

## ROTENA TRAINING COURSE PILOT TESTING

The ROTENA project, funded by the EU, aims to engage and excite students about science by introducing them to robotics (including artificial intelligence) and 3D printing. One of the project results is a training course for New Age Technology featuring helpful examples, activities, videos and quizzes which will support the learning process of course participants. The pilot testing was completed by face-to-face testing and online questionnaires. A total of 77 people registered as evaluators for the training course to review the programme in the spring of 2018. The testing's main aim was to find out how participants viewed the training course experience itself – it was not a testing of knowledge on the subject matter.

The testing phase was successful and the training course received a lot of positive feedback from its highly motivated participants. Results show that the training course fulfilled the participants' expectations. The participants found the course content to be arranged in a clear and logical way and over half of them stated that the attainable knowledge, skills and concepts were very well explained. People were satisfied with the amount of material covered by the course, with the quality of the examples given and with the ease of navigation through the online programme. The many positive reactions to the course give a clear indication that the participants would be happy to recommend the programme to others; this is what some of the participants had to say about the course:

- “Well researched, written, and designed”
- “Clarity of explanation and easy access”
- “For me, this is a very good course that will help many students”
- “I think it’s a great course with excellent materials”
- “I recommend this course because anyone can understand the language that is used and it is also a very clear and simple course...”
- “I think the course will be important in future”

It was good to see that over 80% of the participants rated the training course as relevant or highly relevant for gaining basic knowledge about 3D printing and robotics – these results are what the ROTENA project group had hoped to achieve. **The final and revised training course modules will be available at the end of September 2018 and will be designed to potentiate the participants' autonomy.**

## FINAL CONFERENCE IN PORTUGAL

The project's final conference takes place on June 22 2018 (09:00-12:30) in Espinho, Portugal. Project partners, including Dr Paul Quantock, Coordinator and Promoter of the ROTENA project, will be there to inform about the project's objectives and its results. The event features presentations about European Robotics, the project's New Age Technology training course and the training course pilot testing. In addition to that, an exciting robotics competition organised by the Portuguese project partners will take place. The participants for this competition were selected during the testing phase of the project's training course pilot.



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