

## POST CONFERENCE REPORT

The fourth Annual International Conference on “**Production Engineering & Management**” took place at the Ostwestfalen-Lippe University of Applied Science from 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> September. The successful international event featured with pre-conference round table meeting, an excursion to Phoenix Contact GmbH, 24 accepted presentations which were clustered among 7 scientific sessions, participants from different countries of Europe, Africa and students from different corners of the globe.



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Under the overall theme of “**Sustainability and revolutionary developments in modern industry**” the scientific conference investigated how we get to a brighter, better and more inclusive insight and outlight towards the bridging approach between Production Engineering & Management theory and practices with current industrial revolutionary trend. Eventually, educators, young researchers, professionals, future managers/students like us were brought under the common platform and well- informed about cutting edge technologies which undoubtedly enables everyone to enrich and update themselves.

To enable participants to embrace innovative practices and tools, a wide range of experts, researchers, educators chaired and spoke in pre conference, workshops, excursion and plenary sessions where they presented and discussed their findings accompanied with a charming questionnaire session.

The Round Table Meeting (held at 24<sup>th</sup> September) titled as “**Strategy for Effective Didactic Teaching for Generation Z**” was a great way to start the conference. I find myself honored and fortunate enough being a witness participant of that interesting 8 hours long round table meeting. Active participation of Professors and personnel from Germany, Italy, Sweden, Czech Republic, Belgium, Ghana and their interactive opinions offered a vast array of effective teaching method for Generation Z. Interesting part was that the Pre Conference was featured with thought provoking discussion on the conflicting views of didactic approach for generation Z. This conversation emerged with interactive role play session about their own teaching philosophy, workshops divided into two random groups focusing on teaching strategies to enhance future generation’s competencies.

The official opening of conference started with a well known company tour to **PHOENIX CONTACT GmbH**, Bad Pyrmont at 25<sup>th</sup> September. The excursion program consisted of a number of interlocking elements. A warm welcoming session followed by a precise presentation on “Industry 4.0” by PHOENIX CONTACT GmbH simply amazed us. The focus of PHOENIX CONTACT GmbH was to address “Industry 4.0 Revolution” and how they linked Lean Environment with this latest technology. Keeping pace with modern technology and integrating it in optimized manner is what that made PHOENIX CONTACT GmbH a global player. The emphasis in the excursion was firstly to demonstrate how “Industry 4.0” is implemented over there and later the tour was summed up with an exceptionally well guided trip to their manufacturing plant. Being a part of the company visit, I am pretty sure that student like us can now dream to be a part of this type of global player in their near future. The impression about the

company and our Masters curriculum that is combined of technical, management and intercultural courses give us that inner feeling.

The proceedings of the conference was followed by the presentation of scientific research in the afternoon at Ostwestfalen-Lippe University of Applied Science and continued till 26<sup>th</sup> September as well. Educators, Researchers, Industrial Professionals and Students from different corners of Europe presented their findings which were dealt with technical and engineering issues as well as management topics. Furthermore, the houseful audience made themselves a significant part of the conference by questioning their confusions right after each particular presentation. Specially, I would like to appreciate the Scientific Committee's decision of giving a chance to the students to publish their research papers and present in the conference. I must say that it motives the students to think themselves as an important contributor to modern technology in parallel to the higher professionals. Undoubtedly, this inspiration and encouragement will lead to the rise of remarkable number of student's participation in next conferences, I believe.

I was enthused with the level of organization, the quality of the presentations, the professional networking and the sheer transformation that Production Engineering and Management practices are enabling the SME to grow across the world.

On a different note, I, on behalf of the students owe a cordial thanks to the Steering Committee of the conference for the scope to have a taste on delicious "**East Westfalia Kitchen**" at the grand Dinner night. What's really impressive to me is that there were delegates from different countries of the world. It's rare, for me at least, to go to an event where there are so many different people from so many different countries. It's really great walking from table to table, hearing different languages and different perspective on things.

Finally, a big thanks to all the organizing members for such a good conference. I learned some, I was reminded of some, I missed something but I loved the two days of doing something else. A really enjoyable event, nice pace of sessions and did not feel rushed. I am really looking forward to experiencing the **5th Conference to be held in Trieste, Italy next year**.

See you back in Italy!

Best Regards,

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