

## EuroSkills: Preparations in full swing at the event venue

**One month from now, the European vocational championships EuroSkills will be held in Austria for the first time, at the Schwarzl Freizeit Zentrum lakeside leisure and event centre. Work is currently progressing at speed to prepare Austria's stage for top-level performances by Europe's skilled workers. The first huge trucks have been arriving at the site in the last few days, and by the end of the week temporary structures covering a surface area of more than 6,000 square metres will have been erected.**

It's getting busy at the "Schwarzl Freizeitzentrum" lakeside leisure and event centre, located at Unterpremstätten near Graz. This week, the first 30 out of an expected 420 (!) huge trucks are delivering the infrastructure for the European vocational skills championships, to be held from 22 to 26 September in the Austrian Province of Styria. "These first visible signs that we really can host the European vocational skills championships for the first time in Austria, in a few weeks, fill us with tremendous excitement and anticipation. And not only because we'll be showcasing Styria and Austria as a role model for education and training in Europe, but also for another, much more important reason: with this event, with EuroSkills, we are providing huge benefits for businesses in Styria and all over Austria by greatly enhancing the status of vocational training," emphasises Supervisory Chairman of EuroSkills and president of the Styrian Economic Chamber, Josef Herk. "That's why we're doing all we can to ensure that this major international event is organised to the highest possible standards," says Mr. Herk.

### 6,600 square meters of tented complex by the end of the week

In specific terms, based on the materials delivered, this means that the first two temporary structures (of a complex numbering 22 such structures and covering more than 35,000 square meters) will have been assembled and erected by the end of the week. In other words, around 6,600 square meters of infrastructure will rise up from the ground virtually overnight. "The detailed planning work and the fabulous team spirit among employees, partners and sponsors will enable us to pull off a real logistical masterstroke," says Herk with delight. There are more than 30 people working right through the week – including Saturday and Sunday – to build and fit out the temporary structures. At the same time the basic services are being installed on site, with water, wastewater and sewage pipes currently being laid under the temporary structures. Furthermore, the Competition Operations team of EuroSkills GmbH is now moving its offices to the competition arena.

### Tight schedule

The EuroSkills set-up schedule is also going to be tight in the following few weeks. Apart from the supplies for the huge temporary structures, from mid-September the larger machines needed for the competitions, such as CNC systems, wheel loaders and excavators, all weighing several tons, will be delivered directly to the event site. Extremely heavy plant and machinery will have to be taken to the Davis Cup hall due to maximum load limits in the temporary structures. Smaller parts and tools, such as cordless screwdrivers,

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measuring equipment and egg whisks, will be supplied from the three already well-stocked storage facilities in other parts of the province. Altogether, well over 100,000 items will be transported from the logistics warehouses to the Schwarzl event site.

### Catering on a massive scale

Work is also under way to stock the supplies needed for 35,000 meals, plus 10,000 bottles of water and a further 13,000 litres for water dispensers, and over 6,000 litres of wine. The logistical undertaking will come to an end on 20 September at the latest, when the designated chief experts will carry out the final acceptance checks for each and every skill or trade.

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