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Photo: BIKAR METALLE

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Bikar provides the best of the year

Exceptional performance achieved: wholesale and export merchant Florian Schneider achieved 97.33 percent



"Only those who let go of their employees will be able to retain them and their company in the long term," explained Klaus Gräbener.

Raumland. A special round now met at Bikar-Metalle in Raumland to honor the best apprentice of the district Siegen-Wittgenstein/Olpe of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK) in the profession wholesale and foreign trade merchants. District Administrator Andreas Müller and IHK Managing Director Klaus Gräbener came to honor Florian Schneider from the Raumland metal trading company. He had completed his examination with 97.33 percent with "very good" and was thus the best in his profession in the chamber district. He thus continues the tradition of exceptional examination performance in the Raumland company. Florian Schneider is already the fourth apprentice in eleven years to finish his training as the best in his year. All of his predecessors have made excellent use of their exams as a basis for their further professional development and have now moved up to leading positions in the company. This density of very good examination results also impressed the guests

from Siegen. District Administrator Andreas Müller praised the "top performance" and was impressed by the consistency with which Florian Schneider had completed his training. Schneider had obviously found the right training profession in the right training company.

IHK Managing Director Klaus Gräbener praised the "dazzling result, with which Florian Schneider is among the best ten examinees of all professions in 2017 out of about 2200 examinees in the chamber district". For Florian Schneider himself, a new phase in his life will begin in the coming weeks when he starts his dual studies in Mannheim in the field of "Tax Law and Auditing". A special feature is that this path was not prescribed by the company, but that good trainees at Bikar can choose their own further path.

A wide variety of further training paths are open to them. The only prerequisite: They have to present their plans to the training and management team and convince them that they make sense. From the 2017 examination year, five out of eight trainees have thus started dual studies, and in total there are eleven dual students at Raumländer Metallhandel - each in specially selected courses of study at different educational institutions. Andreas Müller and Klaus Gräbener were impressed by this unusual approach, as it offers each trainee the opportunity to choose the direction that suits them best and to further develop their personal strengths.

"Only those who let go of their employees will be able to bind them to themselves and their company in the long term. The free choice granted by the company shows that they have taken a very innovative path in personnel development here," Klaus Gräbener was convinced. He also praised the financial support during the study period, which he said was also exemplary. Bikar had obviously recognized the signs of the times at a very early stage with the big buzzword "demographic development" and had built up a young, motivated team in recent years through quantitative and, above all, qualitative training, which had dazzling prospects for the future in the up-and-coming company.

Pascal Bikar was visibly pleased with these words and emphasized that the Raumland site is currently being expanded in order to be well positioned for the future. In addition to an extensive expansion of production capacities, a new office building is being built for the employees, with workplaces equipped according to the latest scientific findings and with the well-being of the employees in mind. The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the IHK certificate by Klaus Gräbener. Afterwards, Florian Schneider received a voucher for an Aida cruise from Pascal Bikar and the head of training, Ingo Miß - an incentive that Bikar has been offering for years for the best examinees. Ingo Miß praised the diligence of the 2017 examination cohort, which in addition to Florian Schneider also produced two other trainees with a result above 90 percent. The trainees had motivated each other, learned together and had many

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with tradition



competent contacts in the company for questions. Florian Schneider immediately returned this praise.

He was particularly impressed by the fact that he and his fellow trainees were regarded as fully-fledged employees from day one and were "thrown in at the deep end", so to speak. Active cooperation was required in all departments - sitting by and watching was very rare. It was clear to him very early on that he would pursue a career in accounting. Other departments were also fun, but he felt at home in accounting right from the start. A special moment for him during his training was the first time he initiated a payment run with a total volume of over one million euros. Now he is looking forward to the new challenges in his studies, but also to getting a taste of the Kurpfälzer air instead of the Wittgensteiner air, at least on a quarterly basis over the next three years. Florian Schneider received a winking tip from the district administrator: "Today you can be really proud - but tomorrow the preparation for your studies begins."