

Press release

Friedhelm Loh Group

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Friedhelm Loh Group honoured again

A strong community: Friedhelm Loh Group is “Top Employer” again

This tops it all: For the eighth time in a row, the Top Employers Institute has voted the Friedhelm Loh Group one of the best employers in Germany. The family-owned company excels by promoting young talent at an early stage, by having passionate managers and a value-oriented corporate culture. That is why the Friedhelm Loh Group has again received a “Top German Employer” award in 2016.

Haiger, 30 March 2016 – A strong community motivates, builds up, generates drive and bears responsibility. The Friedhelm Loh Group holds these values high and has thus been voted one of the best employers in Germany by the Top Employers Institute – for the eighth time in a row. Innovative approaches to employee development, early support for young employees and leadership with passion convinced the certification company, as did its extraordinary social commitment to the region: “This certification clearly demonstrates that the Friedhelm Loh Group remains a role model in terms of employee orientation,” says Marcus von Pock, Senior Vice President Human Resources at the family business: “We are very proud of this and will continue working to optimise the working conditions of our employees.”

Every year, the Top Employers Institute honours worldwide leading employers that exhibit outstanding personnel management and strategy. Only companies that have been subjected to a strict investigation process may call themselves a “Top German Employer”. The companies have to meet high requirements in a variety of categories. In an on-site audit, they also have to show that they deserve the top notes worthy of a top employer.

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The Group's field of training and development received special praise. The in-house training institution, the Loh Academy, has so far held over 25,000 seminars and workshops, including the "Managing with Passion" programme, which last several months. The Academy's innovations such as the "Chances Center", which encourages staff to discover their own strengths and talents, were also well received. "Success doesn't just happen. The employees are a very special success factor for the future direction of our group. We are investing so that they can continually develop," explained Marcus von Pock.

Nurturing young talent from day one

This also applies for the next generation. The Loh Academy is supervising around 70 students in the "StudiumPlus" programme. They are young people who work in the Friedhelm Loh Group when they are not attending lectures, and who bring valuable expertise from their universities directly into their project work. At the same time as completing their international degrees, the students are gaining practical work experience in projects within Germany and elsewhere.

The more than 200 trainees in the Friedhelm Loh Group are already being given early and responsible tasks to perform. In the "off-the-job" workshop, they learn, far from the workplace, how to develop their own projects through teamwork, and how to present and implement them. They are even running their own small firms within the company. With "Big Little Rittal" and "Ri2Youth" they are in charge of the vehicle pool and the procurement and administration of office supplies within the Group, or they process small technical orders from customers – with enthusiasm and a clear aim: To make their customers enthusiastic about their common achievements.

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Taking responsibility

The Institute also praised the social commitment of the Group as being remarkable. For example, staff make regular donations to regional charitable institutions every year and spontaneously, to international aid agencies. The Rittal Foundation is also engaged in local projects at the Group's locations, for example helping disadvantaged children and young people, people with handicaps or families with an immigration background. Then the largest employer in the region takes its responsibility for the area where its employees live and work seriously.

“Ideal conditions for staff mean that people can develop, both in their private and professional lives,” added Steffen Neefe, the DACH (Germany, Austria and Switzerland) Country Manager at the Top Employers Institute: “Our detailed investigation reveals that the Friedhelm Loh Group has created an outstanding employee environment and offers a wide range of creative initiatives. These measures range from the continuous optimisation of working conditions to a performance management system that is fully in line with the corporate culture.”

Marcus von Pock is aware that the goal over the next few years is to prepare employees for the special challenges of digitalisation and Industry 4.0, and he also takes a look to the future: “That's why we are striving to make further improvements, particularly in the area of staff development.” Then with the award as “Top German Employer”, the Group shows that it is not only developing innovations for industry, but also for the workforce. Success does not simply happen. Instead, it only comes about as the result of a strong Group.

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Caption

fri162004600.jpg: David Plink, CEO of the Top Employers Institute, presents Marcus von Pock (left), Senior Vice President Human Resources of the Friedhelm Loh Group, the 2016 award for Top Employer

fri162002400.jpg: Special praise was given to the Friedhelm Loh Group's field of training and development, as well as to youth development. Trainees and students assume responsibility at an early stage at the global player.

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Friedhelm Loh Group

The globally active Friedhelm Loh Group (FLG) invents, develops and produces customised products and system solutions for industry, commerce and trade. The Friedhelm Loh Group's companies belong to the top addresses in their respective industries – as inventors and competent producers. They include Rittal, the world's leading system provider for industrial enclosures, power distribution, climate control and IT infrastructure; Europe's number one supplier of software solutions for mechanical and plant engineering and industry, as well as integrated manufacturing expertise with state-of-the-art materials – steel, aluminium, and plastics.

The family-owned company is now active worldwide with 18 production sites and 78 international subsidiaries. The proprietor-run Friedhelm Loh Group employs 11,500 people and generated revenues of around €2.2 billion in 2014. For the seventh time in succession, the Group won the accolade "Top German Employer" in 2015. For more information, visit www.friedhelm-loh-group.com.