



Gudrun Krüger,
19 years old
and in her third year as an industrial mechanic apprentice

How did you experience your first day at Stabilus?

First, the other apprentices and I were greeted warmly by the training management. After a brief welcome speech, we had a tour of the company, ending in the in-house Teaching Workshop. On the way there, I was really surprised by the size of the company. I was worried I might not find my way out at the end of the first day, but my concern was unfounded, because everybody was very nice and helpful.

Our training manager and his assistant then led us through the Teaching Workshop and showed and explained the numerous machines to us. We were also shown some other important facilities, such as the cafeteria, onsite physician's office, etc. And finally, we were able to familiarize ourselves with the machines in the Teaching Workshop and make the first work pieces.

You are an industrial mechanic apprentice. Can you tell us something about how the training works?

The apprenticeship will take a total of 3.5 years. The first year is not spent at the actual training company, but in the Industrial Teaching Workshop (ILW), together with other apprentices from other companies. Here, in addition to manual manufacturing techniques, such as filing and sawing, we will learn machining, such as lathe machining and grinding, or different joining techniques, such as welding, soldering, and bolting. In the second and third year of training, we will go through different specialty departments in the company, actively working under the supervision of experienced colleagues. What makes it interesting is that you get an insight into specialty departments such as Development, Quality, and Work Preparation. I found that highly interesting, since it will better enable me to understand the different departments, a fact I can then take into consideration in my work. The last half year of training is spent preparing for final exams. This is where a lot of the material will be reviewed and expanded.

What in particular do you like about Stabilus?

The size of the company is still pretty awesome. There is always something new to discover. To me, the technological variety is the greatest. Yes, and keep in mind that we develop and build the very machines that we use in the manufacture of our products. And not everybody does or can do it as successfully as we.

What are your career goals?

Right now, successfully completing my vocational training is my top priority. And that's why I am very thankful that our trainers are giving their all for us. After that, I would like to get work experience and work my way up to a leadership position.