

## **Press release**

Friedhelm Loh Group

FRIEDHELM  
**LOH**  
GROUP

*The Friedhelm Loh Group is one of the best enterprises providing training*

### **What trainees want: Friedhelm Loh Group honoured as a top training company**

**The Friedhelm Loh Group performed very well in a nationwide study commissioned by “Deutschland Test” and “Focus Money”. The study revealed that the family-run business in Central Hesse, which employs more than 11,500 people worldwide, is one of the best companies in Germany when it comes to training. The 2,000 businesses with most employees in 22 different sectors were examined.**

Herborn, 22 April 2016 – In the Friedhelm Loh Group, taking on responsibilities at an early stage, spending time abroad and consistently obtaining further qualifications is possible not only for established employees, but for young talent as well. That is why the global player from Central Hesse has now been honoured for being one of “Germany’s best companies for training”. A study by the Deutschland Test organisation and Focus Money magazine shows that trainees in the Friedhelm Loh Group enjoy particularly favourable education and training conditions: “We are delighted to receive this award and are proud of the valuable cooperation within the training team,” says Marcus von Pock, Senior Vice President Human Resources: “This seal of quality confirms in black and white that our concepts have proved successful in providing ideal development for young talent. We will continue to work towards these goals.”

The group provides training for around 200 trainees at locations in Hessen, North Rhine-Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate and Thuringia. Trainees can choose between no less than 20 trades, ranging from mechatronics and

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technical product design to IT specialist. The subjects they have to deal with during their training range from enclosure construction or energy-efficient climate control to man-machine communication in Industry 4.0. “Our training not only needs to convey technical expertise, it must also instil entrepreneurial thinking,” says Marcus von Pock. That is why ‘junior companies’ form part of the trainee development program. “Big Little Rittal” and “Ri2Youth” are organisational units of the Group’s largest company, Rittal, in which trainees independently maintain customer contacts, complete orders and make decisions: “It’s a great experience to be able to assume responsibility so early on,” says 21-year-old Maximilian Sirvend. In “Big Little Rittal”, he was responsible with three other trainees for managing the company’s fleet of vehicles and for ordering office supplies and promotional materials. Here, working independently is a matter of course.

## **Trainees abroad: learning in an international environment**

In the Loh Academy, the company’s own training facility, training is regularly provided in soft skills, for instance during the “off-the-job workshop” at the Gnadenthal Monastery, where trainees develop their own projects. And those who still want to learn following their training can link a dual combined studies degree with an international qualification, thanks to the cooperation between the Loh Academy and the Mittelhessen University of Applied Sciences (THM) where engineering, industrial engineering and business management can be studied.

Trainees who perform very well can also learn in an international environment, added Marcus von Pock: “That’s the advantage of a large group of companies that is successful worldwide.” Trainees are already employed

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at the group's international subsidiaries, where they are gaining valuable professional and personal experience.

Most recently, the Friedhelm Loh Group was named one of Germany's top employers (for the eighth time in a row) because the development of junior staff and employees plays such an important role in the company: "As the region's biggest employer and largest trainer, we have a responsibility for our environment", Marcus von Pock continued: "And we take it very seriously."

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## **Caption(s)**

fri121675500.jpg: The trainees of the Friedhelm Loh Group are also active at trade fairs. The group has now been awarded the "Germany's best companies for training" seal of quality for its innovative approaches to developing young talent.

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## **Friedhelm Loh Group**

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 2014. For the seventh time in succession, the Group won the

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accolade “Top German Employer” in 2015. For more information, visit [www.friedhelm-loh-group.com](http://www.friedhelm-loh-group.com).