

EUROPEAN UNION GRANTS ADVISOR

Czech SME Uses Funds to Increase Staff Employability Skills



“This project is of national importance in making information technology accessible for visually impaired people. It provides both a chance to improve their professional qualifications and to be more integrated in society.”

Zeynep Saraeva, Director,
Foundation Horizonti

FAST FACTS >>

Situation

S&T is local branch of EU wide IT company based in Prague. It wanted to develop its employees' IT skills to help improve customer service. S&T drew up a project plan that focused on educating its 80-strong team in:

- Microsoft® Server curriculum
- Oracle
- SAP

Its main aim was to develop the IT skills of its employees and thus improve customer service and increase sales.

Solution

Following the advice of an EUGA consultant, S&T successfully applied to EU Social Fund for financial support to fund its training project. It submitted its application in November 2005 and by January 2006, it was awarded €100,000 (U.S.\$129,000). Using the grant, S&T paid for the preparation of the training courses, trainers' salaries, and the hire of training premises. The project, which started in March 2006, will run until March 2008.

Benefits

- Awarded €100,000 (U.S.\$129,000) grant to fund training project.
- Around 80 staff members were successfully trained.
- S&T closed the IT skills gap and increased its competitiveness.

>> For more information: www.microsoft.com/emea/euga