"Teaching and Learning through cooperation with business."

Title of presentation
Teaching and learning between universities and companies: USGM and Enertecna experience

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Abstract
One of the main difference between traditional and distance universities, is in the human contact between teachers and students. Thanks to modern technologies, this distance was drastically reduced in the last decade. Online platform with slides, audio and video lessons, exercises, self-evaluation, virtual classrooms, virtual lab, didactic multimedia accessible at every time in every tools (PC/Tablet/smartphone), as the ones used in USGM, could in many cases not only be the only or an easier way to learn but also a way to better improve student skills and abilities. All these new knowledge instruments usually not involve specific case studies related to technical company problems and not fill the gap between research and company world.

On other way companies outsourced more and more activities in order to reduce cost, improve quality and reduce risk. Moreover, especially for the small and medium enterprises as Enertecna, the research activities, even if they improve the core knowledge of the company, can be an unsustainable cost. Thus there is a need to cooperate with universities but related to specific problem and in specific time.

A platform available on the Internet between universities and companies (e.g. UC-crowd) can be a solution not only to the companies to reach the right person in the right time but also to the

universities to bring specific case studies to the students and direct connect students and companies.

Nevertheless, not only in the platform has to be a match between companies and universities expertise but also specific problems related to the easiness of the problem to be quoted, the easiness and quality to the answer done, and the property rights have to be solved, in order to bring innovation to the HEI.