

# Setting European Standards on ICT Skills



*Paolo Schgör*

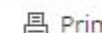
*ECDL & EUCIP Certifications Manager at AICA  
Chairman of the CEN Workshop on ICT Skills*



### List of sectors

[Air and space](#)[Chemistry](#)[Construction](#)[Consumer products](#)[Energy and utilities](#)[Environment](#)[Food](#)[General standards](#)[Health and safety](#)[Healthcare](#)[HVAC etc \(gas appliances etc\)](#)[ISSS \(ICT\)](#)[About ISSS](#)[Major Current Activities](#)[Focus Groups](#)[Technical Committees](#)[Workshops](#)[CEN Workshop Agreements](#)

## CEN/ISSS Workshop on ICT-Skills



The ICT Skills Workshop has been operational since early 2003. The Workshop has completed a CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA) on 'A European e-Competence Framework'. The CWA (2 parts) is currently being published by CEN. Its technical content is available on the web-site of the project.

The Workshop is currently working on the following 2 subjects:

- ✦ A project towards developing a practical tool to access eCareer Services
- ✦ A report on ICT Certification in Europe

During the period April - December 2003 the CEN/ISSS Workshop on ICT Skills and Curricula, proposed by Cedefop, Cepis and the ICT industry, represented by the Career Space consortium, has validated in an open consensus process the ICT profiles and ICT Curriculum development guidelines, published by Career Space and Cedefop in 2001 and 2002.

As a result CWA 14925 and CWA 15005 have been published - [download](#).

During the period February - November 2005 the Workshop worked towards an ICT Skills (Meta/ Reference) Framework. As a result CWA 15515 has been published - [download](#).

Should you wish to participate in this CEN/ISSS Workshop, please contact the Workshop Secretary, Mr Philippe Magnabosco, AFNOR.



## Workshop Purposes (N022)

- 1) to provide a platform for *ICT-Skills stakeholders* ... and develop a common view ...
- 2) to enable them to contribute ... by promoting the views of the workshop's members ...
- 3) to undertake development work on required standards ... with relevant sources funding ...
- 4) to seek means of collaboration with other relevant bodies ...

# Achievements

2003-04

**CWA 14925:** Generic ICT Skills Profiles for the ICT supply industry  
- a review by CEN/ISSS ICT-Skills Workshop  
of the Career Space work

**CWA 15005:** ICT Curriculum Development Guidelines...

2005-06

**CWA 15515:** European ICT Skills Meta-Framework -  
State-of-the-Art Review, Clarification of the Realities, and Rec  
for Next Steps

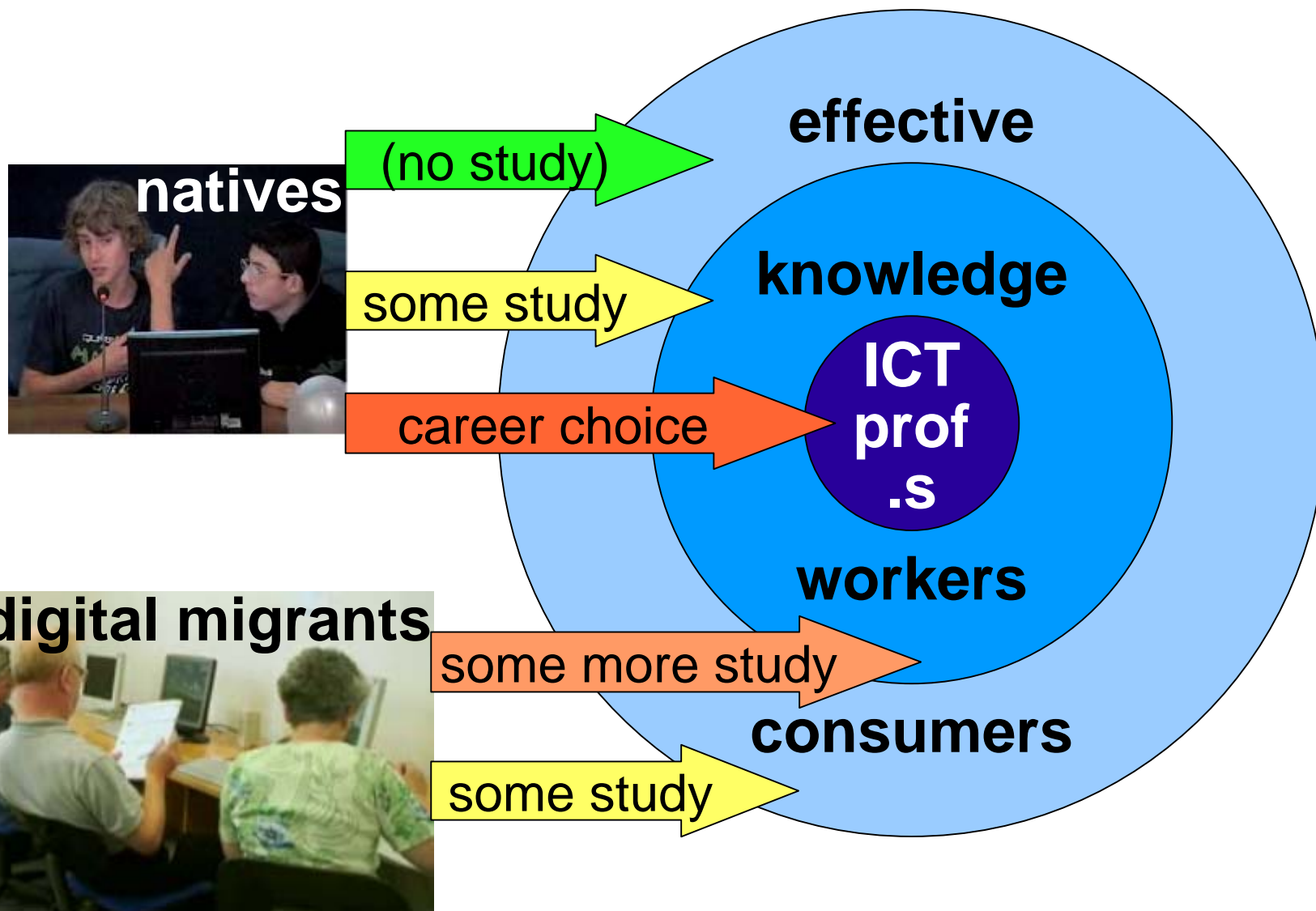
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**CWA 15893-1:** European e-Competence Framework

**CWA 15893-2:** e-CF user guidelines for ICT sector players



# Digital literacy





## Maturity of the ICT sector

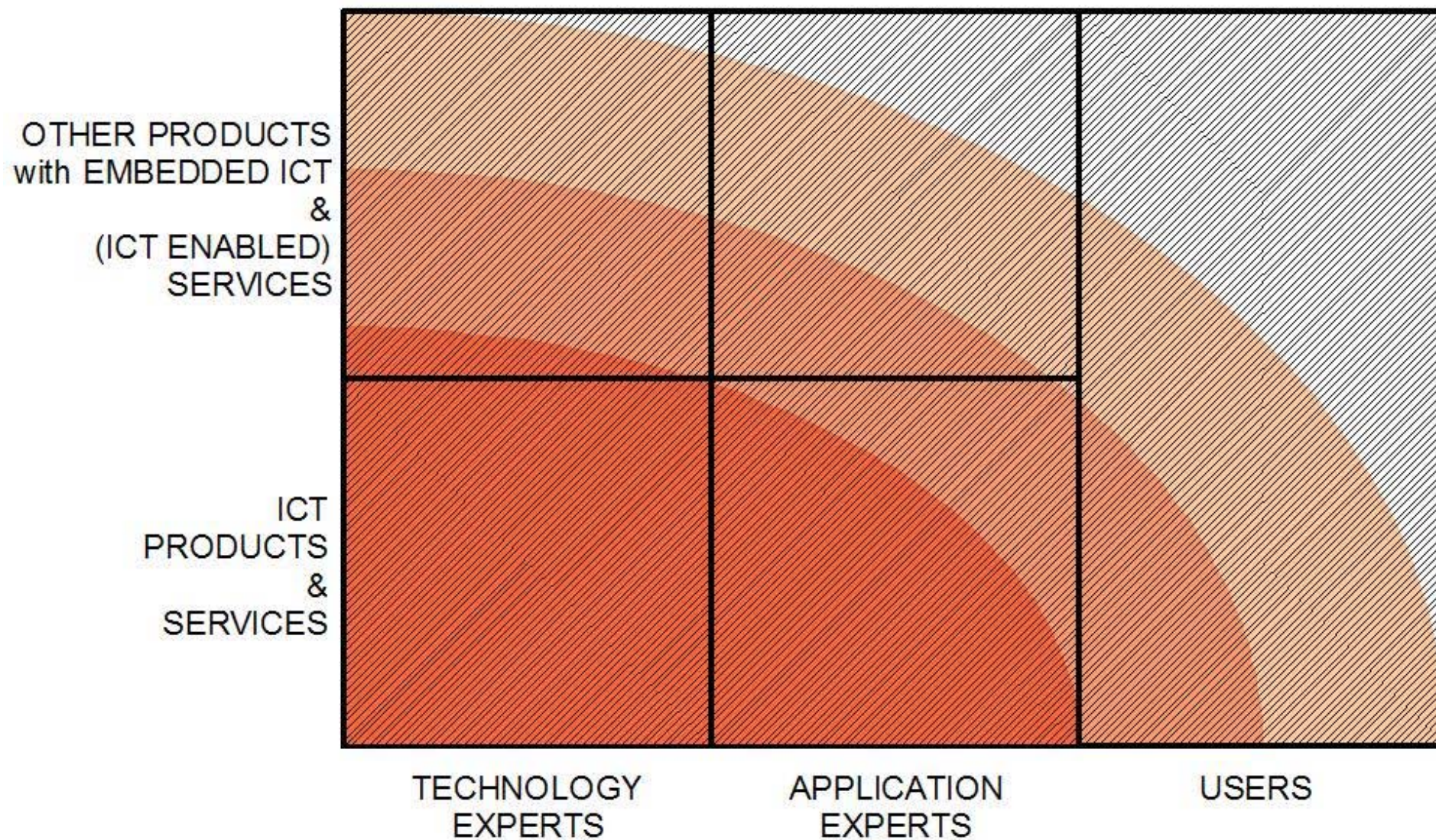
- ICT supply chain is getting longer and longer
- innovative service models are seen as an escape from complete **commoditization**
- “steady” innovation (**Moore's law** still valid!)
- the **gold rush is over**:  
pioneers are changing themselves  
or leaving the space to breeders and farmers

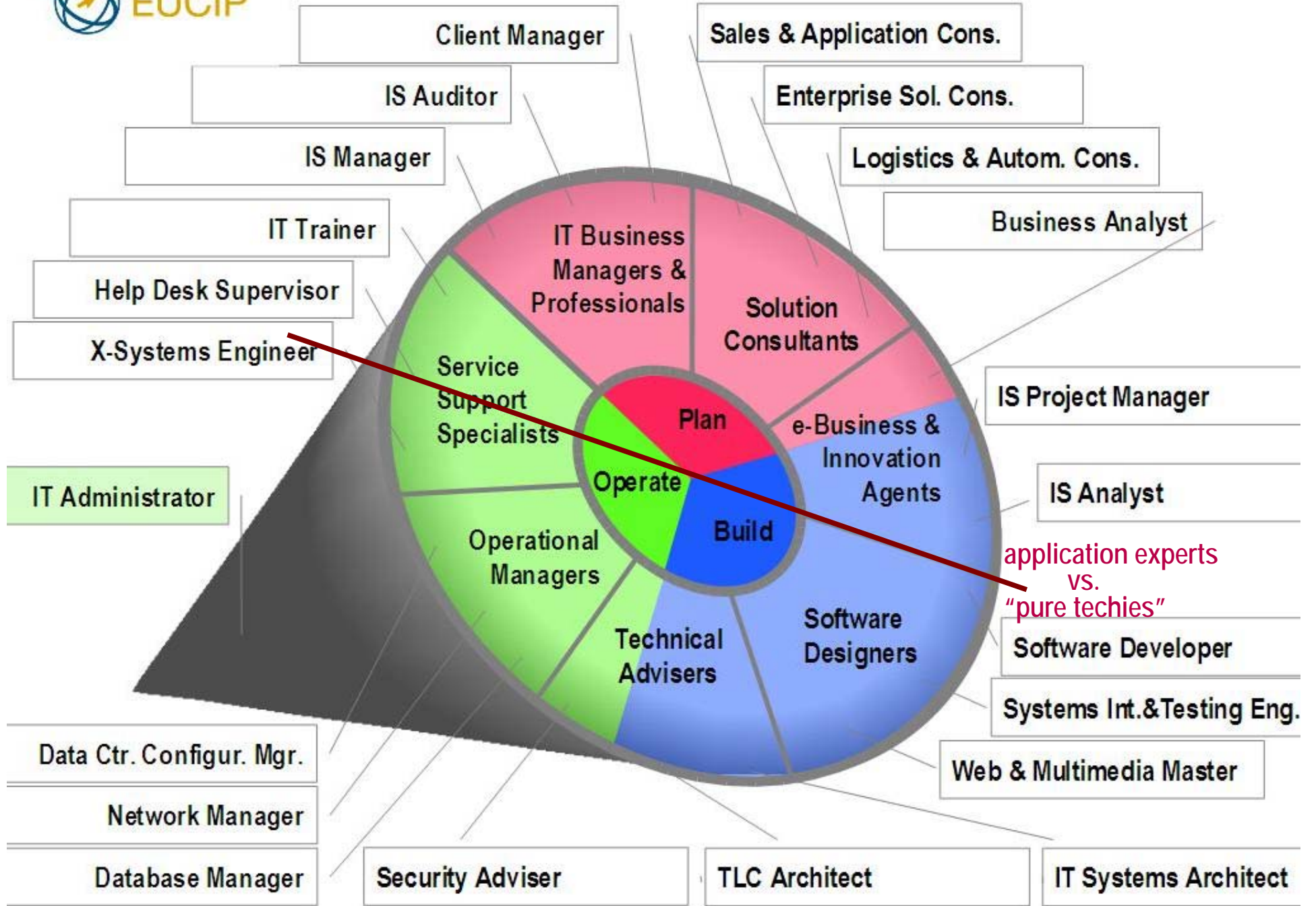


# The **hybrid** ICT professionals

- “Pure techies” on the leading edge of R&D, designing innovative components and products:
  - general purpose systems (e.g. a typical PC)
  - **dedicated systems, with ICT components embedded** in other products
- **Application specialists** required to design innovative solutions in a given context (both domain-specific and even organization-specific)
- Look at IBM's shift from hardware to software products, and then from products to **services...**

# The complete range of skills







# Towards a comprehensive standard on ICT skills ?

- Two new projects are now running within the CEN Workshop on ICT Skills:
  - End User e-Skills Framework
  - e-Competence Framework in Action

*In pioneering times IT users had to be technology experts as well: a single set of researchers/amateurs existed. An increased maturity of the sector requires now to define the different roles and to come to common views and standards both on user and professional skills.*