

Junior engineers from Saudi Arabia are trained at engineering companies in the German Southwest

STUTT GART. Eleven junior engineers from Saudi-Arabia are currently passing an internship at engineering and architect's companies in the Southwest of Germany (Baden-Wuerttemberg) since the middle of June. The students from King Saud University in Riyadh are the first group to take part in a special training program for Saudi students. It is under the patronage of the minister of finance and economics of the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Dr. Nils Schmid. The training program was initiated by the Baden-Wuerttemberg chamber of engineers (INGBW) and their cooperating chamber, the Saudi Council of Engineers (SCE).

The students are now trained until the end of august in renowned engineering and architect's companies which are specialized in planning of structural framework and surface construction, sustainability guidance, hydraulic engineering, traffic planning, waste management, measurement or building technology. In December 2013, the training program was set up in a partnership contract between the INGBW and the SCE in Riyadh in presence of minister Schmid. Its aim is to stimulate the exchange between engineers of both countries and to strengthen the practical relevance of course of studies in Saudi Arabia. The internships are obligatory for students of constructing engineering and architecture from Kind Saudi University to get their degree.

Minister Schmid: "It is an useful program with additional benefit for all involved parties. In Baden-Württemberg, the land of inventors, the prospective engineers from Saudi Arabia can learn from renowned engineers. In their home country, they are able to contribute as ambassadors to convey German engineering skills."

Market access in return

INGBW-president Rainer Wulle: "With this program we would like to contribute to a better knowledge of Baden-Wuerttemberg and our engineering know-how in Saudi Arabia. If a lack of orders will occur in our country, the Saudi market will get even more important for us."

The training program is the service in return for the mutual recognition of the memberships of both chambers. Members of INGBW are now able to operate in Saudi Arabia without complicated registration, because the SCE quickly and non-bureaucratically receives them as members. The same applies to members of the SCE working in Baden-Wuerttemberg. Since 2011 the membership in the SCE is a legal requirement for working in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a planning engineer. INGBW-president Wulle: "The Baden-Wuerttemberg Chamber of Engineers



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Page 2 of 2

is the only chamber in Germany that achieved such an agreement in Saudi Arabia." This agreement will help to double orders for engineers from Baden-Württemberg in KSA.

The training program already turns out to be a success. President Wulle: "Several students would like to complete a master degree in Germany. If the students will stay in Baden-Wuerttemberg, it would be an advantage for our engineering companies that are looking for qualified employees. With Saudi engineers it will be easier to succeed in the Gulf market. If the graduates will return to their home country, we will stay in contact as business partners."

For several years engineers from Baden-Württemberg have been active in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia under the label "bw-engineers GmbH". As an initiative of the Chamber of Engineers and the Ministry of Economy Baden-Württemberg, the consortium "bw-engineers GmbH" was founded in 2008. bw-engineers bundles planning offices of different sizes and technical disciplines to act jointly under this brand in foreign markets. The network with over 800 planners and engineers operates in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with great success: bw-engineers GmbH together with their Saudi partner, Mohammed Al Guwaihes, established an engineering company in Saudi Arabia, the "bw-engineers Riyadh".

Further information:

www.ingbw.de

<http://bw-engineers.com>

Photos:

www.flickr.com/photos/ingbw/sets/72157646636964746/

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