

UNIVERSITÀ DI PADOVA
DIPARTIMENTO DI TECNICA E GESTIONE DEI SISTEMI INDUSTRIALI

The University of Padua, Department of Management and Engineering, plans to fill a six-month research position as part of the project titled "Development of models to assimilate, manage and exploit knowledge about customers and markets to support firm competitiveness".

This project is one of the most important and large ones financed by the Ministry of Research and University (MIUR). Six universities (more than 40 professors and researchers high qualified in the management field) situated in various parts of the country are involved in, namely: University of Padova (project coordinator), Polytechnic of Bari, Polytechnic of Milano, University of Calabria, University of Udine, University of Genova.

The project aims to give significant support to the competitiveness of SMEs through the development and validation of an integrated set of organisational and technological models, methods and tools for knowledge management in SMEs. Global competition makes intangible factors critical, particularly the knowledge which a company must possess and exploit for competitive purposes. Although literature on KM recognises its importance for SMEs, it has not sufficiently studied the specificities of SMEs and the appropriateness of KM tools for them. Therefore, an important part of the project is devoted to the field analysis through national and international case studies.

The project presents the following original and innovative elements: a) it focuses on KM applied to SMEs using a contingent approach; b) it handles knowledge management not just within companies but also at an inter-organisational level; c) it deals with knowledge management jointly from a technological and organisational-managerial point of view; d) it provides for heavy involvement of companies both during the early phase of the project and during the evaluation of the effectiveness of the methods and tools developed.

The project outcomes include:

- a book on methods and tools for knowledge management in SMEs to improve competitiveness. All methods, tools models, case studies and theoretic reflections developed in the current project are gathered here and systematically presented (end of 2008);
- conference papers (2007-2008);



- articles in referred International Journals (2007-2008).

Details of the offer:

- **Tasks:** a) to collect 2-3 case studies in Europe (following the same protocol used in Italy); b) to collaborate in making case studies comparison; c) to collaborate in writing papers and chapters of the book (literature analysis, cross case analysis, ecc.). Depending on the particular skills of the researcher, we can jointly define the precise tasks of her/his work.
- **Time:** It is possible to split the six months to spend in Italy in two or three periods, starting in spring 2007 ending june 2008.
- **Compensation:** the gross salary available is 43.500 euros including taxes and all the expenses. Comfortable and low-priced accomodation at the Campus is available.

Profile

- To possess a PhD
- To show proven research capacity
- To have competences in the field of knowledge management, innovation management and organization.

Please send C.V. to: roberto.filippini@unipd.it

Prof. Roberto Filippini
Principal Investigator of the Project

