with EQUASS Assurance in 2009:

Aksis, Ankerløkken AS, AS Rehabil, Astero As, AVIGO, BFW HAMM, Deltagruppen AS, Follo Futura, Fønix Kompetansenett AS, Forus Industri AS, Fredrikstad Attføringsssenter, Fretex, Grønnevikken, Hurum Produkter, iFokus AS, Industri Lambertseter, Inko AS, Jæren Industripartner, Jobblntro as, Krapfoss Industrier AS, Lødingen Arbeidssenter, Masvo, Menova, Næringstjenester AS, National Learning Network, Nittedal ASVO, Nopro AS, Noransonde AS, Nor-Pro A.S, Norservice as, OrbitArena AS, Prima AS, Reko as, Sens, Solis Trust, Stavne Gård KF, Svanem AS, Tunet, Unikum AS, Vinn AS Hallingdal



Supporting the implementation of EQUASS in Portugal

An EQUASS Assurance auditor training took place in Lisbon, Portugal on 26 and 27 November 2009. The training was attended by 16 participants, from Portugal and Germany, and was organised in collaboration with APQ, the Portuguese Local Licence Holder, in order to build up a pool of Portuguese auditors and support the implementation of EQUASS Assurance in Portugal.

Following the training, the EQUASS Awarding Committee, who met on 2 December 2009,



Participants expressed their satisfaction with this practice-oriented training

officially nominated 9 EQUASS Assurance auditors, including 7 Portuguese auditors.

To know more about the EQUASS training programmes, visit www.equass.be.

EQUASS in Practice meeting

The third meeting of the "EQUASS in Practice" project took place on 2 and 3 November 2008 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The discussions of the project partners revolved around the EQUASS manual. This manual aims at helping the EQUASS applicants in understanding the EQUASS approach on quality, its criteria for quality assurance and the operational performance indicators.

The manual will be available on www.equass.be at the end of the project in 2010.

EQUASS Assurance training to be held in Oslo

The first EQUASS Assurance auditor training of 2010 will take place in Oslo, Norway, on 13 and 14 January. The training will be hosted by the EQUASS Local Licence Holder AVRE (Association of Vocational Rehabilitation Enterprises).

This training will be the occasion for already certified EQUASS Assurance auditors to calibrate their expertise.

Interested applicants can find all the information on the EQUASS website. The deadline for registrations is **6 January 2010**.

New EQUASS Local Licence Holder in Germany

The **Brüsseler Kreis** has recently become the newest EQUASS Local Licence Holder, and will operate the EQUASS certificate programme in Germany. The Brüsseler Kreis (Brussels Circle) is a collaboration of the major Protestant and Catholic social organisations in Germany. Member organisations of the Brüsseler Kreis are regarded as active partners in the European social market with their innovative social services. The Brüsseler Kreis is active in providing care for people with disabilities, the elderly, youth and in education.

For more information, see: www.brusseler-kreis.de

Upcoming EQUASS events and contributions

- **13 & 14 January 2010:** EQUASS Assurance Auditor Training, Oslo (Norway)
- **17 May 2010:** EQUASS Awarding Committee, Brussels (Belgium)
- **20 & 21 May 2010:** EQUASS in Practice project meeting, Vilnius (Lithuania)