



Annual Report 2022/2023 ERASMUS+



Erasmus+-Team

Rolf Sander

European projects manager

Berufliches Schulzentrum I

Freiherr-von-Rast-Schule

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Technical College for Mechanical Engineering

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Erasmus+

Enriching lives, opening minds.

2021 - 2027

On June 1, 2022, our school started in the new Erasmus+ program. Under the title „Enriching lives, opening minds. - New perspectives, new horizons.“, numerous innovations were announced and implemented by the European Commission. Above all, funding was once again increased compared to its predecessor, which of course also positively affected the area of vocational education and training. The changed application procedure should lead to a strong simplification in this area. Unfortunately, considerable problems with the administration of the mobilities occurred again and again in the second year of the program period. Only through an increased administrative effort could a proper implementation of the stays abroad be achieved. In other words, the extra work was once again borne by the colleagues on site. We would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank our Erasmus+ team „Friends for Europe“ for their tireless efforts to enable our students to spend valuable time abroad in Europe.

Unfortunately, we have not yet been able to achieve the number of mobilities this school year that we were used to before the pandemic. Reluctance on the part of some companies abroad, but also reluctance on the part of one or the other student were reasons for this. But at the end of the year, a satisfactory number of trainees were again able to complete an internship abroad. It was gratifying that this year, for the first time, a trainer from a Coburg company was also abroad, „job shadowing“ is the name of this type of mobility. His positive experiences and also the positive feedback from the host companies should encourage further participants in the future. The good cooperation with the town twinning association Coburg also has a positive effect: A student from the agricultural sector from the region of Niort - Coburg's twin town - has found his way to Coburg in

this way. And also the contacts to Toledo, Ohio, USA, could be intensified. Two teachers from our school are in the starting blocks here.

We would like to thank all supporters and look forward to further active participation by trainees, companies and teachers.

Grief for Mag. Anton Pixner

On 28.01.2023, our esteemed colleague Anton Pixner from the HTL Vöcklabruck in Austria passed away completely unexpectedly. Anton Pixner was a committed European who was responsible at his school for its European orientation. Together with his team he established the connection to numerous European schools, which usually resulted in a partnership. Our school has also been part of this circle since 2012. We thank Anton Pixner for his dedicated commitment to the European idea.



Rest in peace, dear Toni.

Rolf Sander, Friends for Europe – F4E



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Die 15 Auszubildenden der Fachbereiche Metall-, Holz- und Elektrotechnik nach der feierlichen Übergabe ihrer Dokumente in der IHK.

Kompetenzgewinn durch berufliche Auslandspraktika

Coburger Azubis als Botschafter der dualen Berufsbildung in Europa

Im Schuljahr 2021/22 haben Auszubildende Betriebspraktika in Belgien, Österreich, Malta, Irland oder in Spanien absolviert. Jetzt wurden sie feierlich von der IHK sowie an der Staatl. Berufsschule II Coburg geehrt.

Bei der IHK fand die Abschlusspräsentation und Verleihung der Zertifikate „Europass Mobilität“ statt, durch die dreiwöchige Betriebspraktika von 15 Auszubildenden aus den Fachbereichen Metalltechnik, Holztechnik und Elektrotechnik in Belgien und Österreich gewürdigt wurden. Dieser Einsatz wurde von den Lehrkräften der Staatlichen Berufsschule I Coburg organisiert und im Rahmen des „Erasmus“-Programms der Europäischen Union gefördert.

IHK-Präsident Dr. Andreas Engel gratulierte in seiner Laudatio den Auszubildenden zu ihrer Entscheidung, an dem EU-Austauschprogramm teilzunehmen und insbesondere zu ihren neu gewonnenen Lern- und Arbeitserfahrungen im Ausland. „Neben Erweiterung des fachlichen Wissens haben Sie auch Ihre Sprachkenntnisse verbessert, Land und Leute kennengelernt, Ihre persönliche Selbstständigkeit und Ihr Selbstbewusstsein gestärkt.“ Dr. Engel dankte den beteiligten Unternehmen, dass sie ihren Auszubildenden die Teilnahme an Auslandsaufenthalten ermöglichen. Beim



Acht Auszubildende erhielten an der Staatl. Berufsschule II den „Europass Mobilität“.

Betriebspraktikum 2021/22 waren das die Firmen Geiss, Kaeser Kompressoren, Kapp Niles, Lasco Umformtechnik, Schumacher Packaging und Waldrich Coburg sowie die Schreinereien Gundermann und Übelhack.

Der Leiter des Staatlichen Beruflichen Schulzentrums I Coburg, OStD Gerhard Schmid, betonte den hohen Stellenwert des internationalen Austauschs. „Der ‚Europass‘ ist mehr als ein Schulzeugnis, er würdigt Ihre Leistung, im Ausland zu lernen und zu arbeiten.“

An der Staatl. Berufsschule II Coburg erhielten acht Auszubildende, die im Schuljahr 2021/22 Betriebspraktika in Irland, Spanien oder auf Malta absolviert hat-

ten, den Europass-Mobilitätsnachweis, der die Lernerfahrungen dokumentiert. Die Übergabe der Urkunden in Verbindung mit einem kleinen Geschenk erfolgte durch Schulleiterin Oberstudiendirektorin Martina Borchering und dem Leiter Bereich Berufliche Bildung an der IHK zu Coburg, Rainer Kissing.

Koordiniert und organisiert wurden die Auslandsaufenthalte vom Berufsschullehrer Klaus Schwarz in Zusammenarbeit mit „Europe for you“ c/o Bits & Grips gemeinnützige GmbH. Größtenteils finanziert wurden die Maßnahmen von der Europäischen Union im Rahmen des „Erasmus“-Programms.

Da viele Firmen international tätig sind, werden von ihnen in anderen Ländern gesammelte berufliche Erfahrungen sehr geschätzt.

Im Verlauf der Veranstaltung berichteten vier Teilnehmer/innen von ihren positiven Erfahrungen im Auslandspraktikum und von ihrem Zugewinn an Kompetenzen.

Den entscheidenden Ausbildungsbetrieben BayWa AG, BID Bayerischer Inkasso Dienst GmbH, Carl Brandt GmbH & Co. KG, HABA Group B.V. & Co.KG, Inge's Christmas Decor GmbH, System Gesellschaft für Computersysteme mbH und Verpa Folie Weidhausen GmbH gebührt ebenfalls ein besonderer Dank für die Kooperation bei dieser hochwertigen Bildungsmaßnahme. ■

EuroPass award ceremony at the Coburg Chamber of Commerce

„The europass Mobility documents the learning and working experiences gained abroad. It shows one's own mobility and the courage to learn and work in other countries. This makes it an important asset when applying for jobs.“ With these words, the National Agency for Vocational Education and Training (NA-BIBB) - responsible in Germany for the implementation of the Erasmus+ program - promotes the Europass, pointing out the high value of the certificate.

After the last EuroPass award ceremony took place in July 2019 at the IHK zu Coburg, the event could finally take place again in October 2022 in a festive setting at the IHK zu Coburg. Well-known representatives from politics, business and school accepted the invitation of the Erasmus team of the Freiherr-von-Rast-Schule. They expressed their appreciation for the 15 students for their willingness to complete a 3-week internship abroad in Europe. Before the certificates were handed over by the guests of honor present, the trainees reported in detail on their experiences in the foreign companies and on their cultural experiences. They described their experiences in detail in the 2021/2022 annual report.

The magazine of the Coburg Chamber of Industry and Commerce „Unsere Wirtschaft“ reports on the awarding of the Europass (see printout opposite).

Rolf Sander
Friends for Europe

Magazine of the Coburg Chamber of Industry and Commerce
„Unsere Wirtschaft“
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PartnerDay 2022 – Treffen von Freunden



Grafik: VTI Waregem

Also in this school year 2022 the partner day took place in Waregem. Besides the representatives of our school, representatives from Belgium, Austria, Italy, Sweden and the Netherlands came to this meeting to exchange information about the ongoing mobility projects. These so-called mobilities serve to enable students to

spend several weeks of work experience in other European countries in order to broaden their professional but also social skills. This day makes it possible to maintain contacts with partners abroad and to get new input. Mutual trust and reliability are important prerequisites for mobility projects, as



is good organization in the respective destination country. To do this, you have to know your contacts - and since it is once again possible to meet people in real life and not just get in touch via e-mail, we naturally took advantage of this opportunity. Only with these conditions our students have the possibility to get to know the country and its people and to experience the spirit of Europe. The partner day also offers the opportunity to get to know the Belgian students and their families who will be doing their internship



in Germany in February 2023. In a presentation Gloria Sander introduced on the one hand the city of Coburg and possible excursion destinations as well as the „Do's and Don'ts in Germany“. The companies were also introduced: KAESER and WALDRICH in Coburg

and GEISS in Seßlach. In a joint final round, open questions could be clarified.

Projects such as the Erasmus+ project at our school are enormously important, especially in these times. The opportunity for our students, but also for us as teachers or for our partners in the dual training, to get to know the European foreign country, not only brings the individual person in their development, but also strengthens our society in the long term.

Gloria Sander, Studienrätin





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Internship abroad in Belgium from 07.11. to 25.11.2022

On Sunday, 06.11.2022, five trainees of the Coburg Vocational School I (Freiherr-von-Rast-Schule) met once again for departure at the Coburg train station. Mr. Rettenberger accompanied us on the three-week trip to Belgium.

Arrived in Waregem, Edwin (teacher of the partner school VTI Waregem) received us friendly and drove us as well as our luggage to our accommodation. After settling in, we went out for Italian food and then explored a small part of the city center. The next day we went to the bike store to pick up our provided bikes, visited our host companies and introduced ourselves. We discussed the most important details for tomorrow's first day of work and got to know our supervisors. During the week we cooked in the evenings and on the weekends we did typical tourist attractions, such as a trip to Bruges. There we saw the city and we also went to the sea in Blankenberge. We also exchanged ideas with Belgian students.



During the students' stay in Belgium, the partner day for teachers took place in Waregem on 17.11.2022. Gloria Sander and Rolf Sander used this opportunity to visit the students there. The first stop was the worldwide known manufacturer of luggage Samsonite. After a tour through the production, the students had the opportunity to grab a bargain or two in the store. The next stops, TVH - a manufacturer of accessories for forklift trucks and Renson - a manufacturer of conservatories and sun protection systems, were also very informative. How our students fared at the companies can be read on the following pages.

Armin Resch and Luca Wöhner (Industrial mechanic at KAESER Coburg) @Samsonite



As part of our training as industrial mechanics and the Erasmus project of the vocational school I Coburg, we, Armin Resch and Luca Wöhner, took part in a 3-week internship in Belgium. We completed this in the branch of the suitcase manufacturer Samsonite in Oudenaarde. After our arrival we received a guided tour through the company with information about the plant. We were assigned to the maintenance/fixture construction department. A person in charge explained to us the upcoming

work tasks. Communication was mainly in English. The goal of our work assignment was to assemble a thermoforming tool for the production of suitcase shells. In this automation process, the case shell is drawn from a heated and vacuumed plastic sheet. We used an identical tool in use as a template for this process. Several manufacturing processes were necessary until the so-called clamping cage was used in production. We assembled cylinders and clamps, drilled threads, screwed individual parts, and carried out grinding, filing and painting work. Another work order was to attach the pneumatics to the tool. After a final functional test, the tool we had assembled was used in production.



We were able to take on many tasks independently. The employees of the department were always available to answer our questions about the internship.

Julian Kiederle (Industrial mechanic at KAESER Coburg) @Renson



Hello, my name is Julian Kiederle and I am currently training to be an industrial mechanic in my 3rd year at Kaeser. During my 3-week internship abroad in Belgium, I was at

the company Renson. The company Renson builds e.g. winter gardens, canopies, sun protection. The employees there were all super nice and helpful and it was easy to talk to them in English. I always rode to and from work by bike for about 10 minutes. First, I was shown around the company, any unanswered questions were clarified and organizational issues were dealt with. My tasks were, for example, sawing off parts and then welding them, which were then needed for production, repairing and replacing old things and painting various components.



Leon Köhler (Electronics technician BT at Sauer Neustadt) @TVH



I, Leon Köhler, am currently training as an electronics technician for industrial engineering and during the time I worked at TVH I was allowed to independently inspect, repair and test components,

mainly forklift control units from the Jungheinrich company. I carried out the tests using a diagnostic tool developed by TVH itself, which was able to tell me exactly whether the component in question was in order or, in the event of a defect, had indicated the defective component. After checking the ECUs, I sorted them and then cleaned the working ones. Afterwards I exchanged the EEPROM of the board and played a new software version on it. The case I first cleaned roughly and then sandblasted and polished it. When I was done with that, I reassembled everything, tested the ECUs, and packed everything into ESD bags ready for shipping. It was an insanely great experience to work with sometimes tiny components and especially, very important in today's world, to recycle them. I was able to take home a lot of knowledge and some of the skills I learned.



Luca Blazquez (Industrial mechanic at KAESER Coburg) @ Matthys Group



My name is Luca Blazquez and I am an industrial mechanic in my 3rd year of training. During my 3-week internship abroad, I was hosted by the Matthys Group. I cycled there and back every day in all weathers.

The employees there were super friendly and despite the English language, I could communicate very well with them.

My tasks there were, for example, welding, painting and the assembly of individual components or machines. During the 3 weeks, I also

gained a completely new insight into the topic of „self-employment“. You had to do everything yourself, i.e. shopping, cooking, cleaning, In Belgium, I was with 4 other people, we all lived under one roof, which means you had to be considerate of the others, stick together and also divide the tasks among themselves.



Leisure activities

In our free time, we also went to a few Belgian cities and had a look at the culture there.

On Saturday, 26.11.2022, we took the train back to Coburg. In Brussels the train had technical problems and stood still for 30 minutes. and arrived in Coburg one hour late.



In any case, we can highly recommend the Erasmus+ project to anyone interested.

Leon Köhler (Sauer GmbH & Co. KG)
 Luca Blazquez (KAESER Kompressoren SE)
 Luca Wöhner (KAESER Kompressoren SE)
 Julian Kiederle (KAESER Kompressoren SE)
 Armin Resch (KAESER Kompressoren SE)



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Internship abroad in Austria from 08.05. to 26.05.2023

Five apprentices, pupils of the Freiherr-von-Rast-Schule Coburg, completed a three-week internship in Austria as part of the Erasmus+ programme. Three industrial mechanics (Waldrich Coburg) as well as one mechatronics technician and one electronics technician for industrial engineering (LASCO Umformtechnik Coburg) report on their impressions and experiences.

On Sunday, 07.05.2023, we - five students as well as Rolf Sander and Thomas Rettenberger, teachers of the vocational school I Coburg - met at 10 am at the train station in Coburg to start our approximately six-hour journey to Vöcklabruck. Once there, we checked into the Hotel Lindner, where we were accommodated in a double room and a triple room. After unpacking our suitcases and having dinner, we explored the town. Afterwards, we went to a café, where we ended the evening in a relaxed atmosphere.



Lukas Martin, Louis Scheler und Leon Walch (Industrial mechanic at WALDRICH Coburg) @STIWA Group

On Monday we went to the HTL Vöcklabruck together with our teacher Thomas Rettenberger. From there we were taken to the STIWA headquarters in Attnang-Puchheim, where the company was presented to us. We were then divided up and taken to our departments, where we received our safety briefing.

I, Lukas Martin, was assigned to final assembly for three weeks during my internship abroad at the STIWA company, Attnang-Puchheim plant. At the beginning of the first week, my task was to deburr and pre-assemble cable trays for installation in the machines. After some aluminium profiles of the machine gate had been added or moved in the middle of the week, I was able to lay the cable routes on the machine roof together with the skilled workers of my team. At the end of the first week, the tread plate was adapted to the cable routes and mounted on the machine roof. In the second week, we added skirting boards and went to an identical machine, on which we also retrofitted aluminium profiles and mounted tread plates. For the last week we got the order to mount the baseboards



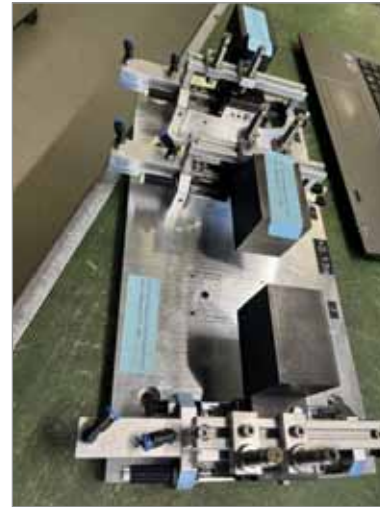
on the second machine. After some adjustments, this job was also completed successfully. During this time I also learned how to use the CAD programme „3D-Access“ so that I could work more independently.



I, Louis Scheler, was assigned to the development department at the SRIWA plant in Gampern during my internship. I implemented plans for new machines or prototypes with my colleagues. I also worked hand in hand with the design department to improve or modernise existing systems. Part of my working day also covered troubleshooting on conveyor systems that were intended for our own company

and were newly constructed. Among other things, I also got an insight into the testing of systems in continuous operation, where I had to dismantle guides in order to measure and mount alternative guides. Performing various measurements was also part of my tasks, such as stiffness testing and displacement force testing. During my internship, I also dealt with gripping and swivel units, which I had to dismantle down to the last screw. With the help of the CAD programme „3D-Access“, I gained an understanding that made it much easier for me to assemble and work independently.

automated ants. During my internship, I worked with the CAD programme „3D-Access“, which made it easier for me to assemble the individual components and gave me a better understanding of the components.



My name is Leon Walch, I was allowed to spend my time during the Erasmus+ programme at the STIWA company, Gampern plant, and worked in series assembly. The first week I assembled pneumatic axles, on which the gripping and swivelling units will later sit. At the beginning of the second week, with the help of other skilled workers, I set up and assembled the frame of filling systems and added sensors and conveyor belts. During the rest of the week, I exchanged the incorrectly mounted guide slides for the correct ones. In the third week I assembled driving units of





Daniel Hauck, Electronics technician, industrial engineering and Tom Kolb, Mechatronics engineer (both Firma LASCO Coburg)@SML

Our internship in Austria, which we completed at the company SML, lasted three weeks. There we worked in three departments, which were very instructive especially for our professions as mechatronics and electronics technicians. In the first week we worked with the „winders“, where we got to know the basic structure, the wiring and the installation of the machines. The modern workstations with computers showing 3D models of the machines were impressive. In the second week, we went to the extruders. There we assembled cables and then connected them to the extruder. Since the employees have a lot of experience in their job, they were able to give us helpful tips, which taught us how to do the work faster and more efficiently. However, as the working week was shorter due to the public holiday, the week could not be used as well as the other two. In week three, we started working in the electrical workshop, where we were taught about control cabinet construction and were allowed to build our own control cabinet. We installed equipment, cut cable ducts and learned about new components. The work was fun and very informative.

We especially liked the fact that the company was so modern and the employees and supervisors were always helpful and friendly.



Leisure activities

Vöcklabruck is a relatively small but cosy town. It has a very wide range of industries and some nice places to spend your free time. One of our most visited places is the „Cafe Licht“ on the market square, which is located between the two city towers and is a great place to end the evening. Not far away there was also a varied selection of pubs, clubs or bars, which we of course also „made unsafe“. When the weather was warm, we also enjoyed spending time at or in the river Vöckla.

Right next to our hotel there was also a playground where we could play a football match or two against the locals.

The first weekend excursion was by train to Seewalchen to see the Attersee from there. The weather was anything but good at



first, but we still didn't miss the opportunity to take a boat trip across the Attersee. Shortly after the boat left, it stopped raining and the sun came out, allowing us to enjoy the Attersee in all its glory.

In the second week we decided to go hiking. We

asked our colleagues about suitable hiking routes and decided on the Grünberg. We took the train to Gmunden and set off from there. After a 12-kilometre walk, we were able to explore the treetop path on the summit and enjoy a magnificent view. For the way back, we then preferred the cable car to get back to Gmunden. Once back at the hotel, we spent the evening relaxing and planning our trip to Salzburg for the next day.





We spent our last Saturday in Austria with a trip to Salzburg. We arrived at the main station in Salzburg after a 45-minute train ride. From there we walked towards the old town. We passed a bridge under which the river Salzach flows. Our destination for the time



being was the Hohensalzburg Fortress, from which one is supposed to have a super view over the city. Because of the beautiful weather on this day, many other people had the idea of visiting Salzburg, which made it not so easy. We wanted to take the cable car to the fortress, but when we saw the queues of people 3 streets away, we decided to take the footpath.

Afterwards, we looked for a seat in a restaurant so we could eat and drink something.

After we had gathered new strength for an hour, we went back to the train station and drove back to Vöcklabruck.

Later, when we were all sitting at the dining table, one of the colleagues brought up the suggestion to visit the „C'est la vie“ (a sports bar). Since the rest agreed with the suggestion, we now went there, where we played another darts tournament and also enjoyed a beer or two.

Daniel and Tom complete the leisure activities

The free time in Austria was also very pleasant and varied. On the first weekend we visited Lake Attersee, which is considered the most beautiful lake in Upper Austria. Afterwards, we looked around Vöcklabruck and explored the area. We also visited the nearby shopping centre called VARENA. At the end of the second week we climbed the Grünberg and took the gondola back down

into the valley. The next day we visited the city of Salzburg, where we saw the Hohensalzburg Fortress. When the weather got nicer, we went to the outdoor swimming pool at the Attersee and spent a relaxing day there.

On the last day we had a guided tour of our partner school HTL Vöcklabruck. Two students showed us around the school and explained the technical equipment. We also learned more about the school system in Austria and especially about vocational training. Many thanks to the two students who sacrificed their free time on a Friday afternoon.

All in all, we enjoyed the three weeks very much and were able to further our education and learn new things.

Trainees from Coburg businesses





Erasmus+ Job Shadowing - First time a trainer participated

On 15.05.2023, I started at around 6 a.m. with the company car in the direction of Austria-Vöcklabruck. The traffic was moderate, so I arrived quickly and without traffic jams.

I arrived at around 1 pm. First I looked for an opportunity to have lunch and contacted Mr. Gernot Weissensteiner, the head of the HTL-Vöcklabruck. We arranged to meet at 3 pm. After a tour of the HTL school, we discussed the schedule for the next few days. Around 6 pm I arrived at my accommodation, the Hotel Lindner.

On 16.05.23, I was able to have breakfast together with the trainees at around 6 am. Afterwards I made my way to the HTL. Today, the different teachers of the workshops guided me through their departments. This gave me an insight into the training of the skilled workers. I was particularly impressed by the very good equipment of the HTL Vöcklabruck. The students can, for example, produce figures or spare parts for a vintage car in the in-house foundry. The students also have the opportunity to acquire all the basic metal skills and get their first insights into control technology and robotics.

In the early afternoon, a workshop leader took me to the SML company. The company SML produces large plants for the production of packaging films. Here, Mr Ernst Starlinger took me through the production. I exchanged views with Mr. Starlinger about different manufacturing processes as well as the education system in Austria. Around 5:45 pm I was back at my accommodation.

On 17.05. I started as on the previous day with the trainees' joint breakfast. Then I set off again for the HTL Vöcklabruck. Today I had to visit the STIWA company in Attnang-Puheim. When I arrived at the company, Mr Stefan Wimmer welcomed me. First he gave me some information about the company. Then our tour of the company began. First we drove by car to the nearby training centre of the STIWA company. The first impression was very positive for me. The technical equipment provided for the training is very modern. At the training centre, I was able to discuss various topics with the trainer. The main focus was on technology and the training of the young skilled workers. Afterwards we drove back to the head office.

Here, Mr. Wimmer guided me through the rest of the company. Here I was able to see different plants, among others for medical technology or for the production of furniture hinges. I also met my apprentice Lukas at one of the plants. After the tour of the production, Mr Wimmer took me to his training area. Here I was able to see the training of the future design engineers.

Conclusion: The stay in Austria showed me that we at WALDRICH COBURG are on a very good path with the training of skilled workers, but that we still have potential for continuous improvement of the training.

Florian Buhl, Trainer Waldrich Coburg



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Belgian Students on work placement abroad in Coburg

Belgian Students at the Kaeser, Kapp and Geiss Companies

A total of six students from our partner school VTI Waregem (Belgium) - prospective electronics technicians - completed their internship abroad from 04.02.2023 to 18.02.2023 at the following companies as part of Erasmus+: Geiss Seßlach, Kaeser Kompressoren Coburg and Waldrich Coburg. They were accompanied by their teachers Vincent Soete (1st week) and Philip (2nd week).

Reception at the 3rd Mayor Can Aydin

The students considered it a special honour that they were welcomed by the 3rd Mayor Can Aydin in the historic Bürglaßschlösschen at the beginning of their stay in Coburg. „This was the motto of Mayor Can Aydin's welcoming speech to the students, company representatives and teachers. He wished the students „not only great impressions and positive experiences in the companies, but also many beautiful impressions of our Coburg!“



Rolf Sander, representative for European projects at the Freiherr-von-Rast-Schule, thanked the representatives of the companies GEISS, Waldrich and KAESER for their willingness to „host and supervise the young people in their companies. We know this always involves a lot of extra effort!“, said Rolf Sander. At the end, Can Aydin presented the students with the obligatory voucher for a Coburg bratwurst.

Then it was off to the companies for the start of the internship. The Belgian pupils also wrote a report about their stay. Here are the original texts of the pupils:

Joni Vandenberghe (Geiss)



The people I worked with were friendly and always willing to help us with our questions. It was a pity that there were hardly any electronic tasks and it was mainly electricity-related tasks. We did some

soldering work, which was fun. We also built a number of electrical cabinets and wired a machine, which were educational experiences. Coburg is a very nice town full of culture and certainly a nice place to relax after a day's work. The hotel we stayed in was also very quiet. Everything was fine except for the beds, which were a bit too hard, but that was the only drawback. The food was always delicious and there was always more than enough.

Niels Biebuyck (Geiss)

Doing an internship in another country may seem exhausting at first glance, but on closer inspection it's not so bad. It is an important experience that I will not forget. Throughout our internship, we are very well looked after, not only by the teachers, but also by the colleagues at the internship location itself. The language



can sometimes cause some difficulties, but most of the time the problems are mastered. Google Translate is used when necessary. During your internship you learn a lot and they take the time to explain things and put you to the test. Of course, there is also free time filled with fun activities. For example, skiing, bowling, going to a café.

Quincy Bossy (Kaeser)

Finding my way around the Kaeser company was a bit difficult at first because it's super big. But it was enlightening to know how things work in such a big company. In the first week we worked for the mobile compressors, but that was a bit annoying because they had to do almost the same thing, but it allowed us to see how



things worked in the company. In the second week we were with the students of the company and it was more interesting to work there. The activities between the working days were also fun, like bowling

or a visit to the Veste.

The accommodation was actually exactly what I expected when I thought of staying in Germany. Lots of wood and a bit of antiques, which made for a cosy atmosphere. The food was delicious and some things I had never eaten before. We also walked around the town of Coburg and it was nice because everything there remains as it once was, and that's nice to see. There was also a stall in the square selling Coburg bratwurst and it was the tastiest bratwurst I've ever eaten.

Matthys De Potter (Kaeser)

I liked the exchange very much. It was a big change to live without my parents for a fortnight, but everything went well, the group atmosphere was good.

The food was also very tasty, but always a lot. My partner Quincy and I were lucky enough to get a meal from Kaeser. We learned many things, such as the language and the culture.

At Kaeser we had enough work to keep us busy. We really got to work on wiring the compressors. We also got to do a little tour of the company.

Our accommodation was very clean and the breakfast was ok. The rooms were well maintained and cleaned every day.

So I was satisfied for the whole 2 weeks. It was a really nice experience and I recommend it to students who want to go to Coburg next year. Thank you for this opportunity.

Yarell Verbeke (Waldrich)

The people at Waldrich were very friendly, someone always wished us a nice day. The first week I was in the cable department. The work was a bit quiet, but I had enough work to keep me busy. I learned new ways of working and problem solving. For example, if I didn't know something right away, I didn't hesitate and asked someone who worked there. I also worked with two Romanians and they taught me how to put a kind of protective layer over a cable. They also showed me how the machine was built and how it worked. In the second week I was in the repair service, there was already a lot



more work. I repaired a control box and used a vibro-tech. I also made some industrial plugs of certain lengths. On the weekends we visited many places like the Veste in Coburg and Bamberg. We also went bow-

ling and skiing. Overall, my experience in Germany was extremely pleasant. I met many new people who were very friendly.

Clément Schmidt (Waldrich)

The first few days were quite calm. My classmate Yarell and I first got a nice tour of the company and everything was explained to us well. We were then both employed in a different department. I ended up in the maintenance department and my classmate ended up in assembly. In the second week we changed.

The first week was very quiet. I usually had to go to one or two machines that had a technical fault. Mostly it was normal switchgear that had failed.

I also had to disassemble a PLC and then reassemble it in a machine that they can still use. In the second week, I accompanied Noël (a student who worked there). We had to write a test programme for one of their machines, which was almost finished. We worked

on that for a few days. I was given a guided tour by the head of final assembly and then visited the latest machine with another employee.

Overall, I had a good time, the work was very nice and everything was tiptop.

The students' stay is financed by EU funds under the Erasmus+ programme. The two schools VTI Waregem and Berufsschule I Coburg have been working together successfully in this programme for many years.

Leisure activities of the Belgian students





Quincy Bossy (links) und Matthys De Potter packen beim Kompressorrennau mit an.

Foto: Julia-Weg

Praktikum in der German Industry

Sechs Auszubildende aus Belgien arbeiten derzeit in Coburger Firmen mit. Die Partnerschaft gibt es seit 2008 und verbindet praktische Erfahrungen mit dem Europagedanken.

Von Christiane Schult

COBURG/WAREGEM. Quincy Bossy und Matthys De Potter betrachten mühsam den Kompressor, der in der Halle der Firma Kaeser in Coburg vor ihnen steht. In den vergangenen Tagen haben sie eine Messungsgreife und Kabel für die Maschine zusammengebaut, bald ist das mobile Gerät bereit für die Auslieferung. Die beiden jungen Männer, 17 und 19 Jahre alt, stammen aus Waregem in Belgien. Dort besuchen sie die Freie Technische Schule (VTO), die sie in vier Monaten mit einem Berufsdiplom im Elektrobereich abschließen werden. Nun sammeln sie erste Erfahrungen im Berufsalltag und beteiligen sich für ihr zweiseitiges Pflichtpraktikum an einem Austauschprogramm mit der Coburger Berufsschule I.

Seit 2008 besteht eine Partnerschaft zwischen den beiden Schulen. Sie ist entstanden über die Städtepartnerschaft zwischen Coburg und Oudenaarde, welches knapp 20 Kilometer von Waregem entfernt liegt. Seit 2010 finden jährlich gegenseitige Austauschbesuche statt. Dann erleben Coburger Azubis den Berufsalltag in belgischen Firmen, und belgische Schüler kommen in die Werkstatt. „Wenn unsere Schüler sich nach der Ausbildung einen Job suchen, ist ein Auslandspraktikum ein echter Vorteil, es zeigt ihre Initiative“, weiß Vincent Soete,

Lehrer für Elektrik und Elektronik an der VTO. Er hat die teils minderjährigen Schüler nach Coburg begleitet und erklärt, dass die duale Ausbildung in Belgien überwiegend in der Schule absolviert wird. „Die Schüler sehen während der Ausbildung einen Betrieb nur während des Praktikums von innen“, weiß auch Rolf Sander, welcher für die Coburger Freiherr-von-Rast-Schule das Erasmusprojekt betreut.



„Die Auszubildenden in Belgien sehen während der Berufsausbildung einen Betrieb nur beim Praktikum von innen.“

Rolf Sander, zuständig für Erasmus-Projekte in der Berufsschule I in Coburg

Coburger Auszubildende in Belgien, derzeit sind sechs Belgier in der Weststadt. Sie wohnen mit ihrem Betreuungslehrer in einer Pension im Untertierbau und arbeiten bei Kaeser und Wälzlager in Coburg sowie der Firma Geis in Selbach.

Im Rahmen eines Projekttages werden jährlich jeweils vor Ort in den Schulen die Betriebe vorgestellt, die bereit sind, Praktikanten aufzunehmen. Aus allen Ländern, die Teil der Partnerschaft sind, kommen Vertreter, etwa aus Italien, Österreich oder Schweden. Je nachdem, für welches Land, welche Fachrichtung und welche Firma sich die Schüler interessieren, werden dann die verschiedenen Praktikumsplätze verteilt. In der Regel ist das Interesse größer als die Zahl der freien Plätze, sodass nicht jeder Bewerber gleich im ersten Jahr seiner Ausbildung mitfahren kann. Bevor es los geht, lernen die Schüler die wichtigsten Wörter in der jeweiligen Landessprache, machen Teambildungsprojekte und werden über landestypische Verhaltensnormen informiert.

„Es ist eine tolle Erfahrung, wir können unser gebildeten Fähigkeiten anwenden und trainieren unsere Englischkenntnisse“, sagt Matthys De Potter nach seinem ersten Woche bei der Firma Kaeser. Besonders spannend fand er das Arbeiten mit elektrischen Kontrollgeräten, ebenso wie sein Schulfreund Quincy Bossy. „Wir hatten vorher noch keine

praktischen Erfahrungen in einem Betrieb, nur die Schule“, sagt er. „Ich würde jedem so einen Austausch empfehlen, man lernt sehr vieles, was man in der Schule gar nicht mitbekommt.“ Es sei überraschend zu sehen, wie viele einzelne Teile nötig sind, um einen Kompressor zu bauen, das sei komplizierter als erwartet.

Marco Scheber, Ausbilder in der Lehrwerkstatt der Firma Kaeser, erklärt, dass auch die eigenen Auszubildenden von dem Austausch profitieren. Von dem Besuchern erfahren sie viel über das Ausbildungssystem in anderen Ländern, zudem reisen fast in jedem Jahr einige von ihnen selbst zum Praktikum ins Ausland. „In Belgien fühlt sich die Ausbildung wie Schule an, hier mehr wie Industrie mit einem echtem Bezug zur Praxis“, weiß Marco Scheber. Die Bereitschaft, auch mal ins Ausland zu arbeiten, sei fürs spätere Berufsleben ein großer Vorteil.

Demnit arbeitet die Freiherr-von-Rast-Schule bereits an einem weiteren Austauschprojekt für die Schüler: Im Mai kommt eine Gruppe Lehrer aus Toledo, USA, nach Coburg. Dann soll besprochen werden, wann eine kürzliche Partnerschaft nötig ist. Anfang September folgt dann der Gegenbesuch der Coburger Lehrer, und in absehbarer Zeit können Coburger Azubis dann vielleicht in einem weiteren Land praktische Erfahrungen im Berufsleben sammeln.

Report from 15.02.2023
NEUE PRESSE Coburg

by Christiane Schult

Dutch student meets CDO

We have been in contact with HM College in Amsterdam, a college for furniture and design, for several years. Wood mechanics and carpenters from us have already completed internships there - or in the companies. The connection has always been maintained via the Partner Day in Waregem. This year, for the first time, a student from the field of interior design came to Coburg for an internship. She was employed by the Coburg Design Forum Coburg CDO for two months. Many thanks also to the education authority of the city of Coburg, which provided a room for Kim in the dormitory in Neustadter Straße.

Here is Kim van der Salm's report:

„From the 2nd of to the 30th of June, I did my international internship at Coburger DesignForum Oberfranken. I was allowed to help create the designs for the 35th Coburg Designtage. The stand I was allowed to furnish was for Wege zum Design. I started working together with David. The programs were new for me. At



At the Coburg Design Days - where Kim (2nd from right) helped set up and design - she was welcomed to Coburg by Can Aydin, (right) 3rd Mayor of Coburg. Sylvia Endres (2nd from left) was responsible for looking after Kim as Managing Director of CDO.

the CDO they use Archicad, InDesign and Photoshop. These are good programs to work with and I am glad that I now know more about them so that I can better apply this in my studies and other internships.

When everything was designed, I was allowed to build everything together with other students. I drew, pasted, lugged and laughed. It was hard work, but because we always did things together, it was fun. The two of us make everything better. Then the work becomes lighter and you are also done faster. Every day the sun shone. So good weather to work

outside. The students were all my age. That was very nice and we also saw each other after work at parties and dinners. I certainly made a lot of new friends during this period. During the Designtage I spent even more time with them. Because I now had contact with them, I got to know even more people. That is really super fun. In the meantime I walked through the city, I visited the Veste. I also went to the DesignCampus Open.



Finally, I would like to thank Rolf Sanders and Sylvia Endres for this internship. It was great to do an internship here. Because I have now experienced this, I will probably experience this experience again in another place.

“

Rolf Sander, Friends for Europe



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Dairy farming instead of viticulture - a new, good experience for Alexandre

Through the town twinning Coburg - Niort, the agricultural student Alexandre Morin had the idea to ask the town twinning association Coburg if there was a possibility of an internship in Coburg through Erasmus+. We - the vocational school I has an agricultural department and also very good connections to the Coburg town twinning association - immediately showed interest in establishing a new connection in our international relations. With the support of the agricultural department, a farm was quickly found that was suitable as a work placement. Although Alexandre had to accept restrictions in his original line of work, viticulture, he had stated in his CV, „I want to do tasks what there are in the agricultural enterprise. I want too learn an agricultural management and a manner whose you work in your country.“ And so an agreement was quickly reached. On the farm of Stefan Angermüller, Großheirath, Alexandre was to have the opportunity to achieve these and other goals. It is particularly worth mentioning that he also had the opportunity to sleep and eat on the farm - free of charge! A big thank you goes to the Angermüller family for their great support.

Here is Alexandre Morin's report on his 3-week stay in the Coburg region:



Alexandre Morin (centre) together with his host farmer Stefan Angermüller (left) and Rolf Sander

„My name is Alexandre Morin and I'm a student on a BTS ACSE (Brevet de Technicien Supérieur en Analyse, Conduite et Stratégie de l'Entreprise agricole) in France. As part of my course, I have to do a work placement abroad. I chose Germany because it's a country that I really like and I also wanted to find out about their way of doing things in the agricultural sector.

During my placement, I made a number of cultural, linguistic and technical discoveries.



The main thing I discovered was the cultural side.

Let's talk about meals. In Germany, there are the same number of meals as in France and at roughly the same times, but what's different is what you eat. For example, in France, in the morning we eat mainly sweet foods. After that, the two main meals (lunch and dinner) generally consist of a starter, a main course, cheese and a dessert. Finally, children and some adults have an afternoon snack, which is also sweet. In Germany, breakfast consists of a little sweet and mostly savoury foods such as cold meats. Then lunch consists of a single hot dish, usually with a lot of sauce to accompany the meat, often pork, chicken or turkey. Then they have a snack consisting of coffee and a large pastry. Finally, at dinner they eat the same thing as at breakfast, with one difference: there's no sugar. They don't drink still water, only sparkling water or sugary drinks.

The linguistic side was mainly about rediscovering the language, common words and also technical words such as der Stall: the stall, die Kuh: the cow, die Färsen: the heifers and so on. After that,

the easiest way to communicate was to speak in English, using gestures or Google translation.

On the technical side, the company I worked for really likes to keep things clean: their premises, equipment and milking parlour, which they clean twice a day at every milking, as you can see opposite.

Finally, I visited the town of Cobourg, whose two main monuments are the Cobourg Veste and Schloss Erenbourg. I also saw the church, the half-timbered house, the oldest house, and the main square. I also visited the Vierzehnheiligen basilica.

In conclusion, I'm very happy with my work placement in Germany, and the family I stayed with was very welcoming."

(From French with DeepL)

So much for Alexandre's description.

His farewell WhatsApp is also worth mentioning:

„Merci beaucoup et oui j'ai passé un très bon moment qui est passé un peu trop vite à mon goût mais bon c'est comme ça. Moi aussi je suis ravi de vous avoir tous rencontrer et en espérant que vous pourrais aider d'autre étudiant dans ma situation en recherche de stage à l'étranger pour pouvoir leur donner une expérience inoubliable dans un pays différents du leur.“

„Thank you so much and yes, I had a great time, which was over a bit too quickly for my taste, but that's the way it is. I'm also glad to have met you all and hope you can help other students in my situation who are looking for an internship abroad to give them an unforgettable experience in a country other than their own.“

(From French with DeepL)

Rolf Sander, Friends for Europe

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Toledo Technology Academy - a new partner for vocational school I?

The twinning between Coburg and Toledo, Ohio, a city in the USA with a population of around 270,000, has been in place since 2019. A partnership that came about at the instigation of Prof. Dr. Rainer Kalwait. Within the framework of this partnership, it was planned to also involve schools in this cooperation.



With the Toledo Technology Academy, an ideal partner was found for our vocational school, especially for our electrical and metal departments. As a high school with a focus on electrical and metal professions, this school is also an excellent place for the apprentices of Coburg's companies.

Dr. Vandita Prasad, Vice Principal of the Toledo Technology Academy, was in Coburg for a short visit together with her husband Abhay Prasad. The aim was to initiate the exchange between our two schools that had been planned for a good one and a half years. The visit - initiated by Eva Kollmann, personal assistant to the mayor, and Horst Graf, head of Coburg Marketing, through a visit to Toledo in May - also included tourist excursions in Coburg and the surrounding area.

A tight programme for two days!



Dr. Vandita and Abhay Prasad (3rd and 5th from right) with their Coburg hosts in front of the Loreley in Coburg: Prof. Dr. Rainer Kalwait, Rolf Sander, Marcel Ruppert, Jürgen Heeb, Horst Graf and Eva Kollmann (from left).



During the visit to the „Vocational School I“ at Plattenäcker, headmaster Gerhard Schmid (centre) first introduced our school complex. He explained the different schools of which he is headmaster and gave an overview of the departments of the vocational school and their special features. Michael Lechner then went into detail about vocational education; here, of course, the function of the dual system was particularly important. Through lively questions from Vandita's side, an interesting conversation quickly ensued, in which differences to the American system also came out. Rolf Sander had been in close contact for some time with two former teachers from Toledo, Rogene and Roseanne, via email and video conferences to prepare the student exchange. Many things had to be taken into account that do not play a major role in an intra-European exchange. Through this personal contact with the vice-director, many hurdles were finally cleared away - hopefully for good. In detail, it was agreed that after the visit from Toledo at the end of the summer holidays, two teachers from Coburg, Marcel Ruppert and Bianca Fiebig, would leave for Toledo to get a first-hand impression of a student exchange. This is planned for spring 2024. The first students from Toledo are also scheduled to come to Coburg in spring – probably around the time of our Whitsun holidays. It is planned that they will work in the training workshops of Coburg companies. For our students, it is planned to employ them at the TTA school, where they will have access to very well-equipped workshops.

Another important point on this day was the company visit to KAESER Compressors. Under the direction of Rüdiger Hopf, training manager at KAESER, the programme included information about the training workshops, especially at the request of the guests. The two trainers Marco Scheler (electrical) and Manuel



Truckenbrodt (metal) guided Vandita and Abhay through the respective workshops. They explained the machines and tools in detail and gave explanations about the projects. Here, too, the enquiries showed the great interest in the dual training system. It also turned out that there are some parallels to the workshops at TTA. Dr. Rolf Eberwein, Managing Director of KAESER Ausbildung GmbH, briefly welcomed the guests from the USA and wished them every success in their future endeavours.



During the farewell ceremony, Vandita Prasad and Rolf Sander sealed the partnership between the Toledo Technology Academy and the Vocational School Centre I Coburg with a handshake - an official confirmation by the school headmasters will follow. We are looking forward to an interesting and profitable cooperation.

Rolf Sander, Friends for Europe



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The electric car - an invention of recent history?

Students from the Coburg Technical School are involved in the reconstruction of Andreas Flocken's 1888 Coburg electric car.

The electric car - an invention of recent history? Far from it! As early as the end of the 19th century, the first electric cars - vehicles that have four wheels, according to the definition - were on the roads, which were still impassable at the time. And a man from Coburg was there at the very beginning with his revolutionary invention: Andreas Flocken (1845 - 1913), a skilled locksmith and mechanic, far-sighted entrepreneur and owner of a factory for agricultural machinery in Coburg.

He had recognised the importance of electricity early on and expanded his business accordingly. The operation of hydroelectric power plants to generate electrical energy and the establishment of a grid to supply his businesses with electricity were evidence of his pioneering spirit. And so it was almost a logical consequence that he became involved with electric mobility at an early stage. It is proven that he developed an electrically powered vehicle in 1888, which was further improved in the following years. The photo shows Andreas Flocken with his first vehicle.



In the following years, Flocken built further vehicles, the last one with rubber tyres. There is evidence that he used it to travel the distance from Coburg to Redwitz a. d. Rodach, where he operated a hydroelectric power station.

A group of historically knowledgeable people with an affinity for technology - supported by well-known personalities and companies - from the Coburg region has set itself the task of creating a

replica of the Coburg electric car that is as faithful to the details as possible. A task that is proving difficult, as neither fragments of the carriage nor construction drawings of the vehicle are available. Only two historical photos form the basis for the reconstruction. Based on these photos, the Coburg University of Applied Sciences provided a first 3D representation of the wagon.

Students from the Coburg Technical School are also involved in the reconstruction of Andreas Flocken's Coburg electric car. The team from the technical school will refine and specify this 3D representation. This will then ultimately form the basis for the reconstruction and documentation of the car.



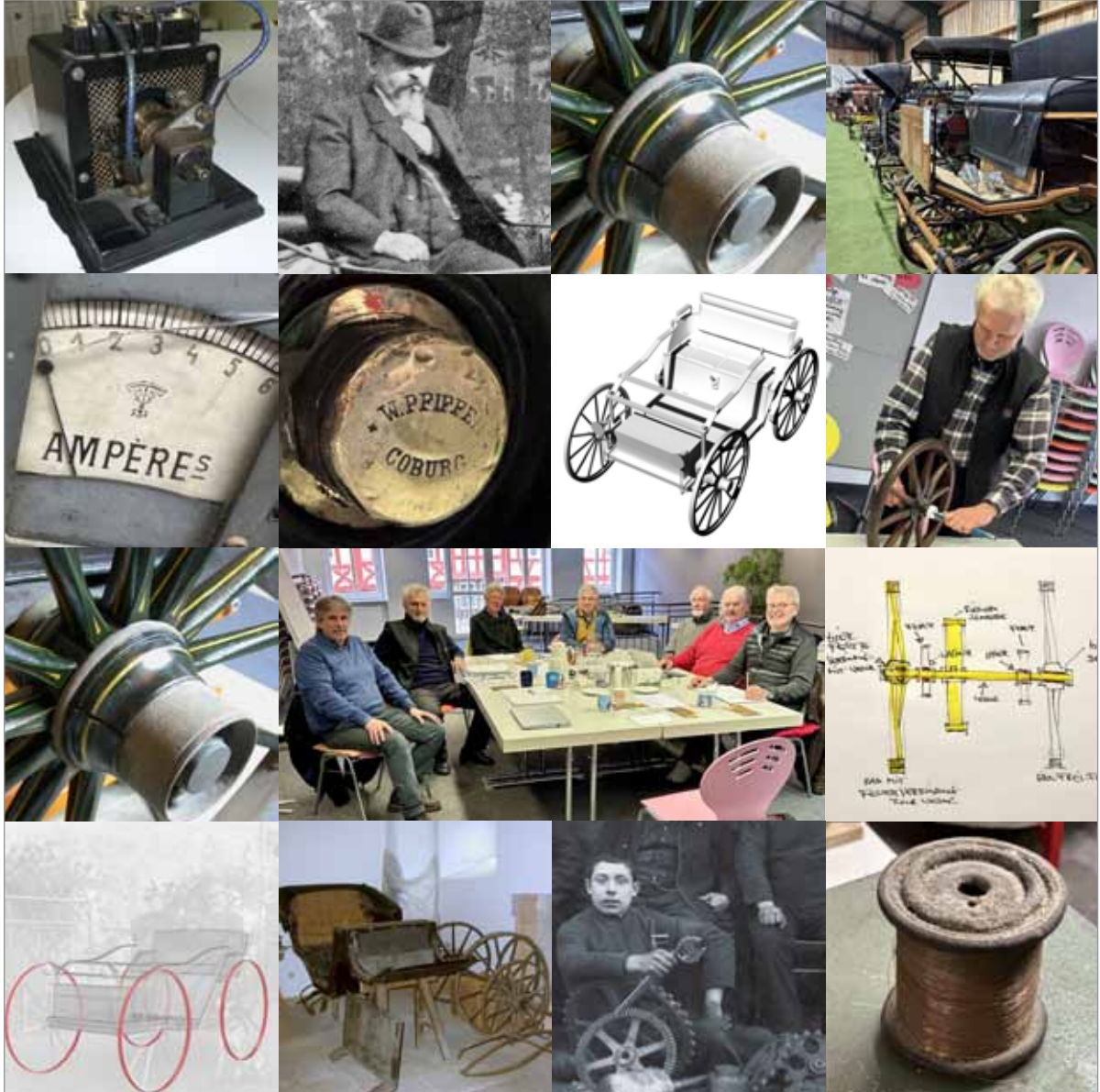
Hans-Jörg Wildung, a coach builder from Pottenstein, provided valuable information with his experience in historical coach building so that the Flocken team's ambition can become reality: The Coburg electric carriage after Andreas Flocken 1888 - close to the original!

Finally, a quote from the brochure „Germ Cell of Electromobility - The Reconstruction of the Coburg Electric Carriage by Andreas Flocken“:

„Despite all the openness of the sources, it is thus at least certain that we are dealing with an outstanding entrepreneurial figure who, with self-operated power plants, the supply of electricity to his own production facilities and with plans for the electrification of entire city districts, can not only be considered a pioneer of electrical engineering, but also, due to the vehicle, its further development and a later, technically mature successor, the father of electromobility in German road transport.“

Rolf Sander, Flocken-Team

Aus der Broschüre
 „Keimzelle der Elektromobilität - Die Rekonstruktion des Coburger
 Elektrowagens von Andreas Flocken“
 mit freundlicher Genehmigung: futureum coburg, Gerhard Kampe



Thanks to our supporters

We would like to thank all the companies in the city and district of Coburg, all the institutions and individuals who have actively supported us in our European activities.

We hope for a continued partnership and successful cooperation.

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