

**Press Release**

Munich, August 8, 2011

**"Girls for Technology" camp at Knorr-Bremse meets with enthusiastic response**

**At the beginning of August Knorr-Bremse staged its tenth "Girls for Technology" camp for 20 high school students. The girls spent a week gaining insights into technical professions in which Knorr-Bremse offers vocational training in Munich, such as mechatronics and machining. The aim of the camp was to make the girls more confident about dealing with technology and thereby broaden the range of their career prospects.**

This year from August 1-5 a group of 20 schoolgirls from across Bavaria had an opportunity to get a taste of technical professions at Knorr-Bremse in Munich. At the "Girls for Technology" camp, ably assisted by trainers from Knorr-Bremse, each of the girls designed a clock made of metal parts that they produced and machined themselves. The participants had a chance to try their hand at milling, drilling, polishing and sand-blasting. The tasks called for a basic grasp of technical matters, a little sensitivity and an awareness of the more complex bigger picture. The 12-14 year-olds set about the task with great enthusiasm and at the end of the week-long camp proudly presented their very own products to parents, teachers and camp supervisors. Also present at the closing event were representatives of the media, of the Employers' Associations for the Bavarian Metalworking and Electrical Industries, of the non-profit training organization *Bildungswerk der Bayerischen Wirtschaft*, and of the Bavarian State Ministry of Economic Affairs, Infrastructure, Transport and Technology.

"We are out to show these girls that technical fields can also offer interesting jobs for women, and every year we are delighted at the enthusiasm the young ladies show as they get their first hands-on experience of technical professions," said Josef Stanglmaier, head of vocational training at Knorr-Bremse, who is convinced that these camps bear fruit. "Next year, for instance, one of the girls who attended a technology camp here a few years ago will be undertaking an internship with Knorr-Bremse. She's starting a degree course in mechanical engineering in the fall and her love of technology has never faded since that initial camp."

The "Girls for Technology" camps were established by the educational initiative "Technik – Zukunft in Bayern?!" (Technology – the Future in Bavaria?!). The Employers' Associations for the Bavarian Metalworking and Electrical Industries, bayme vbm, are the main sponsors of the camps. The Bavarian State Ministry of Economic Affairs, Infrastructure, Transport and Technology also supports these

initiatives for girls and young women. Bavarian Minister of Economic Affairs Martin Zeil is the patron, while the project organizer is *Bildungswerk der Bayerischen Wirtschaft e.V.*

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