



After a factory visit during his studies Ralf Richter applied for an internship and is now permanently employed as an engineer.

Why university careers fairs are important to Leistritz:

- To increase the Leistritz profile
- To compete for the best candidates
- To establish initial contact with potential interns, graduates, masters students, undergraduates
- To get to know young engineers
- To network with other companies

“The internship was really great, I was integrated fully and equally right from the start.”

Interview with Ralf Richter

Mr Richter, you have been employed as an engineer in the development and design division of Leistritz Pumpentechnik for a year now, but you’ve been familiar with the company for much longer. When did you first visit Markgrafenstraße?

I studied mechanical engineering at the Georg Simon Ohm University of Applied Sciences in Nuremberg, which offers regular excursions for guided tours of the production facilities of different companies. One of these excursions was to Leistritz. That was my first encounter with the company.

And clearly this was quite good because it wasn’t your last...

I kept the company in mind after the excursion and then I applied: a pump was placed in front of me and I had to explain how it sucked and where the compression flange is. Unfortunately I guessed incorrectly (laugh). Now I could answer that in my sleep!

But you made a good impression otherwise, because it all worked out.

Yes, fortunately. It’s because the internship was really great. I was integrated fully and equally right from the start and was allowed to perform calculations. I’d had no previous experience of screw pumps but I loved the work immediately.

Working here is just as I’d always imagined mechanical engineering would be. As the products are so customer-specific, things are never boring.

But after the internship, first you had to go back to university.

Only for a little while. The internship was towards the end of my studies and all I had to do was write my bachelor thesis “Entwicklung und Konstruktion einer Schraubenspindelpumpenbaureihe nach den Vorgaben der DIN EN ISO 2858” [Development and design of a screw pump series in accordance with the guidelines of DIN EN ISO 2858]. And I also worked on this at Leistritz. It was great to be here on-site. On the one hand, I had all the information I needed, and on the other, there was always somebody I could ask if I got stuck.

Subsequently you were offered a position and you started work as an engineer on 1 April 2013.

As a project manager I was able to develop a new screw pump series: an L3 series tailored to the requirements of the API 676. I also ran tests of two sizes and thus confirmed the previously calculated limitation of use of the pumps. The project is now close to completion.

Is working here like you’d imagined?

It’s even better. All I can say is that it’s been amazing from the start. With the amount of design work that goes into the pumps, the work couldn’t be more varied.

Many thanks for the interview.