Professional Skills for Teacher in Facing the Challenges of the 21st Century: The Perspective of Vocational Teachers in Indonesia

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**Abstract.** Learning of the 21st century in Vocational Schools has been ongoing and is followed by the need for skills in facing today's challenges. However, the implementation of vocational learning has many characteristics that are adapted to the challenges of the 21st century. This study aims to describe and reveal the understanding of professional teachers in future vocational schools. A quantitative method with a survey approach was carried out to reveal the perceptions of SMK teachers in various provinces. Participants in this study involved 139 teachers, 117 male teachers, and 22 female teachers who expressed their perceptions of professional vocational teachers. The research instrument used a questionnaire with an open statement. Data analysis was categorized based on the arguments of each vocational teacher separately. The findings of the study provide a strong understanding of professional teachers in vocational schools to master several important skills including (1) communication; (2) collaboration; (3) creativity; (4) critical thinking; (5) problem based; (6) ICT and (7) class management. The research conducted recommends that future professional teachers should be trained and created.