



Hans Beckhoff and Dr. Ursula Frank welcome first-semester students in integrated bachelor's degree courses at the Gütersloh branch of the Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences on August 27, 2014. In the 2014/15 fall semester, Beckhoff hosts 21 first-semester students in mechatronics/automation engineering and eight in industrial engineering.

31 apprentices and 29 first-semester students start their careers at Beckhoff

For young people who are enthusiastic about technology and are looking for valuable training opportunities with an innovative employer, Beckhoff is the place to be. For over 25 years, the company has provided apprentices with qualified training and education in six future-proof occupational fields. In 2010, Beckhoff began offering practice-oriented internships to college students majoring in mechatronics/automation technology and industrial engineering at the Gütersloh branch of the Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences. Today, Beckhoff employs 100 apprentices and 97 college students.

Beckhoff offers young people a broad spectrum of occupations that require training in fields ranging from electronics and technically-oriented information technology, to business administration, and warehouse logistics. Many young people say that a future-proof occupation and a positive work environment were among the main criteria for applying for positions at Beckhoff. The family-owned and operated company is justifiably proud of its positive working atmosphere, characterized by flat hierarchies and mutual trust. "This is the basic prerequisite for creativity and personal responsibility," says General

Manager, Hans Beckhoff. "Employment at Beckhoff is more than a job. Work should involve not only technical qualifications, personal competency, a high level of motivation and creativity, but also a good amount of fun."

In addition to training apprentices, Beckhoff started to offer internships in 2010 that focus on college students majoring in mechatronics/automation technology or industrial engineering in partnership with the Gütersloh branch of the Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences. "It was exciting when we



Hans Beckhoff welcomes the 31 new apprentices who began their occupational training at Beckhoff on August 1, 2014.

welcomed the first students in the summer of 2010 for their internships at Beckhoff," recalls Dr. Ursula Frank, Project Manager R&D Cooperations at Beckhoff. "Despite decades of experience in training apprentices, integrating college students into everyday operations was something new for us." Today, the first graduates with bachelor's degrees already have full-time jobs in the company and conduct their own projects in the areas of research and development, product management, and marketing. They develop innovative solutions and support their more experienced colleagues with a full measure of enthusiasm and commitment.

"We believe that this form of integrated studies, with alternating phases of practical learning on the job and theoretical instruction in the classroom, is a very good way to prepare students for their careers," explains Frank. "What is also remarkable is the increased interest of women in these fields. At Beckhoff, three of the 21 students in the fields of mechatronics/automation engineering

are women. In the industrial engineering field, women occupy an even higher percentage three of the eight positions."

Mentoring is another concept that has become more ingrained at Beckhoff. More advanced students help those starting out in their first semester find their way around the company. "Get-acquainted" meetings and various sporting events help bring people together in team-building and convey the family-oriented Beckhoff spirit.

Further information:
www.beckhoff.com/jobs