

## Press release

Website: [www.kiongroup.com/media](https://www.kiongroup.com/media)

Twitter: [@kion\\_group](https://twitter.com/kion_group); LinkedIn: [KION Group](https://www.linkedin.com/company/kion-group)

# 132 trainees set to launch their careers at KION Group in 2020

- **This year, the intralogistics group is offering 16 vocational apprenticeship courses and eleven degree apprenticeship courses that open up a range of career prospects**
- **Including the most recent crop of vocational and degree apprentices, the KION Group's German companies are currently training almost 600 young people**
- **The application and selection phase for training places in 2021 has already begun**

Frankfurt/Main, July 31, 2020 – This year, 132 young people will begin a vocational apprenticeship or a degree apprenticeship with the KION Group. Of the new entrants, 107 will be working towards one of 16 technical or business qualifications, while 25 will embark on one of eleven bachelor degree or degree apprenticeship courses. Within its brand companies Linde, STILL, and Dematic, as well as at KION Group IT, the KION Group employs almost 600 vocational and degree apprentices at nine locations in Germany, including the latest recruits.

Of the young people starting out this year, 87 have chosen technical jobs, such as mechatronics engineer or industrial mechanic. 20 of the new recruits opted for commercial training, e.g. professional qualifications in wholesale and foreign trade or in industrial sales management. 25 of the new starters decided on a degree apprenticeship, most of them choosing the route towards a BSc in business information systems.

“The large number of applicants shows that our innovative products and growth areas make the KION Group an attractive employer for young people,” says Anke Groth, Labor Relations Director and Chief Financial Officer of KION GROUP AG. “We would like to offer good prospects to as many young people as possible by providing them with solid vocational qualifications – even at a difficult time, such as during the current coronavirus pandemic. Well-trained and skilled, motivated workers are the key to maintaining our competitiveness in the long term.”

As they begin their training with the KION Group companies at the start of August or September, the new apprentices will be laying the foundation for their future careers. KION Group IT, Linde, and STILL are organizing 'Welcome Days' and induction weeks to help the new starters settle in. During guided tours, factory visits, discovery tours, and team building exercises, the trainees get to know each other as well as their new companies. Following this orientation period, they all head off to their respective courses or departments, where they receive close support from their trainers and attend seminars for their personal and professional development.

STILL in Hamburg, for example, is running a one-week seminar with the theme 'Bestsellers of 2030' this year. The trainees and students are asked to take an existing product – such as a vehicle drive system – and improve it to make it fit for the future. The new recruits get to plan the design as well as the commercial details. "Our aim is to get them to engage with our products and to identify with our company. We also want them to collaborate, to develop viable, innovative ideas, and to produce specific solutions," explains Jan Wehlen, Head of Vocational Training at STILL in Hamburg. "Each group of participants presents the ideas they have developed to a panel of judges consisting of senior managers from the company and then faces critical questions on all aspects of their project."

At Linde Material Handling, project-integrated training is a core part of the program. The trainees form teams across departments to work independently on improving the company's processes and workflows. This provides them with the experience of using a systematic approach and teaches them important interpersonal skills. Exceptional trainees also have the opportunity to undertake a four-week placement at one of Linde MH's global sites, explains Christopher Klix, Head of Vocational Training at Linde MH in Aschaffenburg.

Of the 77 apprentices who finished their training this year, 70 were taken on by the company, a retention rate of more than 90 percent.

The application and selection phase for training places in 2021 has already begun.

For more information on training, degree apprenticeships, and on the careers available with the leading supplier of intralogistics equipment, please see:

<https://www.kiongroup.com/en/Careers/Apprenticeships/> or visit the websites of KION subsidiaries Linde Material Handling, STILL, and Dematic.

## The Company

The KION Group is one of the world's leading intralogistics providers for supply chain solutions. Its portfolio encompasses industrial trucks, such as forklift trucks and

warehouse trucks, as well as integrated automation technology and software solutions for the optimization of supply chains, including all related services. Across more than 100 countries worldwide, the KION Group's solutions improve the flow of material and information within factories, warehouses, and distribution centers. The Group, which is included in the MDAX, is the largest manufacturer of industrial trucks in Europe and the second largest worldwide. It is also a leading provider of automation technology.

The KION Group's world-renowned brands are among the industry leaders. Dematic, the newest addition to the KION Group, is a global leader in automated material handling, providing a comprehensive range of intelligent supply chain and automation solutions. The Linde and STILL brands serve the premium industrial truck segment. Baoli focuses on industrial trucks in the value segment. Among KION's regional industrial truck brand companies, Fenwick is the largest supplier of material handling products in France and OM is a leading provider of industrial trucks in the Indian market.

With an installed base of more than 1.5 million industrial trucks and over 6,000 installed systems, the KION Group's customers include companies in all industries and of all sizes on six continents. The KION Group currently operates 25 production sites in eleven countries, including eight in Germany. The Group has more than 35,000 employees – including around 10,500 in Germany – and generated revenue of €8.8 billion in 2019.

*Up-to-date images of the KION Group can be found in our image database at <https://mediacenter.kiongroup.com/categories> and on the homepages of our respective brands.*

(fgr)

## Disclaimer

This release and the information contained herein are for information purposes only and do not constitute a prospectus or an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in the United States or in any other jurisdiction.

This release contains forward-looking statements that are subject to various risks and uncertainties. Future results could differ materially from those described in these forward-looking statements due to certain factors, e.g. changes in business, economic and competitive conditions (including with respect to further developments in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic), regulatory reforms, results of technical studies, foreign exchange rate fluctuations, uncertainties in litigation or investigative proceedings, and the availability of financing. We do not undertake any responsibility to update the forward-looking statements in this release.

Further information for the media

Michael Hauger  
Senior Vice President Corporate Communications  
Tel: +49 (0)69 201 107 655  
Cell: +49 (0)151 1686 5550  
[michael.hauger@kiongroup.com](mailto:michael.hauger@kiongroup.com)

Frank Grodzki  
Senior Director External Communications & Group Newsroom  
Tel: +49 (0)69 201 107 496  
Cell: +49 (0)151 6526 2916  
[frank.grodzki@kiongroup.com](mailto:frank.grodzki@kiongroup.com)

Further information for investors

Antje Kelbert  
Senior Manager Investor Relations  
Tel: +49 (0)69 201 107 346  
[antje.kelbert@kiongroup.com](mailto:antje.kelbert@kiongroup.com)

Dana Unger  
Senior Manager Investor Relations  
Tel: +49 (0)69 201 107 371  
[dana.unger@kiongroup.com](mailto:dana.unger@kiongroup.com)