



Press Release

# HERRENKNECHT

## Martin Herrenknecht supports technology education and calls for its expansion.

August 26, 2014

Schwanau / Deutschland

**Entrepreneur Martin Herrenknecht sees a huge need for action to increase education and the promotion of young talent in the areas of science and technology. Germany needs to much more intensively provide for new technological advances and the young talent needed for this in all major engineer-driven areas such as energy, environmental and medical technology and infrastructure development, he says. The core competence in engineering sciences has taken the export nation to the forefront worldwide. In future German industry needs 90,000 newly trained engineers per year, both men and women. Herrenknecht helps push the necessary promotion of young talent and calls for greater and broader efforts by society with regard to education.**

For years Chairman of the Board of Management and engineer Dr.-Ing. E.h. Martin Herrenknecht has been increasing his own commitment through targeted funding and supporting of technical and scientific educational institutions as well as related promotion of young talent. In July 2014 the entrepreneur was appointed to the Senate of the **German National Academy of Science and Engineering (acatech)**, which has around 400 members from academia and industry. The National Academy of Science and Engineering advises policymakers and the public on strategic technology-related issues of the future, represents German science and engineering at home and abroad and draws together input from the business world. Engineering education and the professional development of young people are particularly important to the entrepreneur Martin Herrenknecht. "I too have only been able to create a globally leading company in specialized mechanical engineering because our engineers, technicians and skilled workers were able to build on excellent, progressive and practically applicable technical training." For many years now, in various ways Martin Herrenknecht and Herrenknecht AG have therefore been supporting scientific and engineering training institutions, initiatives for the promotion of young talent as well as programs for general technical education.

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Founded 50 years ago, **Offenburg University** was one of the first educational institutions that Martin Herrenknecht and Herrenknecht AG continuously provided with research contracts, scholarships and grants. Graduates from all major engineering disciplines of Offenburg University make Herrenknecht AG a world leader as a manufacturer of innovative tunnelling technology.

In promoting budding men and women engineers in tunnelling, Herrenknecht works with numerous universities in Germany, such as the **Ruhr University Bochum** (civil, mechanical and environmental engineering) or the **RWTH Aachen** (mechanical engineering). Within the global association of the tunnelling industry, the "**International Tunnelling Association**", through a newly established body Martin Herrenknecht promotes the further training and qualification of young tunnelling engineers around the world. "The most precious resource to solve our most pressing challenges of the future are above all highly trained engineers – this does not only apply to the construction of modern infrastructures."

Herrenknecht also supports technical progress in other scientific disciplines. At the **KIT (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology)** Herrenknecht has financed an endowed chair in the Department of Petrophysics since 2008, which promotes progress in the exploration and use of energy sources deep within the earth. This scientific pioneer territory plays a major role with regard to the ability to develop and utilize renewable geothermal energy. As a private citizen Martin Herrenknecht maintains an endowed chair at the **Berlin Charité** hospital for research into the rare ALS disease (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), which leads to serious damage to the central nervous system and muscles and is researched very little.

In order to develop understanding and acceptance of technology as early as possible among young people, Herrenknecht AG supports general technical education at schools in a variety of ways. At the **Max Planck Grammar School in Lahr**, Herrenknecht has provided technical facilities and funding for experimental science classes since 2006. The annually changing programs are also very popular among young women, and for the last four years have been rounded off with a broadly based "Engineer's Day" for career guidance. Martin Herrenknecht: "In the medium term we need 90,000 engineers per year in Germany. We cannot afford not to win over talented young women and men for the engineering profession, otherwise we will quickly fall behind in international competition. As an export nation we face a concrete challenge, the solution of which business, science and politics must now powerfully push forward together."

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#### EXCERPT OF HERRENKNECHT COMMITMENTS: NATIONAL INITIATIVES

##### **acatech, German National Academy of Science and Engineering**

- › Representation of German science and engineering at home and abroad; for advising policymakers and the public on technology-related issues of the future, for the transfer of knowledge between science and industry, and encouragement of the next generation of engineers
- › Dr.-Ing. E.h. Martin Herrenknecht is a member of the Senate.

##### **Wissensfabrik (German for “Factory of Knowledge”), Companies for Germany**

- › Herrenknecht is a member of the association of more than 120 companies and company-affiliated foundations to make the business location Germany more sustainable and the next generation fit for global competition.
- › Herrenknecht participates in the lighthouse project KiTec – Children discover technology.

#### EXCERPT OF HERRENKNECHT COMMITMENTS: UNIVERSITIES

##### **Offenburg University**

- › Herrenknecht supports Offenburg University and has cooperated with it for many years in a wide variety of ways, including the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) scholarship program for foreign students.

##### **Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)**

- › Endowed Chair in Petrophysics (since 2008)
- › The company has supported and cooperated with the Institute for years in a wide variety of ways.

##### **Charité Berlin**

- › Endowed Chair: establishment of a junior professorship for ALS basic research (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis - the unstoppable progressive and within a few years fatal disease leads to damage to the central nervous system responsible for muscle movements.)

##### **Technical University of Munich**

- › Support of the Excellence University with a start-up foundation

##### **Cooperation and support for numerous other universities**

- › Including Ruhr University Bochum, RWTH Aachen, Carolo Wilhelmina Technical University of Braunschweig (Brunswick), University of Constance, Politecnico di Torino, Colorado School of Mines

#### EXCERPT OF HERRENKNECHT COMMITMENTS: SCHOOLS

##### **Max Planck Grammar School Lahr (MPG)**

- › Since 2006 Herrenknecht has supported the MPG and each year provides funding to finance working materials and technical equipment in particular for the subjects of physics, chemistry, biology and geography as well as for the development of the new subject of science and technology.
- › Since 2011 Herrenknecht has supported the running of the Engineer's Day.

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### **Student Engineers Academy (SIA)**

- › Since 2008 Herrenknecht has actively participated in the annual running of the Student Engineers Academy for grammar school students in the Lahr/Ettenheim region.

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### **Individual career insights**

- › Each year Herrenknecht gives over 150 pupils and students the opportunity to complete internships in the company.

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### **EXCERPT OF HERRENKNECHT COMMITMENTS: INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES**

#### **ITACET, Foundation for Education and Training on Tunnelling and Underground Space Use / ITA**

- › Continuing education and training of engineers worldwide in the field of tunnelling and underground space use

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## Photos

### Martin Herrenknecht supports technology education and calls for its expansion.



Photo 1

Dr.-Ing. E.h. Martin Herrenknecht is actively involved in the areas of science and technology education and the promotion of young talent.

(Photo: IntervTechnik\_MH\_MPG\_03)



Photo 2

Each year Herrenknecht gives over 150 interns an individual insight into the company.

(Photo: Berufseinblicke\_HK\_PEP\_003)



Photo 3

Every year engineers from Herrenknecht talk about their profession at the Engineer's Day run by the Max Planck Grammar School in Lahr.

(Photo: Ingenieurtag\_MPG\_PEP\_042)

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Photo 4

Understanding and acceptance of technology need to be developed among young people as early as possible.

(Photo: Im Werk\_Azubi\_PEP\_111)



Photo 5

Talented young women and men must be won over for the engineering profession so that Germany does not fall behind in international competition.

(Photo: Im Werk Motiv 2\_Herrenknecht)

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## For further information: Please contact us.

### **Herrenknecht AG**

Herrenknecht is the only company worldwide to deliver tunnel boring machines for all geologies and in all diameters – ranging from 0.10 to 19 meters. The product range comprises tailor-made machines for traffic, supply and disposal tunnels as well as additional equipment and service packages. Herrenknecht also manufactures drilling rigs for vertical and inclined shafts as well as deep drilling rigs. In 2013 the Herrenknecht Group achieved total output of 1,027 million euros. The Herrenknecht Group employs around 4,800 people worldwide, including over 200 trainees. With 82 domestic and overseas subsidiaries and associated companies working in related fields, Herrenknecht provides comprehensive services close to each project and customer.

› [www.herrenknecht.com/references](http://www.herrenknecht.com/references)

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