

Editorial note

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The second issue of the IET journal "Enterprise and Work Innovation Studies" represents the effort of whole team to produce it and integrating the collaboration from other experts from different geographical origins. During this year of 2006 took place the organisation of a second international seminar (October) by IET. It was held the Conference on "Foresight Studies on Work in the Knowledge Society". Some of the articles were developed for that international conference. But IET continued to support the organisation of the European project WORKS project on "Work Organisation and Restructuring in the Knowledge Society" (financed under the 6th Framework Programme of R&D).

The first article to open this issue is a discussion on the industrial society changing process to the knowledge-based society. This debate is presented and analysed by Bettina-Johanna Krings, researcher from ITAS at the Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe (Germany) on the article with the title „The sociological perspective on the knowledge-based society: assumptions, facts and visions“. The second article is about the working activities and options in IT projects and the limits of the work design. Is developed by Erich Latniak and Anja Gerlmaier from the Institut Arbeit und Technik of the Wissenschaftszentrum Nordrhein-Westfalen located at Gelsenkirchen, also in Germany. Following the same issue of relation between technology and work organisation, the article of Luis Ribeiro and José Barata on the new shop floor control approaches for Virtual Enterprises, is a work developed at the UNINOVA Institute and the Faculty of Science and Technology, New University of Lisbon. From Holland, the article from Ben S. Kuipers and Marco C. de Witte from the Faculty of Management and Organization, University of Groningen, is about the responsibilities and responsiveness in the management structure and the work team processes. "The quest for a balanced manpower capacity: different flexibility strategies examined" is the title of the next article. It was produced at the Centre for Sociological Research of the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium) by Anne Delarue, Stijn Gryp and Geert Van Hootegem.

Isabel Lopes Nunes and José Miquel Cabeças (both from FCT-UNL, Portugal) present two different articles on the topic of ergonomics. The first one on Ergonomics and Usability as key factors in Knowledge Society is authored by Isabel Nunes and the second one is on occupational musculoskeletal disorders in Europe. Is a study on the impact, risk factors and the preventive regulations, and his author is the co-ordinator of IET research group on ergonomics and security, J. Miquel Cabeças. Based on a paper to the above-mentioned conference is the article on foresight methodologies to understand changes in the labour process, from the experience of Portugal by António B. Moniz (also from FCT-UNL and IET). The article of Tobias Woll (from the research line on Innovation Systems and Foresight Analysis of IET) focus on the processes of change and on the future perspectives of clothing and textile industry in the Knowledge Society. The research line on quality and innovation of the IET centre presented an exploratory study on the applicability of SERVQUAL in restaurants in a Portuguese resort (Vera Patrício, Rogério Puga Leal and Zulema Lopes Pereira). And, finally, Martin Bechmann, Linda Nierling (both from ITAS-FZK, Germany) and Tobias Woll (IET) presented an article on the main conclusions of the 1st WORKS Conference on Transformation of Work in a Global Knowledge Economy organised in

Crete (Greece). The last parts of the journal are, again, about activities of IET members, like the information on integration in academic juries and conference reports.

We hope that this second issue can continue to reveal the scientific policy of the research centre and present some of the activities held in this last period. We continue to report and support the activities of the centre members, and to give a platform to the new research results held at IET, and to support also the scientific debate on enterprise and work innovation at an international level.