

Best process mechanic in Germany: IHK honors BENTELER trainee

- **In a virtual event, the East Westphalia Chamber of Industry and Commerce has honored Florian Just for his performance as the best trainee in his field in Germany.**
- **The award confirms the high quality of BENTELER's training.**
- **In 2021 and 2022, BENTELER will continue to focus on training and has pledged 50 apprenticeships at its German sites.**

Paderborn/Salzburg, Jan. 26, 2021. BENTELER employee Florian Just has been named Germany's best apprentice in his field. In a virtual event, Petra Pigerl-Radtke, Chief Executive Officer of the East Westphalia Chamber of Industry and Commerce, praised the achievements of the 22-year-old process mechanic in his final exam. The award confirms the high quality of training at BENTELER and is a reflection of BENTELER Steel/Tube's commitment to provide 50 apprenticeships at its German sites for 2021 and 2022.

Petra Pigerl-Radtke congratulated Florian Just in her laudation and at the same time emphasized the high-quality training at BENTELER. "Companies like BENTELER have long recognized and appreciated the value of training. That is why they pursue a sustainable human resources policy with training and continuing education. After all, today's trainees are tomorrow's specialists and managers," emphasized the IHK general manager. BENTELER offers apprenticeships for vocations such as mechatronics engineer, process technologist, industrial engineer, toolmaker, cutting machine operator and materials tester.

Alignment with digital transformation

All apprenticeships are adapted to the requirements of digital transformation – across disciplines and with a strong content focus on Industry 4.0 topics. For example, mechatronics engineers and process engineers are trained in a much more interdisciplinary manner and with additional digitalization focuses. In addition, BENTELER not only trains in the fields of electrical and metal technology, but also gives trainees insights into IT and commercial topics. As part of the training, BENTELER offers its trainees and students work experience placements at one of its 80 locations in over 25 countries worldwide. Florian also took advantage of this opportunity. "The highlight of my apprenticeship was definitely my stay abroad. For three months, I was able to support my colleagues at the plant in Shreveport," he says of his time in the United States. "Basically, what I liked about the training was that I had many opportunities for personal development. During project phases, you can make your own suggestions and then implement these projects. The trainers were always really supportive."

Clear commitment to the region

"Against the backdrop of structural change in the automotive industry and the current coronavirus crisis, the commitment to 50 apprenticeships in 2021 and 2022 is a clear commitment to the East Westphalia region," summarizes Christian Wiethüchter, CSO | COO of BENTELER Steel/Tube and a member of the Management Board at BENTELER Steel Tube. "We will continue to work to provide high-quality training for as many young people as possible."

For the start of training in mid-2021, BENTELER will train the new apprentices at, amongst others,

its own Education and Training Center in Paderborn. The more than 4,000-square-meter facility is equipped, for example, with a digital training workshop and six state-of-the-art production robots. In the coming year, BENTELER will continue to make its training premises available for retraining in cooperation with the employment agency and job center, as well as for qualifying trainees from other medium-sized companies in the region. "30 to 40 trainees from other companies benefit from the fact that we offer our facilities," explains Christian Wiethüchter. "With this step, we are promoting technical apprenticeships in East Westphalia, enabling cross-company exchange and making optimum use of our capacities."

Get to know BENTELER at the CONNECT and STEP1 virtual training fairs in Ostwestfalen-Lippe from January 18 to February 12. We're offering interested students virtual one-on-one interviews via video, phone and chat as well as digital workshops:

- <https://unternehmen.connectausbildungsmesse.de/company/118>
- <https://unternehmen.step1ausbildungsmesse.de/company/102>

Photos and captions:

Virtual-Event.jpg: During a virtual event, Petra Pigerl-Radtke, Chief Executive Officer of the East Westphalia Chamber of Industry and Commerce, honored BENTELER apprentice Florian Just for his performance as the best apprentice in his field in Germany. Among the first congratulators were Christian Wiethüchter, CSO I COO BENTELER Steel/Tube, and Thomas Koch, Head of the Education and Training Center in Paderborn.

BENTELER-AWZ.jpg: In the next two years, BENTELER will enable 50 young people to receive high-quality training at the Education and Training Center.

BENTELER-Florian-Just.jpg: The award from the East Westphalia Chamber of Industry and Commerce for Florian Just confirms the high quality of BENTELER's training.

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About BENTELER

BENTELER is a global, family-owned company serving customers in automotive technology, the energy sector and mechanical engineering. As innovative partner, we design, produce and distribute safety-relevant products, systems and services. In the 2019 financial year, Group revenues were €7.713 billion. Under the management of the strategic holding BENTELER International AG, headquartered in Salzburg, Austria, the Group is organized into the Divisions BENTELER Automotive and BENTELER Steel/Tube. Our around 30,000 employees at 100 locations in 28 countries offer first-class manufacturing and distribution competence – all dedicated to delivering a first-class service wherever our customers need us. BENTELER. The family of driven professionals. Since 1876.

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About BENTELER Steel/Tube

BENTELER Steel/Tube develops and produces seamless and welded quality steel tubes. As one of the leading manufacturers, we offer our customers solutions worldwide, along the entire value chain – from material development to tube applications. In this way we create tailor-made tube products for the automotive, energy and industry market segments.

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