



## The challenge

Repetition is said to be the mother of learning. This can certainly be said for the vocational school Eduko in the Finnish city of Kouvola, where hands-on experience is combined with theoretical knowledge.

Digital solutions from Dynabook have made it easier to both teach and learn. Together with their technical partner Pekava, Eduko uses dynaEdge AR glasses to create a better learning environment for both students and teachers.

The smart glasses provide the missing link in Eduko's e-learning environment. The dynaEdge AR glasses are lightweight, durable and suitable for various environments at the school, such as the car shop and the restaurant kitchen. Freeing up both hands, the dynaEdge AR smart glasses create an opportunity for teachers to record demonstrations during lessons. The content that is created can then be used for online lessons and demonstrations for the students to see. The smart glasses are connected to a standard mobile Edge PC running Windows Pro, and with the built in Windows operating system you are able to record a video and immediately edit that video on a bigger screen. For students who want flexibility in the time and place of their studies, it becomes a very functional solution, not only for users and teachers but also for IT Managers. Not least since the latest version of the solution comes with 11th Gen Intel Core Processors and Windows 10/11 Pro, integrating easily into the existing IT architecture at Eduko while maintaining security for the school's environment with the device's secure operating system.

## Introduction

Kouvola Vocational Institute Ltd., also known as Eduko, is a vocational training institute in the city of Kouvola in southern Finland. Eduko employs more than 300 experts on education, counselling, administration and other services. Almost 7000 students enrol annually in various training activities.

Eduko offers a wide range of learning opportunities for individuals and work teams. Training programmes focus on enhancing skills and expertise that are essential in modern work life. Education, operations and learning environments are developed in close cooperation with local companies.

Eduko is jointly owned by the city of Kouvola and Kouvola Adult Education Foundation, and is a licensed operator by the Ministry of Education and Science.

Another aspect to consider is the fact that Eduko has several students with an immigrant background and also students with learning disabilities. When the dynaEdge smart glasses are used as a part of the teachers' demonstrations, students have the opportunity to watch the videos as many times as they need to make sure that they understand the assignments before they do it by themselves.

**“For example, teachers have made demonstrations that explain how to perform different types of car repairs. We upload the content to our e-learning platform and students can have a look at the videos as many times as they want before they start working on a real car. It is very handy.”**

In essence the glasses become a pedagogical tool that supports the individual student. It is also a practical tool for students who are studying facility management and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) services. There are places where you can't bring a lot of students because of size restrictions in these classes, such as ventilation shafts. In this kind of environment, the dynaEdge smart glasses makes it possible for teachers to show the students a variety of technical facilities without physically bringing them there all at once.

## Integral part of Eduko's e-campus solution

As a technical partner, Eduko chose to work with the local partner company Pekava which has given the vocational institute technical help. The two partners have learned a lot together on the journey, since smart glasses are not yet widely in use in vocational education.

In the future the dynaEdge AR glasses are going to be an essential and integral part of Eduko's e-campus solution. Today Eduko are using a management system called Itslearning, and dynaEdge can integrate to this system very smoothly. It adds a lot of value to the students to get more interactivity to their studies, and students who live far from Kouvola can see demonstrations that teachers have been able to create.

## dynaEdge – ready for the future

From a pedagogical point of view, dynaEdge AR has added a lot of value and Eduko sees many applications in the future that are possible. For example, the students can borrow the glasses and you can give online guidance to students during their on-the-job training. In practice this means that teachers will be able to see the work they conduct and can give both advice and do assessments remotely. At the same time, working life representatives could potentially use the glasses in cooperation with Eduko, which brings the realities of work-life closer to the school and the students through e-learning.

“When our technical partner Pekava first gave us a call, we said that they should have contacted us earlier. We would have benefitted from having the dynaEdge glasses implemented before the pandemic and the subsequent lockdown hit us. But we also saw possibilities for the future and jumped at the opportunity to start a pilot project. Today we feel that the cooperation with Pekava and Dynabook has been excellent. We have received all the support we need. I also think that our partners have learned a thing or two about vocational education.”

Tuija Arola, development director at Kouvola Vocational Institute Ltd. (Eduko).