

Issue 1/2014

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FORSTER **FF**

aktuell

The magazine for customers, staff and friends of the Forster Group



Routing system
for Vienna's
Business
University . . . page 6

UP-FRONT NEWS

Dear Friends,
Dear Staff Members,

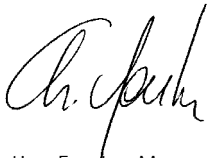
As of 1 July 2014, steel and/or aluminium load-bearing frames require a CE mark before they may be put into circulation. From this date, applying the EN 1090 standard is mandatory for all manufacturers of steel and aluminium frames, as is the CE mark. Load-bearing structures that are delivered on or after 1 July 2014 without showing the CE mark are "not in conformity" and thus illegal. Forster, being a responsible and competent manufacturer of traffic engineering products, was successfully certified under EN 1090 already back in 2011.

This is an excellent occasion to point out the fundamental importance that standards, directives and statutes have for the traffic engineering industry. Such regulations are introduced with a view to defining equivalent standards on an international scale, and they furnish the underpinnings for comparing different suppliers. It is only by such regulations that road operators can be sure to buy a product that conforms with the legal standards.

This issue of *Forster Aktuell* presents to you a series of highly interesting solutions in the fields of advertising, signage and shelving, as well as innovations and new developments in traffic engineering and noise screening.

Thus, our Noise Breaker is a novel near-track noise barrier developed specifically for the railways, and the moving gantry known as Flexgantry on Gantrybase further helps improve road safety.

Enjoy reading the latest news!



Christian Forster, Managing Director, Forster Holding GmbH



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RELEVANT AMENDMENT

TERN: new typeface for traffic signs

Traffic signs along Austria's roads and streets are getting a facelift: TERN, short for Trans European Network, was specified as the new legal typeface in the First Amendment to the Road Signs Ordinance (Federal Law Gazette II no. 292/2013 StVZO 1998) of 3 October 2013.

Higher visibility through larger signs

Based on the First Amendment to the Road Signs Ordinance, the RVS 05.02.13 guideline, which had long been in the works, was finally published in November 2013. It provides for larger sign formats and a better structure, in order to give motorists a better perception of traffic signs.



"New" signpost using Tern typeface in 2200 x 500 mm format.



"Old" signpost of 2200 x 460 mm format.



Iron medals at the Masters Ski Championship

The 400 medals awarded to the athletes competing in the FIS Masters World Criterium at Götting an der Ybbs were all made in the Iron Road region: designed by Christine Habermann von Hoch, a metal artist resident at Ybbsitz, the trophies were produced by the HTL Waidhofen technical college, with a contribution by Forster: the metal was shaped using in-house high-performance lasers. The choice of iron for the medals was obvious, considering the age-old iron-working tradition in the region.



Presentation of the medals for the FIS Masters World Criterium (from left to right): medal designers Erich Pilsinger and Franz Kleinhofer (both from HTL Waidhofen/Ybbs), LSV Lower Austria president Herta Mikesch, Christian Forster, artist Christine Habermann von Hoch, skiclub chairman Robert Fahrnerberger, ex-ÖSV athlete Andreas Buder, Petra Bohuslav from the Lower Austrian Government.

Trade show preview

The Forster Group will be present at three interesting exhibitions in June 2014:

On **3-6 June**, guests at the Librarians' Day in Bremen can get a demonstration of the special library shelving systems exhibited at the Arbitec-Forster stand.

On **11-12 June**, Forster Metallbau GmbH will use the noise screening symposium in Berlin to present its latest innovations in the field. The symposium will focus on noise protection along railways and new noise control technologies.

Almost at the same time, on **12-13 June**, this year's community fair will take place at Oberwart in Burgenland. Same as in the previous years, we will take this opportunity to inform visitors of our products and innovations for municipal use.

Trade show review

At the start of the year, Forster grabbed visitors' attention at the InfraTech, an exhibition for the civil engineering sector held in Essen on 15-17 January, by showing off its latest innovations in noise protection and traffic engineering. Considerable interest was raised by our "2Fold" noise barrier and "Flexgantry on Gantrybase".

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The perforated film is highly transparent, so that it does not obstruct the visitor's outside view.

A gigantic façade advert for a gigantic furniture store.

FACADE SIGN FOR MÖBEL LUDWIG

See-through digital print

With a showroom of over 40,000 square metres in size, Möbel Ludwig is Vienna's biggest furniture store. Forster produced an imposing façade advert for the furniture giant. From the choice of material to its production and skilful anchoring – in attaching the Möbel Ludwig signature message to the glass façade, our advertising engineers once more

proved their competence as advertising partners.

For the 300 square metres covered by the message, a perforated window film of type 3M™ "Scotchcal" Series 8173 was used. The perforated film with a detachable adhesion agent was developed specifically for use on level and transparent surfaces. In this way, films can be

attached to bus or trains windows or, as this example shows, showroom windows without seriously obstructing the view from inside.

The film for the furniture store was digitally imprinted with 3M inks specially prepared for just such a use and provided with a high-performance protection laminate. Next, the film sections, plotted for an exact fit, were packed following a pre-defined assembly schedule so that they could be attached in just two days. **FF**

LED FOLDING FRAME

IN ITS TRUE LIGHT



Backlite film can be made and imprinted by Forster.

Newly added to the Forster range, a simple folding frame system allows flexible poster change combined with modern LED technology.

At a depth of just 20 mm, the folding frame bewitches by its elegant design. LED technology and a neutral white background ensure smoothly uniform lighting that is pleasant to the eye. Thanks to nano-coated 12 V LED lamps (IP 67), the system can be used inside as well as outside. Moreover, LED technology translates into less

power consumed by the frames and a long life.

The LED folding frame consists of a diffuser made of acrylic glass with a special laser engraving. Optionally, an antireflex cover plate can be fitted which eliminates the glare effect.

In its standard design the folding frame is made of anodised aluminium and suitable for use on one or both sides. It can be simply wall-mounted or hung from a rope. In addition to standard sizes, special formats are available as well. **FF**

VIENNA AIRPORT

SUPER-SIZED BANNERS



Impossible to overlook: ceiling-hung banners at Check-in Terminal 3.

Vienna Airport offers its users a host of advertising opportunities. The ceiling banners, 10.5 x 2.4 metres in size, supplied by our advertising department, are great eye-catchers.

Hung from the ceiling of the landside area in the very busy arrival hall, the super-sized banners simply can't be missed. They are visible from the departure and arrival areas, and thus make for some 24 million contacts per year – a truly intense advertising effect. **FF**

KROMBACH FRIDGE

Brilliant colours thanks to blind embossing

It has become customary for businesses in the catering sector to have the appearance of their fridge boxes styled to their own tastes. Forster is making decorative film for Liebherr, a fridge maker, and its customer, the Krombacher brewery, that allows them to brand their fridge boxes, regardless of whether they are lit or not. To ensure that the products sitting in the box are highly visible, the top-quality synthetic film is contour-plotted to highlight the designer bottle. A combination of screen and digital printing and a special technology that digitally prints the colour white in a range of densities, has enabled us to produce film that has a high degree of colour fidelity and expression. **FF**



Colourfast and optimally lit: the Krombacher bottle.

FISCHER TEST BOARD

Perfect display for perfect ski bindings

Commissioned by ski maker Fischer, Forster produced so-called test boards for cross-country skis that enable the sales assistant to adjust the ski bindings accurately to the customer's requirements. The board consists of an aluminium section and removable vinyl cladding, which facilitates quick and stable handling. A specially designed slider made of high-grade sheet steel is used to optimally balance the ski. The pressure is caught between two foils, ensuring a long service life as well as resistance to the test surface – a quality that is of great importance to our customer. **FF**



The test board is digitally imprinted on its long face. The top surface can be refoiled at any time when the customer wants to display another dimensional unit or motif.



SIGNAGE FOR THE NEW BUSINESS UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

No student left behind



After almost four years of building, the new campus of the Vienna University of Economics and Business was opened last October. Forster's contribution to what is currently the largest new university in Europe is an analog routing system that makes getting around easy for the 23,000 students and 1,500 university staff.

The new campus features a colourful assembly of modern architectural styles. The 90,000 square metres site holds six units planned by renowned international architects. At its heart is the Library and Learning Centre designed by Zaha Hadid, around which are grouped the other five buildings. Special attention was devoted to the open-air spaces, courtyards and paths between the units.

Orientation by colour In order to facilitate orientation on the large campus grounds a routing system, designed by Erwin Bauer (buero bauer Gesellschaft für Orientierung und Identität mbH), was put in place. The system assigns a colour code to each building. At the three main entry points, visitors and students are welcomed by large-format info



Digitally imprinted info panels made of aluminium sheeting help students find their way.




walls which furnish a first overview of the new campus. Information posts at major crossing points and in front of the buildings help with orientation, as do traffic signs and cycling path signs which round off the system in its outdoor areas.

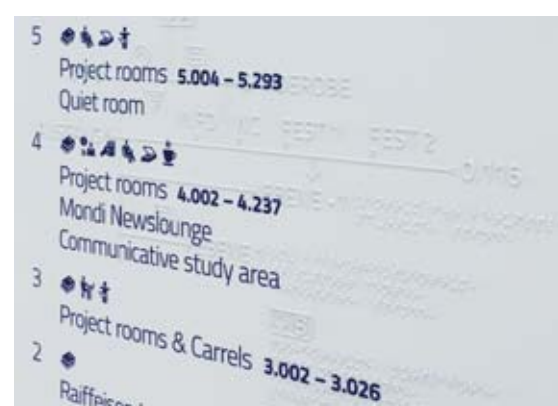
In addition to some 850 cycle racks, the new campus also features a public car park. Forster was contracted to deliver traffic signs as well as put the proper markings for the car parks and loading zones on the floors and walls. Some parking sectors were marked by colours. Pedestrian entry and exit points were similarly colour-coded with large-scale digitally imprinted foils.

Finding the right lecture hall

For the signage within the university buildings, Forster produced directional signs, info posts and

map panels and was also charged with creating signs to indicate lecture halls and floor levels. Over 150 info posts placed around the campus were delivered ex-works prepared for electronic inserts such as intercom, card reader and door opener.

The campus has also been provided with a barrier-free routing system that consists of tactile points fitted at strategic spots: many layout plans are of the raised type and in Braille. In a similar vein, tactile lane lines and handrail markings were also supplied by Forster. 



REHABILITATION CENTRE KITZBÜHEL

Signpost to recovery



A major order: all decorative foils and signs were made by Forster.

In September 2013 the first and so far only centre for orthopaedic, traumatic and neurosurgical rehabilitation became operational in Kitzbühel. Its developer, Vamed Standortentwicklung & Engineering GmbH & Co KG, commissioned Forster to implement its routing system.

A batch of new Forster products were introduced at the new clinic in the Tyrolean mountains. A Combiflex CF60 monument sign system was installed at the entrance to the parking lot. To this end, the sign already in place was adapted by adding backlighting, using a completely new typeface and fitting new panels.

NÖ LANDESKLINIKEN-HOLDING

LED-lit outdoor signs

The handing-over of the CI-conforming outdoor signs was presided over by Karl Wilfing from the Lower Austrian Government, Helmut Krenn, Christian Forster and Gabriele Kraushofer (from right to left).



CENTRAL REWE WAREHOUSE AT OHLSDORF

Simplifying logistics

**Watched over by the mountain goat**

..... The entrance area is fitted with high-quality adhesive film that has a sandblasted look and is effectively used everywhere inside for screening, to a total length of 100 metres. The decorative film shows the famous mountain goat that serves as Kitzbühel's heraldic animal. For the signposts and room signs, the client opted for our Combiflex Mero system because the signage should be as flexible as possible. Accordingly, door signs as well as signposts use exchangeable paper inserts, enabling nursing staff to quickly and easily switch signs. The first signs were naturally included in the scope of the order. FF

Forster supplies signs that are tailored specifically to the customer's individual requirements.

The building operated by the holding company of Lower Austrian state hospitals in St. Pölten was fitted with a design that reflects the client's identity. The Lower Austrian logo was placed next to laser-cut letters. The LED lighting used is not just economical, but also perfectly lights up the sign against the darkness. FF



The sheds and loading ramps were given an uncluttered design.

Given a site of 146,000 square metres in size and 36,000 square metres of storage space (about four soccer fields), intelligent planning is a must for an enterprise that has logistics at its heart. For this reason, REWE International AG opted for a routing system made by Forster at its new central warehouse.

In the autumn of 2013, REWE's new central warehouse serving western Austria was ceremoniously opened at Ohlsdorf in Upper Austria.

A routing system and access signs furnished by Forster allowed the company to optimise transport routes within and access roads to the site.

The scope of our works and services included traffic signs and indicators, including their supports, from the public road to the central warehouse. Signposts at the access road and within the location show their information in five languages. FF

Signposts in five languages.





FLEXGANTRY ON GANTRYBASE

Moving gantry



Cooperating with MABA Fertigteilindustrie GmbH, Forster has developed an innovative gantry system. First applications have already been implemented in Austria.

Flexgantry on Gantrybase is a mobile gantry for traffic signs that can be integrated in all traffic restraint systems. The gantry consists of an articulated A-frame on one side, a crossbar and a rigidly fixed support on the outside.

The new system makes do without a conventional foundation in the central reservation. The result is greater road safety (because there is no rigid obstacle to negotiate) as well as cost savings on the part of the road operator. Flexgantry is truly an innovation in terms of both road safety and road economy.



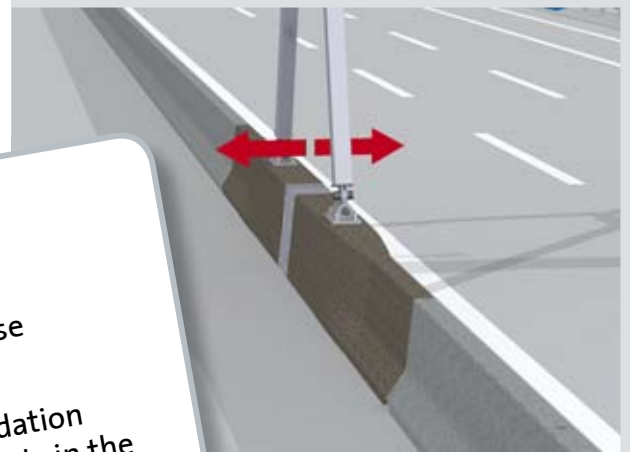
Leg links attach the articulated A-frame to the moveable concrete guide wall. The outer upright is anchored.



Watch our product videoclip at www.forster.at.



The bolted joints allow twisting.



Safe because it moves: the leg link sitting on the guide wall.

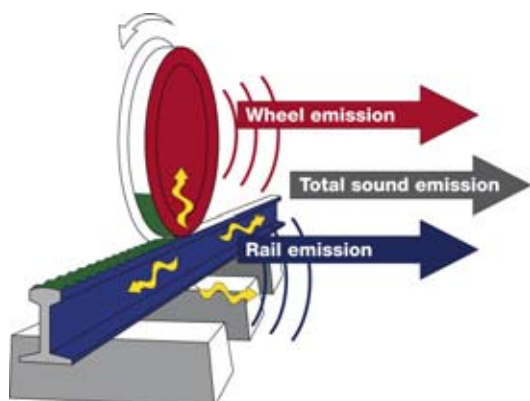
Benefits:

- Greater road safety
- Unobstructed transverse movement
- No conventional foundation needed: no rigid obstacle in the central reservation
- Can be installed in all traffic restraint systems
- An economical solution for the road operator

The A-frame is joined at its base to a flexible concrete guide wall along the central reservation which can be shifted transversally. The joints at the support leg are double bolt joints that allow twisting around the axis in the direction of and transversally to the traffic. The A-frame absorbs tensile vertical loads and wind loads in parallel to the road axis. Longitudinal and transverse wind loads are absorbed by the outer upright which is fixated to a concrete base. FF

NEAR-TRACK AND LOW NOISE BARRIERS

Keeping noise at its source



The Noise Breaker is placed right next to the source of the noise and is thus particularly effective.

Closely cooperating with ÖBB Infrastruktur AG and ART Asamer Rubber Technologie, Forster has developed a novel low noise barrier especially for use along rail tracks. What makes the “Noise Breaker” so special is that it absorbs the noise directly at its source.

Where space is scarce, conventional tall noise barriers are difficult or impossible to install, and it is in such locations that our latest innovation comes into its own: Forster has accumulated 30 years of experience in making noise screens, implemented in numerous international projects. This made us an ideal partner for the

development of the Noise Breaker.

Hushed tracks The idea behind the project was to suppress the noise right at its source: where the wheel connects with the track. To optimise results we carried out extensive sound experiments. Records made by an acoustic camera confirmed the effect of the Noise Breaker directly on the track. The pressure and suction loads generated proportionally to the speed of the passing train were given a professional analysis. As a result, the system was empirically and analytically investigated and tested with due regard to all static and dynamic loads impacting on it.



Small wall with a big effect: the Noise Breaker fits directly next to and inbetween tracks.




Greater safety, simpler logistics

The system is so slim that it actually fits between tracks – an option not offered by conventional noise barriers. Moreover, when it comes to safety and logistics, the new low barrier offers many more benefits: maintenance and repair work is simple and straightforward. Rescue teams have easy access to the tracks thanks to its low height. And not least it is the passengers who profit from the low design: they now have a better view of the scenery along the way.

Combination of concrete and aluminium

The Noise Breaker consists of a concrete base made

by ART Asamer Rubber Technology and noise-absorbing aluminium panels made by Forster. The concrete base is placed directly on level ground and has a cable duct integrated in it. The aluminium panels are inserted into steel uprights. Articulated interlocking joints for the concrete blocks ensure that the system can be installed equally well along straight and curved tracks.

The innovative noise protection system is approved by the Austrian Federal Railways and the German Federal Railway Authority EBA. 



High-absorbing aluminium panels made by Forster, concrete base made by ART Asamer – a cooperative venture that successfully absorbs noise.



NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA STATE ARCHIVES, DUISBURG

New shelves for Germany

Germany's biggest archival building stands at the port of Duisburg. Arbitec-Forster supplied all the shelving needed for the "Memory of North Rhine-Westphalia".



The architects produced an attractive match between the new structure and the existing building.



Quick orientation: colour-coded front faces of the Forster shelves.


's biggest archives

At a length of 200 metres, architects Ortner & Ortner created a project at the Duisburg port that is of a truly international scale. A listed building dating back to the 1930s was fitted with an archival tower of 76 metres in height rising from its centre that offers storage space on 21 floors. A new wave-shaped annex accommodates reading rooms, workshops, staff offices and other public facilities on six storeys. Additional space is used for storage magazines.

Historic stock The collection of the North Rhine-Westphalia State Archives reaches back far into the history of the country: some items date from the 7th century. The stock accumulated so far ranges across a wide spectrum: next to state records, books and maps it is increasingly photographs, films, sound files and electronic files that fill up the storage space. Altogether Arbitec-Forster provided 143,000 metres of shelving to the archives. Throughout, flexible shelving of the FOREG 2000 system was used which can be moved by a crank drive. Fully perforated end panels at the front sides ensure proper ventilation and enhance the shelves' appearance. To facilitate orientation,

the fronts were colour-coded in a system that applies to all storeys.

Punctual and custom-fit delivery

..... Already during the planning stage of the shelving system, a roundtable of client, supervision and stress analysis experts combined to discuss the structural properties of the building. The resulting specific requirements were accounted for when the tracks were made and laid. The project was carried out from November 2011 to May 2013. In spite of the major logistic challenges facing the parties involved, the deadlines and stringent quality criteria could be met. Altogether, some 230,000 books, 700,000 pictures and almost 100 kilometres of official records and books will be stored on Arbitec-Forster shelves in the archives. Removal of the stocks is scheduled to be completed in early May 2014. 



News from Forster Group staff

RETIRED

After almost 43 years at Forster, it was time for **Alois Kerschbaumer** to say good-bye, taking his well-earned retirement on 1 March 2014.



Alois Kerschbaumer holding almost 40 years of printing in his hands. The sticker for the 1976 Olympic Games was made by Forster as was the toll sticker for 2014.

Alois Kerschbaumer is inextricably linked to the growth of the printing sector at Forster. After spending his first years in the sales office, he increasingly shifted to screen printing and display while the company began to expand, ultimately becoming head of the advertising engineering department. In 2002 he was vested with general commercial power of representing the company.

Under his leadership, the printing sector grew and modernised constantly. By the mid-1970s, two fully automated screen printing lines were operating. By the early 1980s, the first rotary press went on line, preparing the way for technical screen printing. His brief also included expanding the display sector. Thanks to his expert know-how and commitment he contributed greatly to implementing digital and flexoprinting and to setting up the toll sticker production line.

Alois Kerschbaumer will continue to give his valuable advice to the company and will – naturally – keenly observe every development in the industry. His successor as head of department will be **Werner Weninger**.

Designer **Martin Müller** retired in late September 2013. Considering his 28 years of service for the company it is not to be wondered at that many successful Forster products bear his signature, whether it be shelving or signs or complex routing systems.

Martin Müller always kept a close look on his creations from their conception to the finished product. He was very much involved in the stage of creative-artistic rendering and prototype construction as he was in the testing and analysis (such as load tests or light measurements) accompanying the development process.

Now is the time for Martin Müller to devote himself to his passion of sailing. We wish him fair winds and following seas and six inches water under his keel!



Christian Forster and Franz Forster thanking Martin Müller for his lifelong contribution.

Up to his retirement in September 2013, **Michael Hochpöchl** worked for the company for almost 40 years. His career with Forster began in 1973 when he started to drive the lorries from the company's ear-

lier location at Hammergeasse. Eight years later he changed to the dispatch department. From 1985 onwards, Michael Hochpöchl served as head of dispatch in charge of scheduling deliveries, preparing goods for dispatch and handling the lorry fleet at Waidhofen/Ybbs.



TRIBUTE TO STAFF MEMBERS

In December, all Forster staff members celebrating anniversaries were invited to a party at the St. Peter/Au plant. Staff members from the Waidhofen/Ybbs location took the opportunity to have a close look at the St. Peter/Au operation.



Ludwig Schuller, Rudolf Hackl, Brigitte Heher, Erich Wirrer, Thomas Freudenschuß, Barbara Hochbichler, Franz Schachinger, Christian Forster, Hans Peter Prüller (from left to right).



The management congratulated Franz Kogler on his 40th anniversary with the company. A fully trained mechanic, he is responsible for the tools in our production machines and for their maintenance at the Waidhofen/Ybbs plant.



Rudolf Hackl, Josef Sattler, Walter Streicher, Christian Forster, Hans Peter Prüller, Hermann Wührer (from left to right).

❖ ANNIVERSARIES

Waidhofen/Ybbs:

40 YEARS

Franz Kogler

35 YEARS

Christian Forster

Josef Sattler

Walter Streicher

30 YEARS

Herwig Fischer

Thomas Freudenschuß

Barbara Hochbichler

Franz Schachinger

25 YEARS

Günter Bachbauer

Walter Bergmann

Claudia Biber

Sabine Felbauer

Birgit Forster

Eva Nussbaumer

Günther Plank

Johann Rettensteiner

Klaus Sonnleithner

20 YEARS

Harald Freudenschuß

Leopold Gröbl

Kurt Großbichler

Franz Haberfehlner

Brigitte Hiesböck

Sylvia Hirner

Christoph Kalinski

Admira Mandzuka

Hans-Peter Prüller

Walter Trawetzky

15 YEARS

Markus Aichinger

Sevim Cagiran

Alois Farfeleder

Jürgen Florian

Silvia Killinger

Martin Präuer

Bernhard Putz

Walter Schmitsberger

Günther Wagner

10 YEARS

Matthias Bramberger

Semsudin Bulic

Monika Frühwirth

Bojan Glavas

Süleyman Göcmen

Daniel Hummelsberger

Johann Kerschbaumer

Sandra Leichtfried

Josip Marijanovic

Siegfried Kopetzky

Alexander Pichler

Walter Schmidt

Alwin Springer

Hannes Stangl

Christoph Wagner

Manuel Werner

St. Peter/Au:

30 YEARS

Brigitte Heher

Ludwig Schuller

Erich Wirrer

25 YEARS

Franz Ritt

20 YEARS

Petru Cristea

Susanne Gutmandelberger

Christian Maderthaler

Stefanie Schäffer

Manfred Stöger

15 YEARS

Elfriede Haneder

Wolfgang Reitbauer

Ida Schuller

10 YEARS

Maria Huemer

Leopold Peschta

Leopoldine Riegler

Gerlinde Tempelmayr

Sandra Wieser

❖ RETIREMENT

Waidhofen/Ybbs:

Michael Hochpöchler,

Peter Fuchs, Martin Müller,

Engelbert Hochstrasser,

Johann Zöchbauer, Josef Fang-

meyer, Alois Kerschbaumer

St. Peter/Au:

Rosa Schaupp, Gertraud Jandl

Vienna office:

Margit Karner

Arbitec-Forster:

Wilhelm Wormser

The management wants to express to all celebrants its gratitude and appreciation for their long years of loyalty to the company, looks forward to continuing our excellent cooperation and extends its best wishes to retirees for their new life phase!

❖ WEDDINGS

Waidhofen/Ybbs:

Florian Bürbaumer, Sabine Riegler
(née Hornbachner)

St. Peter/Au:

Khwanta Dieminger (née
Bunphoem), Andrea Pfaffeneder
and Leopold Schoberberger

❖ OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING

Julia Sattler (screen printer) graduated from the first form with good success; *Lisa Geyerlechner* (screen printer) graduated from the second form with excellent success.

Julia Pechhacker (metal designer) passed the apprenticeship completion examination.

Alexandra Gruber (industrial manager) and *Sabrina Wailzer* (industrial manager) graduated from the third form with excellent success and passed the apprenticeship completion examination with good success.

Andrea Schagerl (industrial manager) graduated from the second form with excellent success.

Leopold Hinterarmskogler (mechanical engineer) graduated from the fourth form with excellent success and passed the apprenticeship completion examination. *Leopold Hinterarmskogler* was furthermore awarded a prize for special merits.

Bayan Aboodeh (mechanical engineer) graduated from the fourth form with excellent success.

Our congratulations on their excellent performance and our best wishes for their further career!

❖ OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING



Technical management Forster Industrietechnik Andreas Grader

Andreas Grader successfully completed a two-year post-secondary course at the Business School of Johannes Kepler University of Linz in the autumn of 2013. His master's thesis on a technical subject with economic, sales and strategic aspects draws considerably on the Forster enterprise. In parallel, Andreas Grader completed a course on management MBA, also at the University of Linz.

Having passed the final examinations, he was awarded the academic degrees of Master of Science (MSc) and Master of Business Administration (MBA) in December 2013.

At the start of the new year, Andreas Grader was appointed head of technical management of Forster Industrietechnik.

Rudolf Katzensteiner successfully passed the examination for coating inspector pursuant to NS 476 FROSIO CERTIFIED, a globally accepted test at Schweißtechnische Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt Halle GmbH.

Sports and leisure

Top rankings at the FIS World Criterium Masters Alpine Skiing events

Manfred Hofmacher and Raimund Hüttenbrenner placed at the top at the alpine races of the FIS Masters World Criterium.



Raimund Hüttenbrenner raced all three disciplines (ranking 7th in the Super-G, 8th in the giant slalom and 15th in the slalom).



Manfred Hofmacher made it to 7th place both in the Super-G and giant slalom.

Both men also raced the **FIS Masters Cup**, ranking 3rd (Manfred Hofmacher) and 6th (Raimund Hüttenbrenner) in their respective age groups.

Company skiing championship Glory for the Forster skiing team

Our athletes were on a winning streak at both the Lower Austrian and the national company skiing championships.

The **42nd Lower Austrian company skiing championship**, held at the Hochkar on 8 February, made champions of our team consisting of Raimund Hüttenbrenner, Manfred Hofmacher and Thomas Spacil. The Forster II team, made up of Konrad Ritt, Manfred Kalkhofer, Friedrich Auer and Josef Großauer, raced to an excellent second place. To add further glory, the mixed team of Dorli Hofmacher, Dieter Wieser, Tobias Schraml and Gerhard Ahrer finished third.

Just three weeks later, Raimund Hüttenbrenner, Manfred Hofmacher, Thomas Spacil and Tobias Schraml won the general category at the **40th Austrian company skiing championship** at St. Johann im Pongau on 1 March. This superior performance translated into the title of Austrian Vice-Champion. Two firsts, one second and two third places in the individual rankings highlighted the class of our skiers.

Great individual results:

- 3rd place: Thomas Spacil
(general men's class I)
- 3rd place: Manfred Hofmacher
(general men's class II)
- 2nd place: Raimund Hüttenbrenner
(general men's class III)
- 1st place: Tobias Schraml
(male youth class)
- 1st place: Friedrich Auer
(men's general hobby
class III)



Not much space left in the trophy cabinets of our top-class skiers.



Our skiing team: blessed with success.

❖ SERVING FOR THE NEW SEASON

Same as in the previous years, the tennis facilities at Gstadt (two sand courts and the club house) are available to Forster staff free of charge. Rackets and balls are available for trial lessons. Ask at the staff office for the keys and instructions.





Victory and defeat at the company cup

At the first round of the AKNÖ/ÖGB company football cup, our team defeated Worthington Cylinders GmbH with a score of 3:1, qualifying for the next round, where the team met up with a stronger opponent. Defeated 1:6 by PVA St. Pölten, the Forster footballers had to say good-bye to the Lower Austrian cup.



Karl Ferhringer, Inal Ihsan, Alex Hochbichler, Florian Kurowski, Jan Forster, Patrick Losbicher (front row from left to right); Marco Marijanovic, Bojan Glavas, Manuel Röcklinger, Engin Güclü, Michael Schatz, Gerald Hochbichler (back row from left to right).



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