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Rheinmetall to create 100 apprenticeship and internship posts for young refugees

In light of the steadily increasing number of refugees, the Düsseldorf, Germany-based technology group Rheinmetall is creating an additional 100 posts to provide refugees with vocational and on-the-job training opportunities, above and beyond its own current requirements.

At short notice, Rheinmetall will therefore be creating an extra fifty apprenticeship posts at its German plants, which, provided the legal requirements are met, will soon be made available to refugees who have been granted asylum. The Group is thus increasing the number of its apprentices in Germany by about 10%. The additional apprenticeships, based on the German dual system of practical training and classroom instruction, are intended for young refugees with adequate language skills or who acquire these through government-sponsored language courses.

Besides these fifty new apprenticeship posts, Rheinmetall is increasing the number of its paid internships in Germany. In order to give young refugees the chance to gain experience in various areas of the company for a period lasting several months and help them to choose a career path, an additional fifty positions for interns will be created.

As Armin Papperger, Chairman of the Executive Board of Rheinmetall AG, emphasizes, “We want to do our part to help refugees integrate, to make a difference and live up to our corporate responsibilities in as long-lasting and effective a way as possible. For us as a company, there’s no better way of doing this than by providing young people forced to flee their countries with vocational training and job opportunities as quickly as possible.”

The Group Staff Council welcomes the decision: “We’re very pleased that Rheinmetall is expanding its capacity here in a way that exceeds current company needs”, declares Wolfgang Tretbar, Chairman of the Staff Council of Rheinmetall AG.

In recent years, Rheinmetall AG has gained substantial experience in providing numerous young people from abroad with commercial and technical training. Since 2013, for instance, some 200 young Algerians have undergone German vocational training at the Group's Kassel plant, who have now returned to work in their home country.