

PRESS RELEASE

WORLDSKILLS LEIPZIG 2013



Presented by



VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN THE SPOTLIGHT: OPENING PRESS CONFERENCE WORLDSKILLS LEIPZIG 2013

Leipzig, 2 July 2013: At WorldSkills Leipzig 2013, more than 1,000 participants from 53 countries and regions are competing in 46 events. These disciplines represent over 150 different vocational careers on the German job market.

During the opening press conference, Prof. Dr. Johanna Wanka, Federal Minister for Education and Research, highlighted the significance of vocational training for the German economy: "In the international comparison especially, it is becoming more and more apparent what an important foundation dual education actually is." For the first time, WorldSkills Leipzig 2013 will see a political world forum for dual vocational training. "A Europe-wide alliance for vocational training is the key to decreasing youth unemployment and can serve as a shining example for other countries."

The alliance is an initiative by the European Union with the goal of improving the quality and scope of vocational training in Europe.

Androulla Vassiliou, EU Commissioner for Education, Culture and Youth, explained how her visit to WorldSkills London two years ago opened her eyes. "The greatest challenge in Europe today is youth unemployment. We need to encourage young people to seize opportunities and take their futures into their own hands." The EU Commissioner also emphasized the importance of cooperation. "This alliance and these partnerships are essential for the Europe of today."

On a related note, Dr. Theodor Niehaus, President of WorldSkills Leipzig 2013, argued for a stronger focus on vocational training: "We don't need Germany's

Venue Naming Right Partner



Volkswagen Service
Deutschland



STAATSMINISTERIUM
FÜR WIRTSCHAFT
ARBEIT UND VERKEHR



brought to you by





next super singer – we have a highly motivated and committed youth. They are a strong pillar for development in the region, the country and throughout Europe." In addition, he mentioned that there could be no blueprint for vocational training. Though, as he explained, many different forms of vocational training exist in Germany, "we are the ones to consolidate them and create a platform for exchange and networking."

Simon Bartley, President of WorldSkills International, described WorldSkills as a movement whose goal it is to cultivate vocational training and celebrate its excellence. "We do this partly through the Competitions, but this is only a fraction", said Bartley. He elucidated how every country has its own qualifying competitions. "All 1,004 participants from 53 countries and regions want to prove that they are the best of the best. Unknowingly, they already are. We should celebrate each and every one of them because they are the future of their countries and of the world."

Sven Morlok, Deputy Minister of Saxony and State Minister for Economy, Employment and Transportation, underscored the impact of WorldSkills Leipzig 2013 in the public domain: "Our Saxon university education is the forge for engineers in Germany. At WorldSkills, we want to show the potential of a qualified vocational education. Especially today, in this fast-moving world where content is constantly changing, broad training is vital. It is our insurance against youth unemployment."

Under the patronage of the German Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel, WorldSkills Leipzig 2013 will take place at the Leipzig trade fair, July 2–7. At the Competition, more than 1000 skilled youth up to the age of 22 from all over the globe compete for the world title.

Venue Naming Right Partner





Find out more at: www.worldskillsleipzig2013.com. Contact for Journalists: Werner Kipp, Kipp@worldskillsleipzig2013.com.

WorldSkills Leipzig 2013 is funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the Saxonian State Ministry of Economy, Technology and Transportation and the European Social Fund.

WorldSkills Germany is the national Member organisation of WorldSkills International. WorldSkills Germany supports top performance and creates platforms for successful careers by hosting regional and national skills competitions. The organisation was founded in 2006. WorldSkills Germany is also a member of WorldSkills Europe.

Find out more at: www.worldskillsgermany.com. Contact for Journalists: Jörg Wehrmann, Wehrmann@worldskillsgermany.com

WorldSkills International is a not for profit membership association open to agencies or bodies which have a responsibility for promoting vocational education and training in their respective countries/regions. WorldSkills International operates worldwide in 65 countries and is politically and denominationally neutral. WorldSkills International provides a unique means of exchange and comparison of world-class competency standards in the industrial trades and service sectors of the global economy.

Find out more at: www.worldskills.org. Contact for Journalists: Michelle Bussey, Michelle.Bussey@worldskills.org.

Venue Naming Right Partner



Presented by



WORLDSKILLS LEIPZIG 2013 WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS:

OVERALL EVENT PRESENTER:



VENUE NAMING RIGHT PARTNERS:



SECTOR PRESENTERS:

Venue Naming Right Partner



Presented by



SKILL PRESENTERS:



SKILL PRESENTERS PRESENTATION SKILLS:



SKILL SPONSORS:

Venue Naming Right Partner



brought to you by

Presented by



PARTNERS:



Venue Naming Right Partner



brought to you by



Presented by



politikorange



CONTACT

Werner Kipp
Communications Manager

T + 49 341 979 7670
F + 49 341 979 7699
kipp@worldskillsleipzig2013.com

IMPRINT

WorldSkills Leipzig 2013 GmbH
Humboldtstraße 18
04105 Leipzig
Germany

T + 49 341 979 7600
F + 49 341 979 7699
info@worldskillsleipzig2013.com
www.wsl2013.com

Venue Naming Right Partner



brought to you by



Presented by



CEO:

Hubert Romer

Location of registration: Leipzig

District Court Leipzig

HRB 26519

Venue Naming Right Partner



Volkswagen Service
Deutschland



brought to you by