

LAW-TRAIN – Development of a virtual interviewing training platform that aims to fight against drug crime

Crime is a multi-national issue that often requires cross-border investigations. On one hand, these inquiries are beset by obstacles and miscommunication stemming from different cultural and legal perspectives. On the other hand, training officers by role playing is very expensive and – regarding various resources – not always possible. With LAW-TRAIN, law enforcement agencies can cut costs while effectively train their officers in conducting joint-investigative interviews with the virtual training platform.

For the past three years, our team of experts has been developing the innovative LAW-TRAIN training platform funded and supported by the European Commission. Now running a beta version.

Key benefits to train investigative interviewing

LAW-TRAIN is a training platform for law enforcement officers that offers the ability to train interviewers and teams in a virtual environment. Thus, a new and innovative way of training of interviewers for joint-investigations is created.

LAW-TRAIN makes it possible to train with law enforcement agents from other countries, hence low-cost continuous training is possible. It allows for standardization of interviewing procedures and training and improves transnational contacts that can also be beneficial for future operations and investigations. In comparison to other existing applications, LAW-TRAIN differs in particular by the possibility of multinational, collaborative trainings. Because of the virtual nature of the platform, the simulator is accessible from any country at any given time. LAW-TRAIN is not only made for end users, but also with end users. This greatly underlines LAW-TRAIN's chances of becoming a truly useful tool for end users.

Ten consortium partners – multidisciplinary collaboration

The LAW-TRAIN consortium consists of ten partners from six countries, being experienced experts in the fields of computer science, criminology, methodology, educational systems, information technologies and user research. An essential part of the consortium is the four end user partners operating in different countries as law enforcement and security authorities. Throughout the whole project, there has been an excellent exchange and fruitful collaboration of all partners.

Status at the end of the project

The system design has been completed and the beta version for the implementation of virtual training tools is finished as well. The integration of developed modules (scenario development, training phases, virtual suspect, 3D environment and virtual trainer) is done, and the two 3D interviewing environments (investigation room, court room) have been developed. Language and interaction volumes have been extended through actual data collections with the end users of the project.

High market interest for LAW-TRAIN

At the end of the project, all partners look back on the successful multinational cooperation as well as the completion of all required milestones regarding technical and methodological innovations. Due to the already noticeable high interest of the market on investment opportunities for LAW-TRAIN as a

cost-effective training tool for investigative interviewing, the chances of a successful market entry are very good.

About LAW-TRAIN

The European Union is funding the international Horizon 2020 project “LAW-TRAIN”, which establishes the training of cross-border, collaborative interviewing situations for European security authorities. The project consortium which is composed of universities, national governments, as well as companies from different fields of expertise, has run for three years.

For further information about the project please visit:

<http://www.law-train.eu>

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