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Erasmus+ mobilitātes project Nr. 2021-1-LV01-KA121-VET-000005271



Sending organisation: PIKC "Rigas Tehniska koledza", Braslas str. 16, Riga LV-1084. Latvia.

Project duration: 01.05.2022 to 13.05.2022

Content

- 1. Overview
- 2. Aim of the Mobility Project

The German Dual System

- 2.1 Vocational Internships at VITALIS
- 2.2 Practice for the Current Labour Market
- 3. Vocational Training for the Students
 - 3.1 Internship in Mechatronic / Electronics; Traffic Lights
- 4. Framework Programme
 - 4.1 Trip to Leipzig
- 5. Summary

Enclosure

List of participants

1. Overview

For the mobility project 2021-1-LV01-KA121-VET-000005271 VITALIS received a group from PIKC "Rigas Tehniska koledza", Riga, Lativa. The group arrived at Gut Wehlitz on 1st May 2022 and was welcomed by our Director of Education, before being shown their rooms at the Gut Wehlitz campus.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, VITALIS has taken special precautions and developed a sustainable hygiene concept. The enclosed building complex of Gut Wehlitz and our measures provide good conditions for a safe and carefree stay in Germany. During the entire project period, all participants and staff complete regular antigen tests.

2. Aims of the Project

The project focused on practical development and professional skills of the interns. Through the internships, participants combined their theoretical knowledge from school with international practical work experience in different professional fields. Soft skills and social competences were also developed. The professional, linguistic and social competences acquired in the process improve the employability of the interns on the national and international labour markets.



Gut Wehlitz - European center for projects in vocational training in Germany

The Dual Vocational System in Germany

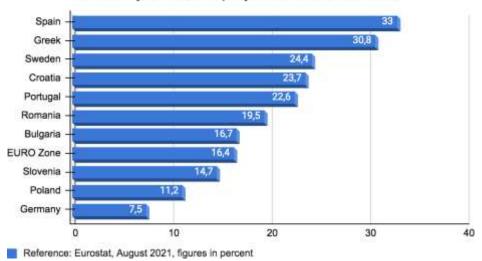
Dual vocational training takes place both in the training company and at the vocational school. The local Chambers of Industry and Commerce (IHK) or Chambers of Handicraft (HWK) are responsible for vocational training. The curriculum for all of the approximately 330 occupations in Germany are delivered nationally by any company able to offer training contracts. Employers supervise the correct implementation of the training and the IHK and HWK carry out the examinations. IHK and HWK regulations and corporate training institutions ensure that all trainees acquire the same knowledge and skills throughout Germany. In an international comparison, many of Germany's vocational qualifications are above average.

Final examination / jour	neyman's examination	
Practical training in the company/training centre	Vocational School	IS .
Mid-ter	m examination	years
Practical training in the company/training centre	Vocational School	2-3,5

The training of a skilled worker is extensive and expensive, but the successful dual system benefits everyone. The companies can employ well-trained young workers and it helps the young people to start their working lives. This positive investment in the future is reflected in the unemployment statistics. The level of youth unemployment in Germany is amongst the lowest in the European Union.

Economic development and the current international labour markets have brought Germany's dual vocational system into the focus of international attention. With its combination of solid theory and working practice it ensures qualified and well trained workers. These advantages of the dual system are modelled during the internships at VITALIS.

Current youth unemployment in EURO Zone



2.1 Vocational Internships at VITALIS

For more than 25 years, VITALIS has been welcoming young people from the European Union for vocational training. Specially equipped on-site workshops, training facilities and dorms are all located at Gut Wehlitz. The enclosed campus offers ideal conditions for an internship stay in Germany. VITALIS cooperates with a large number of institutions and partner companies from business, services and crafts within the region.

All internships have a modular structure and are in accordance with the standards of German vocational training and ECVET principles. The modular system makes it easier to integrate the internships into the vocational education of the sending organisations. With different levels of difficulty, the internships are scalable to the knowledge of the students. An internship can be completed several times with different levels of difficulty. In this way, mobility projects with VITALIS can be planned for the long term and ensure the sustainability of learning.



VITALIS offers internships in more than 20 different fields of study

2.2 Practice for the Current Labour Market

Today, mobility is important for a properly working economy. The internationalisation of the economy is advanced and progressing steadily, but the development of people's mobility is still behind the developments of trade and production. The European Union provided a framework for these trends. Citizens of member states can work in any other member state without a special work permit; migration will continue to be the key to Europe's success.

Technological developments have resulted in a demand for well qualified specialists in the current labour market. In this context, international work experience has gained importance. In addition to professional knowledge, language skills and soft skills are required. An internship at Gut Wehlitz provides good conditions to prepare for these challenges.

3. Vocational Training for the Students

The focus of the project 2021-1-LV01-KA121-VET-000005271 was the acquisition of practical knowledge in vocational training. For this purpose, the students completed their internships at Gut Wehlitz. In addition to practical work experience, all courses focused on informal learning, the acquisition of social skills and the development of soft skills.

At the beginning of the internship, the participants were introduced in detail to the schedule of their internships and the organisation of their stay at Gut Wehlitz. They were also familiarised with the VITALIS approach to learning. It ensures that the work results are continuously controlled and adjusted. Feedback from participants also helps to monitor the quality of the internship.

At their workplaces the participants were informed about the special health and safety regulations in the workshops, health protection at work and hygiene regulations at Gut Wehlitz before they started work for the first time.

3.1 Internship in Mechatronics / Electronics; Traffic Lights

The interns worked in our on-site metal and electronics workshops to design and produce the elements of a model traffic light system that required them to work with the metal elements of the model, wire the electronic components and then programme them to create the timings and patterns to manage traffic flow.

The focus points of the internship were as follows:

- Metalworking for the creation of the base plate
- Cutting, sawing, filing, welding
- 3D printing to produce the traffic lights
- Basic tasks in electronics to create the LED circuit boards for the traffic lights

- Soldering the components, assembly and wiring of elements and assemblies
- Programming the PLC
- Hardware configuration and simulation of the control systems
- Commissioning & fault analysis

In addition, the participant was introduced to professional standard operating procedures and regulations as well as learning about health and safety measures and accident prevention.

4. Framework Programme

To deepen the participants' knowledge and social skills, the participants completed a special information and visit programme to deepen their knowledge of history and culture in Germany. It focuses on regional history in its European context, the importance of international relations and the current opportunities of the European Union. The central German region offers a wide range of historical sights, modern business enterprises and destinations to visit. The focus is on an educational and interesting programme of visits.

4.1 Trip to Leipzig

The group completed a guided city tour of Leipzig. Leipzig has more than 1,000 years of history and is home to more than 600,000 inhabitants. It is the largest town in the Free State of Saxony and the heart of the Metropolitan Region Central Germany. With the new sites of BMW, Porsche and DHL, Leipzig has become an important and modern business location. The town was founded at the crossroad of two mediaeval trade roads, which dominated its development for centuries. Goods, people and ideas found their way to Leipzig and formed a self-confident urban citizenship.





Leipzig is an old city of trade with numerous sights and a lively culture

Leipzig was an important site of Germany's Peaceful Revolution in 1989, which led to political changes all over Europe. The tour through Leipzig's historic city centre illustrated important stages of the city's development. It illustrates the close connection between economic, political and cultural developments.



Church St. Nikolai was an important place in recent history

5. Summary

The objectives of the project 2021-1-LV01-KA121-VET-000005271 were fulfilled. The participants gained international professional experience and were able to familiarise themselves with the work organisation in Germany and the requirements of the current international labour market. The students could also develop essential personal, social and linguistic skills.

All students were interested in their work tasks and integrated themselves into the daily work processes. They were able to expand their practical knowledge and apply theoretical knowledge in practice. In the framework programme they learned interesting facts about cultural characteristics, local history and current international developments. With this knowledge they gained a deeper understanding of the future developments and possibilities in the European Union.

VITALIS is satisfied with the development of the participants. All were motivated and interested to learn. The tutors of the practices were also satisfied with their professional work and personal development.

We wish the teachers and students of the PIKC "Rigas Tehniska koledza", Riga, Latvia all the best for their personal and professional future development. We will be happy to welcome them back again for further courses and projects.

Schkeuditz, 13.05.2022

VITALIS

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Enclosure

List of Participants

No.	Name	Date of Birth
1.	Ralfs Raipalis	14.02.2003
2.	Hermanis Petrucena	06.12.2004
3.	Sandis Jurciks	18.02.2004
4.	Reinis Tomans	14.02.2004
5.	Lasma Gansone	



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