

International Expert Conference  
**New Approaches for Lifelong Learning in Vocational Education and Training**  
**Certified IT Qualifications and Blended Learning**

May 10.–12. 2005, Bonn

**Session 3:**

**The contribution of nonformal IT Qualifications to  
the development of VET and Skill Standards**

Summary of Statements and Discussions

US developments

- Industry-based certifications in IT-Education and Training
- Trend towards development of “patchwork-skills standards” into nation wide standards
- Certifications focus on learning outcomes
- Lifelong learning focuses on integration of different categories of learning: formal, non-formal and informal
- Appropriate instruments for process-oriented validation of competencies need to be designed and developed

German developments for the German advanced IT-training system

- IT-training system profiles are oriented on nation wide reference processes
- The profiles and the establishment of learning of the IT processes itself safeguard a dynamic qualification model which takes technological change into account better than rigid subject orientated curricula
- Examinations are not so much rituals as proof of action competencies
- Further IT education links up with experience and knowledge and picks up the participant where he stands
- Process and competency is getting more transparent for the enterprise
- The learning process is an integration of the three categories of learning: formal, non-formal and informal