



## **DRIVES and LinkedIn forge a EU automotive industry research partnership**

The DRIVES project, which brings together 24 European partners from 11 EU countries, and LinkedIn, the world's largest professional network, have joined forces to shed light on the evolution of job roles and skills requirements within the EU's automotive industry.

The automotive industry is one of the key pillars of the European economy, representing 7% of the EU's GDP and providing over 3 million jobs in automotive manufacturing alone. The sector is facing increased shortages of suitable workers, both qualitative and quantitative. To help address these shortages, and in view of increasing the sector's competitiveness, it is crucial to understand the dynamics that are defining the sector today. LinkedIn is uniquely positioned to provide actionable insights that capture the level of detail, timeliness and breadth needed to truly understand what's happening in today's fast-paced, complex labour markets.

As part of this research partnership, LinkedIn will use insights drawn from its professional network to generate a detailed picture of the specific characteristics of the EU's automotive industry workforce, looking at career experiences and specific skills.

*Dr. Jakub Stolfa, DRIVES Project Manager, VSB – Technical University of Ostrava*

*"The automotive industry is one of the driving forces in the European economy. The automotive value chain employs millions of Europeans and it is currently facing many structural changes such as stricter emission standards, decarbonisation, new mobility concepts, growing share of digital technologies, including software in added value of cars, changes in consumer's preferences, amongst many others. Project DRIVES' goal is to map the sector's current skills gaps and mismatches, while analysing emerging trends and future skills needed. One of the project's main outputs will be the development and maintenance of an Automotive Skills Strategic Roadmap, which will serve as a basis for updating current skills frameworks and developing new ones. The involvement of LinkedIn's Economic Graph will strengthen this output by leveraging the insights and expertise of the world's largest professional network. At DRIVES, we are strongly committed and looking forward to initiating this collaboration."*

*Sue Duke, Head of Global Public Policy and Economic Graph Team at LinkedIn*

*"The automotive industry has long been and continues to be one of the champions of the European economy, both from an economic, as well as employment perspective. Like with other industries, the automotive sector is being profoundly influenced by changes brought about by the 4th Industrial Revolution, including the impact of AI and automation. Understanding how the automotive sector is evolving in this new era will be crucial to anticipating the impact on future skills needs, and to safeguarding its lasting competitiveness. We're looking forward to working with DRIVES to leveraging LinkedIn's Economic Graph - our digital map of the labour market - to bring to life these new changes and trends across the sector, and to empowering policy makers, businesses and workers with the information and insights that will allow them to make informed and bespoke actions for the future."*

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## About DRIVES

The Development and Research on Innovative Vocational Education Skills (DRIVES) project, which runs from January 2018 until December 2021, is co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme as a Blueprint for Sectoral Cooperation on Skills.

DRIVES will deliver human capital solutions to supply chain SMEs through the establishment of an Automotive Sector Skills Alliance, covering all levels of the value chain (vehicle production, automotive suppliers and automotive sales and aftermarket services), namely by:

- Mapping and assessing the skills gap and future skills needed in the automotive sector in the coming decade, as well as to develop and maintaining an Automotive Skills Strategic Roadmap;
- Improving existing and proven skills framework across the EU;
- Enabling mutual recognition of awards between formal and informal education schemes;
- Implementing a common European automotive skills umbrella through integrating of existing skills framework;
- Creating a EU-wide apprenticeship marketplace.

DRIVES is coordinated by VSB – Technical University of Ostrava and brings together 24 project partners from 11 EU countries. The project draws on the expertise and inputs from the Steering Board, which is chaired by ACEA and co-chaired by CLEPA and ETRMA.

For more information: [www.project-drives.eu](http://www.project-drives.eu)

## About LinkedIn

LinkedIn operates the world's largest professional network with 575 million members globally. LinkedIn's vision is to create economic opportunity for every member of the global workforce. To achieve that vision, LinkedIn is building the world's first [Economic Graph](#), a digital map of the global economy. Through partnerships with policymakers across the globe, LinkedIn shares its labour market insights from the Economic Graph to help create greater economic opportunity.