

## **Two sectoral practical training centres have been opened in Lithuania**

**Until 2014 it is foreseen to establish 42 sectoral practical training centres (SPTC). Two of them have already been opened in wood technologies and furniture production sector.**

SPTCs are being established according to the National Practical VET Resources Development Programme (2008) on the basis of Sectoral Practical Training Centres Concept (2007) and Development Programme (2008). First contracts for the establishment of SPTC were signed in 2009. The establishment of centres is funded from 2007-2013 Cohesion Promotion Operational Programme and national budget. It is foreseen to allocate Euro 116 million for the establishment of SPTCs.

The main aim of the SPTC is to assure that learners, using the latest technologies and equipment, gain practical skills matching the needs of the labour market. These centres will be open to students from VET, higher education institutions, employees from sector enterprises, vocational teachers and others. The centres will concentrate around technologies in specific sectors.

When creating SPTCs investments focus on the efficiently operating schools which will be obliged to implement quality related changes: to implement modular training programmes, to increase continuing vocational training services, to regularly update trainers and education managers qualification, to implement quality management system, etc.

In 2012 Wood technologies and furniture production innovations SPTC was opened in Kaunas Builders Training Centre (*Kauno statybininkų rengimo centras*) and Furniture making SPTC was opened in Ukmerge Technology and Business School (*Ukmergės technologijų ir verslo mokykla*).

Source: ReferNet Lithuania