

# ICT FOR TECHNICAL ENGLISH EDUCATION AT FEI VSB-TUO (I)

Monika Koslova

**Abstract** -- The objectives of the project and the needs it is designed to meet are drawn up from the promotion of Open and Distance Learning ( ODL ) and Information and Communication Technologies ( ICT ) in the field of education.

They are designed to promote European co-operation and better understanding among teachers, learners, decision-makers and the public.

The project supports the development of innovative practices which have a multiplier effect.

The methods used are to determine the most appropriate way of applying computer-assisted instruction in technical education.

The target group of the proposed project are also people with Special Needs ( Learning Without Frontiers ). A challenging environment for learners with special educational needs could be created, supporting the idea of incorporating them equally into the whole society.

As for pedagogical approaches, those facilitating learners' autonomy, lifelong-learning, cooperation ( team work ), development of analytical skills and creative thinking are to be promoted.

*Index Terms* – ICT, innovation, technical English

The Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Informatics at the Technical University of Ostrava ( FEI VSB-TUO ) started to apply study programmes of the so-called combining form. The idea is based on the needs analysis of the labour market. More and more employees in e.g. PLC companies have sufficient work experience, but inadequate education, there is a lack of university educated people. We can expect an increasing demand for this kind of education, as new electrotechnically oriented industrial complexes are being built in our euroregion ( e.g. Philips ). The combining form enables employees to study and work at the same time.

The so-called structured model of university studies ( three years of bachelor studies followed by two years of magister studies ) is part of a long-term goal of FEI. The anticipated changes connected with implementation of this model mean first of all incorporation of ICT into teaching and creation of on-line study materials for distance education. The materials aim to be cost and time effective, and used by more than one university.

One of the very positive factors for the development of FEI can be considered present and future cooperation between graduates of our University and internal students

in the form of consultation ( tutors ) of diploma works or PhD dissertations when they can thus pass on their expertise.

Another goal is improved education of students as far as quality of the whole educational process is concerned. They need to be prepared for the future society well, that is why we aim to ensure:

1. improvement of their foreign language ( English ) competence together with specialised technical subject knowledge
2. innovation of language teaching in relation to
  - a) cultural context
  - b) integration of ICT into language learning
  - c) ODL support for students with special needs