

## Press release

### TALKE Junior Academy receives Basic and Further Training Initiative Award



In capture (f.l.t.r): Laudator Prof. Dr. Dieter Wagner, University of Potsdam; Alfred Talke, TALKE Logistic Services; Marcus Michels, TALKE Logistic Services; Joachim Fellsches, TALKE Logistic Services; Andreas Jakob, TALKE Logistic Services; Andreas Riem, TALKE Logistic Services; Jürgen Krempel, TALKE Logistic Services; Christoph Opladen, President of the Jury, Head of HR Heraeus

**Essen/Hürth, 04<sup>th</sup> October 2010.** The achievement of the TALKE Junior Academy – a joint project between ALFRED TALKE GmbH & Co. KG, selected schools in the Rhein-Erft district and the local education authority – was recognised on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010, when it received the *Initiativpreis Aus- und Weiterbildung* (Basic and Further Training Initiative Award) from the OTTO WOLFF Foundation and the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce (DIHK) at the Philharmonic Hall in Essen.

The award is one of Germany's most prestigious accolades in the field of vocational training. It was awarded for the 18<sup>th</sup> time in 2010 for exemplary basic and further training initiatives that contribute to improving the quality and appeal of vocational training. TALKE and three other prize winners beat off competition from 60 other entrants, impressing the jury with the overall concept and implementation to date of the TALKE Junior Academy.

## **Demographic factor leads to shortage of skilled workers**

In the last few years, it has become increasingly difficult, particularly for the providers of high-quality, specialist services such as ALFRED TALKE GmbH & Co. KG, to find qualified candidates to take up training places for future skilled workers in commercial/technical careers. In order to actively redress the acknowledged shortage of skilled workers, TALKE joined forces with its partners in the scheme to develop the concept of the TALKE Junior Academy.

## **The alternative way to encourage young talent: TALKE Junior Academy**

Over a period of six months, Year Nine students take part in fortnightly workshops held at the TALKE Junior Academy, and as well as learning practical skills, they find out all about apprenticeships such as 'professional driver' and 'warehouse logistics specialist'. In a much more intense way than during a holiday work placement or a week's work experience, they are introduced to different career paths and to the business, and this makes it easier for them to make the right decision when the time comes to choose their own career. Close collaboration between the students, vocational trainers and teachers guarantees maximum success for all those taking part.

**TALKE Logistic Services** Founded in 1947, the TALKE Group is one of the leading providers of logistics service for the chemical and petrochemical industry in Europe, the Gulf States and Asia. From its beginnings in the transportation and storage of chemical products, TALKE has developed into an integrated service partner for advanced outsourcing and contract logistics solutions. The family-run company employs more than 1,600 staff and sub-contractors, operating a network of 24 sites in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

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