# Press release

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**Ludwig-Schunk-Stiftung awards THM graduates**

**Ludwig Schunk Prize for outstanding academic achievements awarded**

**Heuchelheim, 12 April 2017 – The Ludwig Schunk Prize has been awarded for the fourth time at the THM University of Applied Sciences: six graduates received a prize of € 1,000 each for outstanding academic achievements and community service.**

The winners are Natalie Göpfert from Büdingen (Information Technology - Electrical Engineering - Mechatronics), Alexandra Jung from Neu-Isenburg (Mechanical Engineering, Mechatronics, Materials Technology), Dennis Kämmerer from Wettenberg (Mechanical Engineering and Energy Technology), Madeleine Koch from Heuchelheim (Economics), Dominik Möglich from Bad Homburg (Industrial Engineering) and Steffen Wiessner from Braunfels (Electrical and Information Technology).

**Award for outstanding academic performance and community service**

 "The Ludwig Schunk Prize shows that the willingness to perform well academically and community services are compatible and will also be rewarded," said Gunthard Sommer, Assistant Chairman of the Board of the Ludwig Schunk Foundation during the awards ceremony. "Furthermore, it symbolically recognizes the successful collaboration between THM and Schunk." The prize is dedicated to the company founder, Ludwig Schunk, from whose company the Schunk Group has developed and become an internationally active technology group with over 8,000 employees in 29 countries.

THM President Prof. Dr. Matthias Willems emphasized the connection between extraordinary achievements and volunteer word of the graduates: "It is impressive when students perform a lot of work on a volunteer basis and are still able to achieve high academic grades. By awarding the Ludwig Schunk Prize, the Foundation not only shows its interest in the quality of academic training, but it also fosters the willingness of future generations to place high demands on themselves in regards to personal qualifications and community service.”

**Long-term cooperation between Schunk and THM**

Schunk and THM have had a long-term partnership in teaching, research, and development. Last year, for example, about 45 students at the University of Applied Sciences completed internships at Schunk, or dealt with operational topics in their diploma, bachelor's or master's thesis. The Ludwig Schunk Foundation is also one of the sponsors of the Deutschlandstipendium (German Scholarship) at THM.

The best graduates from the THM departments in Giessen and Friedberg that offer academic programs in the fields of electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, industrial engineering, and business management, can apply for the Ludwig Schunk Prize. A jury, which is made up of representatives from the Foundation and members of the university, chooses the winners. Final grades and the extent of the respective community service are both taken into consideration.

(2,891 characters incl. spaces)

**Pictures:**

Pressebild\_Ludwig-Schunk-Preis\_2017\_1.jpg: (first row from left): Dennis Kämmerer, Alexandra Jung, Dr. Arno Roth, Natalie Göpfert, Dominik Möglich, Madeleine Koch; (second row from left): Prof. Olaf Berger, Prof. Dr. Matthias Willems, Dr. Reinhold Wolf, Ernst Steiner, Gunthard Sommer, Prof. Dr. Hubert Jung, Steffen Wiessner.

Pressebild\_Ludwig-Schunk-Preis\_2017\_2.jpg: The award winners received each a Ludwig Schunk medal, € 1.000 prize money and a certificate.

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**Schunk Group**
The Schunk Group is an internationally operating technology company with around 8,100 employees in 29 countries. The company offers a broad spectrum of products and services in the fields of carbon technology and ceramics, environmental simulation and air conditioning, sintered metal and ultrasonic welding. In 2015, the Schunk Group achieved a turnover of 1.065 billion euros, exceeding the billion mark for the first time ever.