

PRESS RELEASE

Aachen, 06.01.2017

New project started by RWTH Aachen and MTM

SME 4.0 - Enterprises and employees design the digital transformation

Werkzeugmaschinenlabor WZL der
RWTH Aachen University

Viktoria Haarmann
Leitung Presse & Öffentlichkeit

Steinbachstraße 19
52074 Aachen
GERMANY

Telefon: +49 241 80-27554
Telefax: +49 241 80-22293
v.haarmann@wzl.rwth-aachen.de
www.wzl.rwth-aachen.de

As part of the New Quality of Work initiative, the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) is supporting a three-year project headed by the Laboratory for Machine Tools and Production Engineering (WZL) at RWTH Aachen University in cooperation with the German MTM Association e.V.

625,000 Euro will go to Aachen over the next three years via the New Quality of Work initiative. The WZL as one of the leading engineering scientific university institutes and center for industry 4.0 and MTM as recognized mechanism of the industrial work organization and - organization as well as enterprise federation arrange together with enterprises and employees and the technical company by the Federal Institution for industrial safety and industrial medicine the digital working world.

The project "KMU 4.0 - Betriebe und Beschäftigte gestalten die digitale Transformation" supports small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in recognizing the qualification needs of their employees and implementing suitable qualification measures. The employees of the companies are empowered to specifically shape the industry 4.0 trend in their companies. The holistic training concept comprises six qualification fields. From innovation capability, digital production, digital work, organizational learning, leadership/cooperation and communication to workplace innovation, the qualification fields serve to shape and implement digital transformation.

The consortium of the project consists of the RWTH Aachen and MTM, as well as five industrial application companies of the metal and electrical industry, with whom a training concept is being developed and implemented: Polishing wheel factory G.A. Spaeth eK, Ph-MECHANIK GmbH & Co. KG, Peri-plast GmbH & Co. KG, Julius Montz GmbH, Rhein-Getriebe GmbH.

Six Value Partners support the project. The Value Partners are Society for Innovative Employment Promotion mbH Bottrop, DFA Demonstration Factory Aachen GmbH, GOM Society for Organizational Development and Media Design mbH, memex GmbH, i2solutions GmbH and Heinen Automation GmbH & Co. KG.

The New Quality of Work initiative, launched in 2002, promotes a modern work culture and employment policy. It unites the shared commitment of the Federal Government, the Federal States, industry associations and institutions, trade unions, companies, the Federal Employment Agency, social insurance institutions and foundations to improve the quality of work as the key to innovation and competitiveness in Germany. The initiative has already reached around 3,000 companies with more than 3 million employees. More than 3,500 active employees shape local employment in the regions and develop the content of the New Quality of Work initiative promoted by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

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Further information on the New Quality of Work initiative can be found on www.inqa.de.

Laboratory for Machine Tools and Production Engineering (WZL)

The Laboratory for Machine Tools and Production Engineering (WZL) of RWTH Aachen University has stood worldwide for more than 100 years for future-oriented research and successful innovations in the field of production technology.

Under the leadership of four professors Christian Brecher, Thomas Bergs, Robert Schmitt und Günther Schuh, the WZL is conducting research in six areas - production technology, machine tools, production systems, transmission technology, production metrology and quality management - on the future-oriented design of production in high-wage countries. Together with industry partners from various sectors, the WZL develops solutions for a wide variety of production scenarios in both publicly funded and bilateral projects. These activities are being consolidated on the RWTH Aachen Campus in the Cluster Production Engineering.

Attachment



Representative of the project consortium at the kick-off event on December 12, 2016 at the WZL of RWTH Aachen University

Contact:

Melanie Luckert, M.Sc.

+49 241 80-28367

m.luckert@wzl.rwth-aachen.de