

PRESS RELEASE

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Robot manufacturer Yaskawa cooperates with non-selective secondary school **Partnership creates opportunities**

Young people need future perspectives – successful industrial undertakings need skilled manpower. The Hans-Dietrich-Genscher School (HDG) in Wachtberg near Bonn is breaking new ground in the conveyance of digitization and technological expertise. In addition to the local authority as sponsor of the ‘Profiled Secondary School’ the project is being supported in particular by robot manufacturer Yaskawa. When the project class relocates its lessons to the Yaskawa stand (Hall 17, Stand B50), this partnership can also be experienced live at the Hanover Fair.

The new supplementary “hdg robotic 4.0” prepares 7th to 9th grade students for digitization and provides key qualifications on all aspects of programming and the control of microcontrollers and robots. The work group that was launched for the first time in the school year 2018/2019 at the Hans-Dietrich-Genscher School (HDG) in Wachtberg consists of 16 participants. It is a two-year course in which successful participants can obtain certificates that greatly facilitate their entry into professional life.

Key qualifications for secondary school students

Technical instructors and project managers Hans Werner Meurer and Christian Zimbelmann describe the goals of the school thus: “We want to interest these young people in our secondary school with special and outstanding offerings such as the ‘hdg robotic 4.0’. With their practically oriented interests and strengths they are significantly better off than at a

grammar school – and at our ‘Profiled Secondary School’ they will be well qualified for skilled jobs in the digitized working environment,”. In a further development stage of “hdg robotic 4.0” the Hans-Dietrich-Genscher School wants to recruit other strong partners such as the Rhein-Sieg Technical College and the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

Partnership with Yaskawa

Japanese technology group Yaskawa with European headquarters in Eschborn near Frankfurt is also supporting the initiative with know-how transfer, support and technical equipment within the scope of partnership. The robot manufacturer is providing the school with a fully functional training cell. Yaskawa offers the latter on special terms as a product in different versions for all types of training institutions. The MotoSim VRC simulation software enables whole classes to program a robot. The core piece of the mobile module is a Motoman GP8 industrial robot with a payload of 8 kg, as often used in practice in the industry. It is controlled and programmed by the latest compact controller generation YRC1000. The supervising instructors received advanced training at the YASKAWA Academy in Eschborn, where a teaching module takes place for each working group.

Investment in the future

For Yaskawa this commitment, as other intensively maintained connections to technical colleges, chambers of trade and other educational facilities, is not only a social obligation, but also an investment in the future: “The digital pact, also the publicly funded expansion of digital competencies and technical infrastructure in the educational sector, is being widely discussed. We as an industrial undertaking can support specific projects much faster and more directly, and implement them in practice. We take it very seriously. As a technology group we are dependent in the long-term on well-trained manpower, especially at the high-tech location Germany,” explains Bruno Schnekenburger (COO of YASKAWA Europe GmbH) and adds: “Furthermore, as an international group we have a special obligation

to society. Generating new values for its development is thus a central element of Yaskawa's strategic global corporate goals Vision 2025."

**Live instruction of HDG pupils at the Hanover Fair
(1–5 April 2019, Hanover Exhibition Centre) held at the Yaskawa stand
B50 in Hall 17.**

Caption:



Pupils of the Hans-Dietrich Genscher School observe the programming of a Motoman industrial robot. (Source: HDG)



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About YASKAWA:

With an annual sales volume of more than 410 billion Yen (about 3.5 billion euros), YASKAWA is a world-leading manufacturer of servo drives (Sigma-7 Series), inverter drives (such as the GA700), and Motoman industrial robots. Founded in 1915 in Japan, the company's philosophy has been based on the principle of highest quality for more than 100 years, making YASKAWA a global leader.

The wide range of YASKAWA's business activities covers drives (inverters), motion control (AC servo motors and drives, machine control), robotics (industrial robots and robotics systems), systems engineering (medium voltage inverters, generators, converters), and information technology (software-based products). VIPA GmbH in Herzogenaurach, which specialises in visualisation and process automation, has also formed part of YASKAWA since 2012. Furthermore, YASKAWA acquired The Switch Engineering Cooperation, which does business in the wind turbine sector, in October 2014.

This makes YASKAWA one of the few global companies able to supply components and solutions for almost all industries from a single source.

Extensive investments in research and development have yielded numerous inventions, patents and innovations. These technological aspirations have enabled the Drives & Motion and Robotics divisions to achieve a leading market position in various industries including manufacturing systems and plant engineering (packaging machines, pumps/compressors, textile machines, digital printing machines, cranes and hoisting gear, equipment for semiconductor and electronics production, machines for producing and processing wood, glass, metal and stone) as well as lift, automotive, assembly and handling technology. The uses for Motoman industrial robots include robot-based welding, laboratory automation, packaging and handling, as well as automated painting.

Today, YASKAWA Europe GmbH, based in Eschborn near Frankfurt, operates the divisions Drives, Motion & Controls (automation, drives and control technology), Robotics (industrial robots) and Environmental Energy – and services the markets of Europe, Africa, the Middle East and the region of the former Soviet Union.

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