

Interview with **Irene ISLAVA**

Engineer and project manager
at the Asociación de la Industria Navarra (AIN), Spain



Irene ISLAVA

is an engineer and project manager at AIN, specialized in environmental projects. In the frame of XERIC she is carrying out a Life Cycle Assessment (with a Life Cycle Cost Analysis) to better know and address the environmental impact associated with the new XERIC climate control system.



Can you please tell us a little bit about yourself through your career path ?

I graduated in mechanical engineering in 1995 at Public University of Navarre, in Pamplona, the city I was born and where I live. In the following two years I worked for two companies, dealing mainly with quality management, and industrial facilities projects. After this short time I joined Engineering department of AIN in 1997, where I specialized in environmental projects and studies. At AIN I have worked in different projects related to environment and energy, both as a technician and as a project manager. I am Project Manager Professional (PMP) since 2013.

What does your daily job look like ?

In general my job is quite varied, so somedays I spend the whole day in the office working in projects, but some other days I spend the day in my clients' companies, or travelling abroad to participate in project meetings.

What is your favorite work subject ?

What I most like about my work is the opportunity to learn continuously, participating in research projects and doing novel things that contribute to a sustainable development. On the other hand I also like to help companies to solve their problems, working closely with them to search solutions.

What excites you in the XERIC project?

The possibility to increase the energy efficiency of these systems by means of a new concept in the climate control systems. Related to my role in XERIC, I find it motivating to carry out a life cycle assessment of new systems and components not modeled to date.

You attended the 5th progress meeting in Monaco on 10 April. What will you remember the most from this meeting?

What I will remember the most from this meeting, but also from the rest of the project meetings, is the excellent work carried out up to now, and the willingness of all partners to solve the problems encountered throughout the project.

Are you participating in other international projects? Can you talk about them and explain the role you play?

At present I am coordinating the EE-METAL European funded project, a H2020 programme project. The main aim of EE-METAL project is to provide EU SMEs and industry with innovative technical, informational, commercial and financial tools in order for them to overcome the existing barriers that hinder the adoption of energy saving measures. The actions are targeted to Metalworking and Metal Articles SMEs, given that the MMA sector is one of the biggest manufacturing sector in Europe and it is mostly composed by SMEs.

**Thanks for answering my questions
Irene and all the best for your projects,
including XERIC !**

Irene's skills

Engineering and technical services: integrated project management, technical assistance in industrial environment, environmental and energy projects and studies, industrial facilities, industrial safety

AIN, a partner in the XERIC project

The Asociación de la Industria Navarra is a private non-profit organization owned by its member companies (around 120) that finances itself by providing specialized services in different areas of knowledge and key specialties to the management and development of companies and organizations.

The Engineering business unit actively supports companies that comply with sustainable development guidelines and respect the environment, not only fulfilling legal requirements, but also applying the most adequate available technologies.

In the frame of XERIC, AIN is in charge of applying the Life Cycle Assessment approach to quantify the environmental impacts associated with the new and innovative Climate Control System, identifying areas to reduce these impacts and conduct to a more sustainable product. This study is also completed with a Life Cycle Cost Analysis.

XERIC in brief

XERIC is a European Research & Innovation Project

Start date: 1st June 2015

End date: 31st May 2018

**Number
of partners:** 8

Coordinator:
Dr. Eng. S. GAETA
GVS spa
Italy

Programme:
H2020-GV-2014
Project Reference: 653605

