

## Final Report

Leonardo da Vinci Program  
Project N°: 2009-0115-LEO-14  
"Striving for European Excellence – SEE"  
May 23rd-30th, 2010

Sending Organisation: Järva County Vocational Training Center  
Receiving Organisation: wisamar Bildungsgesellschaft mbH



### Education and Culture

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Between May 23rd and May 30th 2010 wisamar educational institute hosted six teachers sent by the Järva County Vocational Training Center, Estonia:



The key aims of this VETPRO project titled, "Striving for European Excellence" (SEE), were to improve vocational education delivery by teachers of several fields of study while deepening the skills and abilities of these specialists in their respective spheres, and to stimulate constant employee development.

The programme therefore had the objectives to have an exchange about vocational training with German colleagues, to get an insight in the German dual system of vocational education with its close corporation between school and enterprises and to see different methods and approaches in vocational and further education.

On Sunday 23rd May, 2010, the group arrived at the Berlin airport. After the transfer to the accommodation place, the group got an introduction into the program of staying and started for a guided tour through Berlin, seeing the most impressive places like Potsdam Place, Brandenburg Gate, the Place for Remembrance, the Alexanderplatz with its famous TV Tower, Checkpoint Charlie. They also had a walk along Unter den Linden, Berlin's magnificent boulevard.

The next day the group was introduced into the vocational education and further education system of Germany during a presentation and got some background information with the focus on dual educational system. In the afternoon they visited the German Museum of Technology. 14 departments currently exhibit just one quarter of their treasures on 25,000 square metres: Locomotives and planes, looms, suitcase- and jewellery production and machine tools, computers, radios and cameras, Diesel engines, steam engines, scientific instruments, paper machines, printing presses and much more. Almost every department offers demonstrations and activities. The workings of a vast number of historical machines and models are shown and explained. Visitors can actively print, make paper, shred grain or accompany our suitcase production line. The group learnt about the educational approach of the museum, its role in training and cooperation with several types of schools. Education in

the museum often means activity – but it may also mean reflecting on what you have learnt in the quiet areas or in the museum park.

On Tuesday, 25th May, the teacher group was transferred to Leipzig. After being welcomed by Eszter Csépe, the Project Manager of wisamar Bildungsgesellschaft, they went together to Zwickau to visit the University of Applied Sciences (Westfälische Hochschule Zwickau). Mr. Reißig gave a presentation of the Faculty of Automotive Engineering and introduced the different courses of study. He showed the group the facilities and guided them through the workshops. The group had the opportunity to discuss several issues in the domain of education an engineering/new technologies with Mr. Reißig.

The day of 26th May the group visited the Agricola Institute (AkaTE Ausbildungsgesellschaft mbh Leipzig) to get an overview about the German vocational system for trade, commercial and industrial professions. First the teacher Mrs. Mamitsch introduced the school and training center to the visitors. Afterwards they could join the car mechanics facilities and see the training places for the logistic administrators.



In the lunchbreak the group used the chance for a guided walk through the city centre of Leipzig. They got an overview of the main sights of the city such as the market place with the old City Hall, the Opera House, the new University complex as well as the churches St. Nikolai and St. Thomas.



In the afternoon the next study visit took place to the BMW production facilities in Leipzig, where BMW 1 and 3 series are produced. During a guided tour the participants could see all the production stages, e.g. bodywork, paint spray line and assembly. All participants were deeply impressed by the modern production flow, the internal organisation of the company and the logistic processes. They also could profit of their own experiences regarding safety at work to compare them with the occupational safety measures

within the BMW production site.

The ZAW, the centre for vocational and further education of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Leipzig, welcomed the group on 27 May 2010. There, Mr. Ebelt gave an introduction into the functions of the ZAW and presented the different kinds of vocational education offered by the center. He gave the group detailed information about the vocational and further education and put an emphasis on the cooperation of ZAW with other companies of the region, e.g. Porsche and BMW in the field of motor mechanics. The Chamber of Commerce and Industry is responsible for examination and certification in the Dual System of vocational education.



Next item of the program was the Leipzig-Halle airport with its cargo sector. Leipzig-Halle Airport is a tri-modal airport, located between the cities Leipzig and Halle, that connects rail, road and air traffic. The group entered the security sector and got an insight into the airport procedures, the handling of planes at the apron, the DHL Hub Europe, the World Cargo Center and also Lufthansa Cargo. The Cargo Area South has an apron (12 ha) which is connected to the runway system via separate taxiways. Furthermore, 8 ha of developed building land are available for logistic companies. This area is directly connected to a four-lane trunk road as well as the motorway and railway network. On an area of approximated

36,500m<sup>2</sup>, a state-of-the-art cargo hanger was built by World-Cargo-Center GmbH, a joint venture of Garbe Logistic AG Hamburg and the dutch GeoMar BV. The World-Cargo-Center represents highest safety standard, has a direct connection to the apron as well as integrated customs facilities. The annual handling capacity is 200,000 tonnes.

With the DHL hub for Europe which was opened in 2007, DHL and Lufthansa Cargo operations largely contributed to an extreme rise in cargo volume, which increased by 336.8 percent to 442,750 tonnes in 2009. A ride over the illuminated runway was a final highlight of the informative tour.

For Friday 28th May a visit of the vocational school for automotive professions in Leipzig was scheduled. Mr. Lange gave an exhaustive introduction into the wide range of vocational training offered by the educational centre. He put an emphasis on the importance of the educational centre for the education of students from difficult social backgrounds.

Afterwards, in the common final meeting the program was summarised and evaluated. Finally, the certificates were handed out.

The last Saturday the group spent on their own in Leipzig, having a bicycle tour and visiting new places.


On Sunday 30th May the group was transferred to Berlin to travel back to Estonia.

### Summary:

In the framework of this Leonardo da Vinci program, all participants got interesting information about vocational training in Germany. They learned about the dual system, the role of the companies, vocational school and training centres as well as their interaction and cooperation. They had an exchange of experience and gave their German colleagues also an insight into the Estonian system so that the discussions were interesting for both sides. The program was developed right according to the topic of the project and the interest of the group so that a gainful stay was guaranteed. They could meet representatives of different companies, training centres and schools in Leipzig working within mechanics, technicians and logistics. They could make contacts also for future cooperation. Besides, the participants could deepen their intercultural competences by meeting German colleagues, and got impressions about the city and surrounding of Leipzig as well as about the German capital Berlin.

The participants were highly motivated and perfect representatives of their country. It was a pleasure hosting such a friendly and interested group. We wish them all the best for their future career and are sure that the knowledge and contacts they got during the stay will support them in their work in Estonia.

Leipzig, 30 May 2010



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