Festo Didactic and WorldSkills take a new path: An online and hands-on challenge with international participation

Pandemic times call for new learning formats and thus new skills competition formats. Hybrid challenges are valuable substitutes. Festo and WorldSkills therefore ran a hybrid competition in November 2021, enabling us

- to keep the contact to our WorldSkills community
- to offer a preparation training for the WorldSkills Shanghai 2022 competition, but also to national competitions taking place before
- to replace planned physical training camps
- to gain experience in digitalization (multi-video conference, use of software programs, international event experience) and
- to simulate a competition atmosphere for the participants, sharpen the roles e.g. of skill competition experts, and detect weaknesses.

Hybrid Skill Challenge Mechatronics

A new Training Format for Competitions
Hybrid Skill Challenge Mechatronics

Facts & Figures

- Technology: Mechatronics
- Tasks: adjustments of a circuit diagram, troubleshooting with simulation software, programming a digital twin, testing knowledge in a questionnaire, solving tasks on our online learning portal
- Festo software: FluidSIM, CIROS, Festo LX
- Festo hardware: PLC, interface EasyPort, touch panel (Siemens)
- Participants: 24 teams from 18 countries
- Roles: candidates for National or WorldSkills competitions, skill competition experts, technical experts, trainers and teachers
- Countries: AT, CA, CN, CH, DE, ES, ID, IN, JP, KR, MY, NA, RU, SE, TH, TW, VN and ZA.
- Time slot: 12 noon – 2 pm
- Duration: day 1: 60 minutes, day 2: 90 minutes, day 3: 60 minutes (jury judgement, evaluation and wrap-up)
- Communication: MS Teams, camera, microphone, stable internet
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New circumstances require new ways to walk

The hybrid challenge at large scale was a relatively new format for Festo Didactic. Michael Linn, Senior Expert Mechatronics at Festo Didactic and Skill Competition Manager Mechatronics at WorldSkills, orchestrated the competition in cooperation with a team of skilled colleagues.

Jane Stokie, Technical Director of WorldSkills International, welcomed the participants via video and highlighted the added value of hybrid competitions. Listen to her: https://bit.ly/3D2gBKe

At the end all agreed: there were only winners in these friendly games! In a race against time and technology, everyone could check out his or her boundaries, participants as well as organizers.

Festo Didactic set up a blueprint on how to realize such hybrid or online trainings. This blueprint is based on the WorldSkills Occupational Standards/ Manufacturing and Engineering Technology/ Mechatronics. Learn more about the WorldSkills Occupational Standards here.
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Information | Contact

Information

- Find out more about the simulation software FluidSIM and CIROS
- Discover our online portal Festo Learning Experience
- Learn about Festo at WorldSkills
- See our WorldSkills Kazan 2019 video on YouTube
- More about skill 04 Mechatronics on the WorldSkills website

Contact

- For the blueprint or any other question, please don’t hesitate to contact the Skill Competition Manager Michael Linn, michael.linn@festo.com