

Press Release

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Students get to know robotics at Voith Education Center

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- **First-time cooperation in connection with technical training at Fortis Akademie**
- **“Robotics and automation” project week at Voith Education Center**

22 students from the Fortis Akademie got to know the Voith Education Center in Chemnitz during the “robotics and automation” project week in September. The event marks the start of cooperation between the Voith Education Center and the Fortis Akademie in Chemnitz.

Fortis is among the biggest providers of private vocational training in the Free State of Saxony. For example, students may attend Technical College at Fortis Akademie for two years to obtain their University of Applied Sciences entrance qualification. The Voith Education Center in Chemnitz is Voith Industrial Services' modern robotics education center. It supports companies in training their specialized employees further in robotics and in conveying expert knowledge to them. As engineering partner for customers from the automotive and rail sector, the industrial services provider is among the market leaders in developing rail vehicles. Thus, they understand their customers' specific requirements and know what competences a robotics specialist needs.

During the first two days of the project week, the participants learned about robotics in theory and about its influence on Industry 4.0 from Education Center instructors at Fortis Akademie. On the next three days, the students put their theoretical knowledge into practice and programmed the robots on their own in small projects. For example, the students integrated grasping movements into a program and tried LIN (linear) and PTP (point-to-point) programming.

The objective of the project week was to give students a first insight into their future job and gradually introduce them to practical work. “After their training at Fortis Akademie, the students will have the opportunity to upgrade their skills and qualification in robotics with us. We want to provide them with the skills they need for the job at an early stage and give them an understanding of the various occupational fields in robotics. We enjoyed the project with the highly motivated students very much and we would like

to repeat the event next year”, says Susann Fiedler, Head of the Voith Education Center in Chemnitz. The students were very pleased with the project as well. “It is amazing to see how much you can learn in just one week”, participants unanimously agreed. Joerg Schindler, Head of Instruction of the Technical College at Fortis Akademie adds, “It was a successful, educational and interesting project for the students of the Technical College. The project provided a well-considered ratio of theory and practice.” The successful cooperation shall continue in the future. During the next school year, another project week will take place at the Voith Education Center in Chemnitz.

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About Voith Industrial Services:

Voith Industrial Services, a Group Division of Voith GmbH, is one of the leading providers of technical services for key industries such as the automotive, energy, chemical and petrochemical industries and of engineering services. In 2013/2014, the company generated with its about 18,500 employees sales of €1.18 billion at its more than 170 locations worldwide.

About Voith:

Voith sets standards in the energy, oil & gas, paper, raw materials and transport & automotive markets. Founded in 1867, Voith has about 39,000 employees today and generates €5.3 billion in sales. It has locations in around 50 countries worldwide and is one of the large family-owned companies in Europe.

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