

# Youth research in Künzelsau - the largest regional competition in Baden-Wuerttemberg

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## Mulfingen

The 12th regional "Youth research" competition, organised by ebm-papst and held from 25 to 27 February in Künzelsau, Germany, is striving towards a new record. By the end of January, about 160 participants had registered who would like to present approximately 80 projects. That makes this regional competition the largest in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg for the first time. With the Evangelical German Secondary School of Cairo (Evangelischen Deutschen Oberschule Kairo), a second school from abroad is represented in Künzelsau for the first time - in addition to the German School of Milan (Deutschen Schule Mailand).

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"We see this competition as an opportunity to get young people excited about natural sciences and technology," says Hans-Jochen Beilke, Chairman of the Board of Managing Directors, explaining the strong commitment of the motor and fan specialist in Mulfingen to "Youth research." The world market leaders and high-tech companies of the region rely on highly skilled technicians and engineers to secure their competitive edge in the future, he states.

Characteristic of the regional competition in Künzelsau is the high number of trainees who are supported by their companies in developing their projects. In addition to trainees of the sponsoring company ebm-papst, this year there are young colleagues registered from local organisations Audi Neckarsulm, the Diabetes-Klinik Bad Mergentheim, GEMÜ in Ingelfingen, Rauch Möbelwerken Freudenberg, Robert Bosch GmbH Waiblingen, Thyssen-Krupp Drauz Nothelfer GmbH Heilbronn, Wittenstein AG Igersheim and Ziehl-Abegg Künzelsau. As broad as the palette of participating trainees and students is, so also is the spectrum of the topics presented, ranging from an illuminated handbag to an automatic kitchen ("RoboCook") and a flexible bed unit ("Grande Bed") to the question of why spaghetti always breaks into three pieces.

Under the direction of ebm-papst Training Manager Bernd Ludwig and together with ebm-papst trainees, Simone Germann is organising the three-day competition, which has the character of a big event for the participants and in which everyone truly is a winner. Anyone who has to present a project to critical jurors and interested visitors of the competition exhibition gains self-confidence and learns presentation skills.

On Saturday, 27 February, the public is invited to view the competition projects from 9 am to 1 pm in the Reinhold-Würth-Hochschule. During this time, you can also learn about the college's courses of study and visit the interactive IngTech and MinTech exhibition of the Innovation Region Kocher & Jagst.

Image "IMG\_6896": shows Prof Martin Schrempf, who is directing the regional competition for the last time, with three participants from Heilbronn, the twins Diana (left) and Liane Zwetzich and Lisa Ganßer.

Image "Booth\_50": Regional winners from 2009 (from left) Alexander Metzger, Ralf Heider and Kevin Keppler, ebm-papst trainees, developed a heatable helmet visor that does not fog up while driving.

#### About the ebm-papst group

The ebm-papst Group is the world's leading manufacturer of fans and motors and is a pioneer and a pacesetter for ultra-efficient EC technology. In the fiscal year 08/09, the company achieved a turnover of 1.056 billion EUR. ebm-papst employs nearly 9,500 employees at 17 production sites (including those in Germany, China and the USA) and 57 sales offices world-wide. Products of the global market leader are represented in many industries, including ventilation, air-conditioning and refrigeration technology, household appliances, heating engineering, in IT/telecommunications applications, as well as those in automotive and commercial vehicle engineering.

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