

Press release

Friedhelm Loh Group

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Friedhelm Loh Group welcomes new students

Those who dare do something new will win: Seventeen new students at the Friedhelm Loh Group

The Friedhelm Loh Group has now welcomed its new students on dual work/study programmes during a tour of a special kind. Seventeen young people quickly learned to pull together and achieve their own and common goals at the Wetzlar climbing park. To this end, they had to overcome their own limits – a good foundation for their studies of business administration, engineering or industrial engineering.

Herborn, 5 July 2016 – Change starts outside the comfort zone. Those who look boldly beyond the horizon and beyond their borders will evolve. However, at the Wetzlar climbing park, the 17 new students of the Friedhelm Loh Group learned the hard way just where the journey beyond known limits will lead to, and how far one should actually go. During team-building, they went over hill and dale, up to the tree-tops, and then back to the ground of hard facts. The newcomers were quickly able to form an experienced team that learned to reflect on risks, make strategic decisions and share opportunities as well as successes in a variety of exercises. Every one of them took one thing back home: Those who dare to do something new, will win – and lay the foundation for individual and common success.

Acquiring expertise in theory and practice

Whether they are studying mechanical engineering, SME management, or refrigeration and climate control technology on the StudiumPlus course at the University of Applied Sciences of Central Hesse (THM) in cooperation with the Friedhelm Loh Group, the new students are

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pursuing both their professional and academic interests. Together with the THM, the family-run company is offering nine bachelor's degree programmes. During term-time, the students swot up for the university, while during the holidays they learn and work in the company. They pursue their own projects and take part in teams, learn from their colleagues or go to an international subsidiary.

Six of the 17 new students will have just finished their finals when they squeeze themselves back behind their desks for the next lot of exams. This is because they have recently successfully completed their training in the Group: "I want to deepen the knowledge I acquired during training", says Robin Reichmann, who only completed his training as an industrial clerk at Rittal a few weeks ago. Now, he is studying industrial engineering and looking forward to the new challenge: "I've got many opportunities for personal development at Rittal. I think it's great that you can work abroad, for example in a subsidiary in the USA."

Not only students from Germany can work and learn internationally in the Friedhelm Loh Group. Students from abroad are drawn to the world leader in enclosure and system technology in Central Hesse. For instance, the Polish exchange student Piotr Guzik completed a three-month internship at Rittal in Herborn last year on the "European Industrial Experience Mittelhessen" (EIEM) programme. This year, two students have come to Herborn from Poland and Kenya to get a taste of Rittal's Research and Development department, which shows that people in Germany and abroad are receptive about this joined initiative of various Friedhelm Loh Group companies and the THM.

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Software technology, the new 'smart' course

“The study period is aimed at getting our students at home and abroad to discover new things, even within our industry, one which is increasingly changing as digitalisation grows”, says Anke Wojtynowski-Scharf. She supervises students at the company’s own training facility, the Loh Academy: “Well-founded knowledge relating to the Internet of Things/Industry 4.0, networking and the intelligent factory is conveyed on the new Software Technology course that will commence in 2017.”

On this course, students will learn how to evaluate new technologies within the shortest possible time and to put this knowledge into practice within the company as needed. They assess the influence of digitalisation on business processes and implement software systems into existing systems. The importance of data in the industry is increasing continually, Mrs. Wojtynowski-Scharf added. This new field now needs new experts – ones who can look beyond the industry’s horizons.

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Caption(s)

Fri162023700.jpg: It is easier to dare to do something in a team. The 17 new students of the Friedhelm Loh Group learned this, as well as about further success factors in the office or at school during team-building exercises at the Wetzlar climbing park.

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The globally active Friedhelm Loh Group (FLG) invents, develops and produces customised products and system solutions for industry, commerce and trade. The Friedhelm Loh Group's companies belong to the top addresses in their respective industries – as inventors and competent producers. They include Rittal, the world's leading system provider for industrial enclosures, power distribution, climate control and IT infrastructure; Europe's number one supplier of software solutions for mechanical and plant engineering and industry, as well as integrated manufacturing expertise with state-of-the-art materials – steel, aluminium, and plastics.

The family business is active world-wide with 18 production sites and 78 international subsidiaries. The proprietor-run Friedhelm Loh Group employs 11,500 people and generated revenues of around €2.2 billion in 2015. In 2016, the Group was named one of Germany's leading employers for the eighth year running. A Germany-wide survey by Focus Money magazine named Friedhelm Loh Group as one of the nation's top companies in terms of vocational training in 2016.

For more information, visit www.friedhelm-loh-group.com.