

Press release

Syntegon Technology

Nationwide Girls' Day: Syntegon Crailsheim welcomes girls with a passion for technology

- 25 girls between the ages of ten and 16 explore Syntegon's technical apprenticeships
- Syntegon advocates gender balance among apprentices

Crailsheim, Germany, April 30, 2024. Syntegon, a global manufacturer of processing and packaging technology, welcomed 25 girls and young women with a passion for technology to its Crailsheim site on April 25 for Girls' Day. As part of this nationwide activity day, female students aged ten to 16 from the Hohenlohe region explored technical departments such as development, engineering, design, and assembly in a mix of theory and practice. They engaged with apprentices and performed a design task to experience practical aspects of mechanical engineering. "The students gain real-world insights into day-to-day working life by taking part in this active experience and talking directly to our apprentices," says Ann-Kathrin Baumann, Head of HR at Syntegon in Crailsheim. "The success of Girls' Day is rooted in this concept."

Since 2001, Girls' Day has introduced students in fifth grade and higher to careers and academic fields in which the nationwide share of women is below 40 percent. Launched by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the German Trade Union Confederation and Initiative D21, this campaign aims to widen the spectrum of occupational choices for women. To advance this agenda, every year the skilled trade industry and universities with technology and science curricula invite females to look into these options.

Syntegon – a fair training partner

This interest in technical professions in which women are still underrepresented is what drew participants to this year's Girls' Day at Syntegon in Crailsheim. After a brief reception in the plant's cafeteria at nine a.m., followed by the company presentation and the factory tour, as well as the introduction of the project management, the day's program continued with perhaps the most important bit of information for future graduates – what kind of apprenticeships are on the table. Syntegon Crailsheim offers three to three-and-a-half-year apprenticeships in industrial mechanics, mechatronics, electronics and technical product design. In 2024, Syntegon and the Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University (DHBW) will start offering three-year dual work/ study programs in electrical and mechanical engineering. Slots are available in all departments. Applicants stand a very good chance of being accepted at fair pay as set out by the collective bargaining agreement.

Virtual reality and the workbench

First a little theory, then some state-of-the-art practice: The students tried out the virtual reality goggles serving to train machine operators. That is not their only purpose at Syntegon: "We also use the solutions to give our customers a realistic picture of our products. So it's no wonder that we were also able to inspire our young visitors with this technology and show them our machines in an interactive way," says

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a delighted Jürgen Ehrmann, Head of Mechanical Engineering at Syntegon. A tour of the plant was followed by lunch in the cafeteria, where the eager visitors met some of the 40 current apprentices, who were on hand to answer questions about their working day. In the afternoon, the students put their practical skills to the test, teaming up with apprentices to assemble electric magnetic motors.

The Girls' Day participants were also motivated by the increase in the number of female apprentices in Crailsheim. "In recent years, we have been seeing a significant rise in the number of women embarking on careers in a technical field," says Ann-Kathrin Baumann, confirming this trend. "Our work culture values diversity and sees it as an important building block for the company's sustained success. The growing number of female applicants impressively reflects this culture." The success of this year's Girls' Day is an encouraging sign that the company will continue to attract motivated female entrants. The 25 slots for the visit to the Crailsheim plant were filled within a few days.

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Images:



Image 1: The participants were able to demonstrate their practical skills by building a electric magnetic motor.



Image 2: Samara testing the electric magnetic motor that she built together with the apprentices.

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About Syntegon

Processing and packaging for a better life – this is what 5,800 Syntegon employees work for every day. Be it with individual machines, systems, or services, Syntegon helps its customers in the global pharmaceutical and food industries to improve people's lives. The company, which is headquartered in Waiblingen, Germany, looks back on more than 160 years of experience and achieved annual sales of 1.4 billion EUR in 2022. In the pharma sector, the company's intelligent solutions enable the safe and high-quality production, processing, filling, inspection, and packaging of liquid and solid pharmaceuticals. In the food industry, Syntegon's flexible and reliable technologies produce and pack confectionery, dry food, frozen food, and dairy products. With 1,100 service experts and a comprehensive service portfolio throughout the entire machine lifecycle from spare parts management to digital line optimization, Syntegon lays the foundation for smooth production processes for all customers. More than 35 sites in almost 20 countries keep a firm eye on Syntegon's impact on the environment and society. Syntegon is a leader in the development of sustainable packaging solutions, reduces the energy consumption of its machines and pursues ambitious goals to lower its emissions. www.syntegon.com