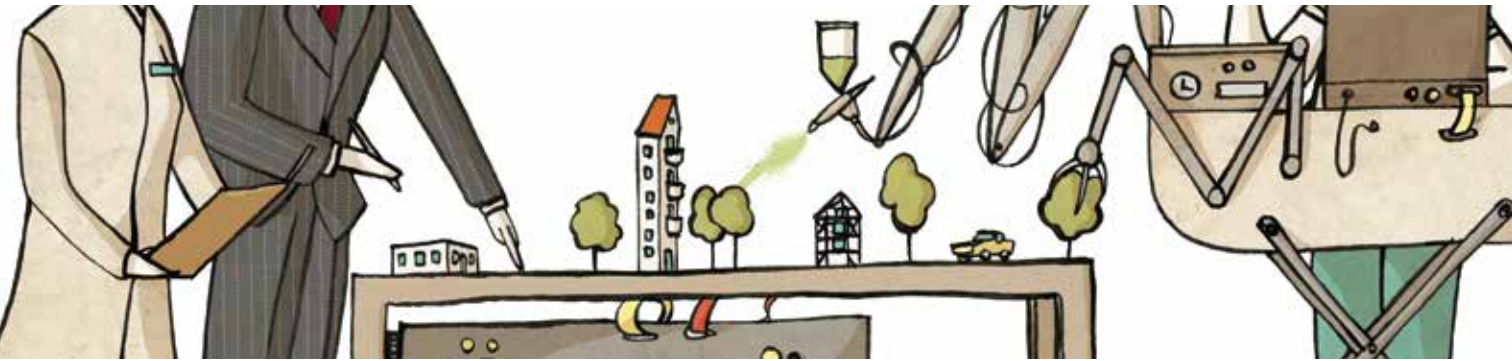


Engineering Region Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar – An attractive location for businesses and professionals



ENGINEERING REGION
Darmstadt Rhein Main Neckar

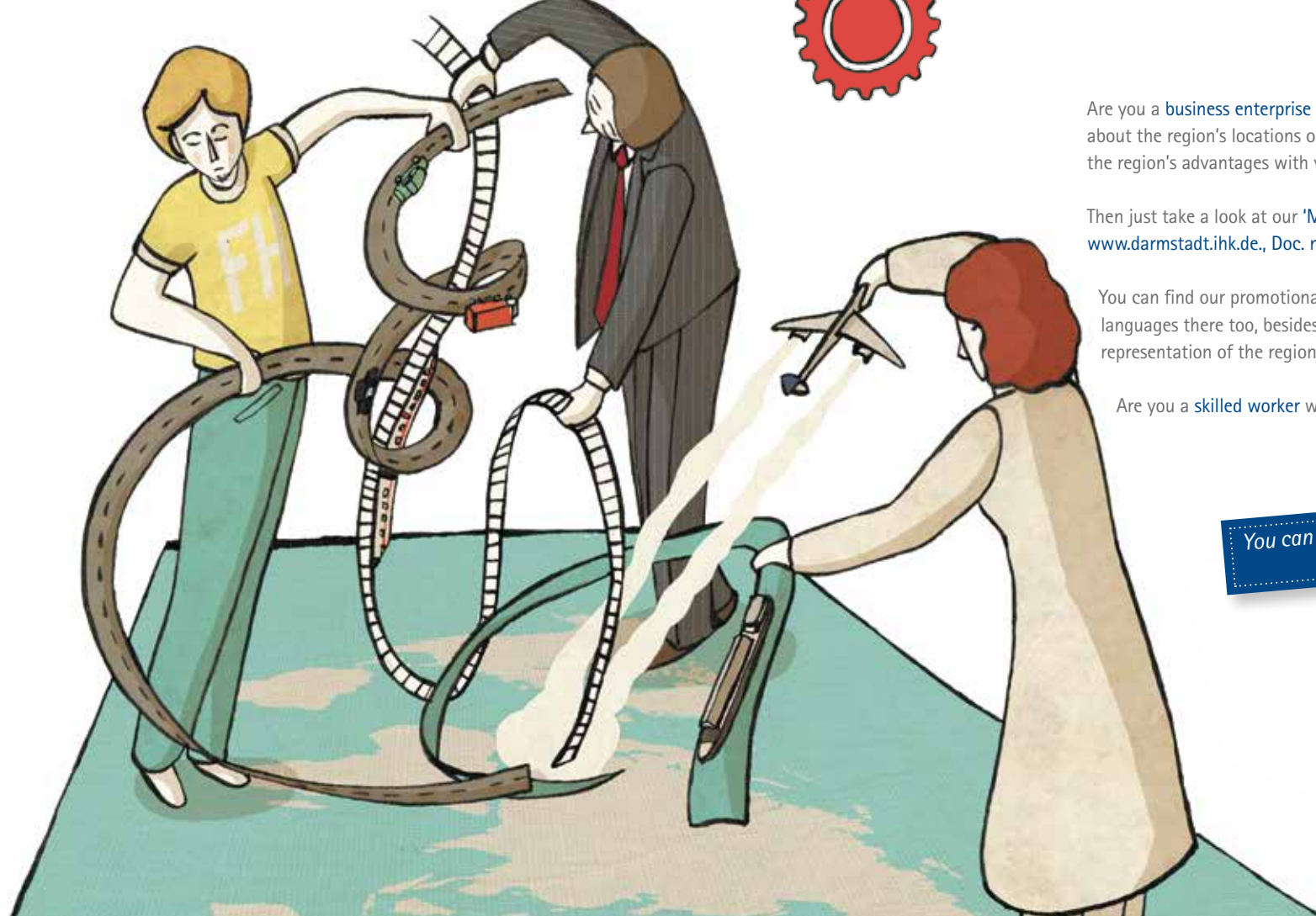
From the Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region to the whole world and from the whole world to the region

The Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region lies in the centre of Europe. It is framed by the densely populated metropolitan conurbations of FrankfurtRhineMain in the north and Rhine-Neckar in the south.

The region excels because of its outstanding transport infrastructure, which enables rapid intercommunication with the whole world. Ideal and quick connections are guaranteed by the international air-traffic hub in Frankfurt as well as by Frankfurt's position at the cross-roads of the main motorway intersections in Germany and Europe.

Efficient transport of persons and goods is ensured by the confluence of waterways on the Rhine, Main and Neckar as well as by the best railway connections.

Further information:
www.darmstadt.ihk.de
Doc. no. 21004



Are you a **business enterprise** and do you need current facts and figures about the region's locations or about further materials, in order to discuss the region's advantages with your skilled workers too?

Then just take a look at our 'Modules for marketing locations' at www.darmstadt.ihk.de, Doc. no. 132219.

You can find our promotional film in German, English and further languages there too, besides the facts and figures, maps or a graphic representation of the region's core competences.

Are you a **skilled worker** who is looking for a job in the region?

You can find regional offers of jobs at:
www.jobs-suedhessen.de



The Rhine Main Neckar region is ONE large commercial and residential environment

The entire region is densely interlinked. Administrative boundaries do not play any role here. The 'Regional study of economic integration in the Rhine Main Neckar region' has indicated that.

The flows of commuters confirm it: do you work in Darmstadt but live among greenery in the Odenwald or in Bergstrasse? Or do you have a job in the Odenwald or in Bergstrasse and would gladly like to live in town? That is not any problem thanks to the good infrastructure of public transport and motorways.

Do you want to shop in various large towns or in the somewhat smaller and more tranquil setting of a mediaeval town? Darmstadt, Frankfurt, Mannheim, Heidelberg or the mediaeval towns of Michelstadt and Bensheim look forward to your visit.



You have the ideas and the attractive region has suitable offers to suit them!

Are you as an entrepreneur seeking to contact cooperative partners or to move close to a large sales market?

Then you will be welcome to come to the Rhine Main Neckar region, which is Germany's region for doing good business!

Further information:
www.darmstadt.ihk.de
Doc. no. 128958

The Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region specializes in the engineering sector

Embedded in the greater region Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar has its own expertise: It is THE Engineering Region!

The region is outstandingly established in the sectors of automation, logistics, chemistry, pharmacy, biotechnology, automotive, renewable energies and IT. It is well known worldwide for Europe's aerospace industry: the European Space Operations Centre (ESOC) in Darmstadt controls all of the European satellites. EUMETSAT is located nearby and it operates the weather satellites which take the photographs that are used as the basis for European weather forecasts.

Many large and famous business enterprises like Opel, Merck, Pirelli, Software AG, Suzuki International Europe, Langnese and Deutsche Telekom are located in the region. Numerous small-sized and medium-sized business enterprises are

based here too. There is also a whole range of 'hidden champions' among them, which are often relatively unknown business enterprises that nevertheless are among the world's market leaders in their quite special sectors.

Did you know for example that 'Alpinweiß' is a product that is made by Deutsche Amphibolin-Werke in Ober-Ramstadt? Or have you already reflected at any time on who puts the colorant and taste into your favourite lemonade?

Aquanova in Darmstadt supplies a natural alternative to colorants and Döhler is a leading manufacturer worldwide of natural flavourings, which is located just around the corner.

Do you know about BRAIN AG in Zwingenberg? The biotechnological business enterprise has developed an enzyme for the major manufacturers of washing machines, which develops the same washing power at 40°C as at 60°C and it has already been awarded the German Environmental Prize.

Or do you know about the firm of Bertrandt, which is a service-provider and supplier to the international motorcar industry and aircraft industry from Ginsheim-Gustavsburg? Various scenarios to illuminate the cockpits of aircraft are typically tested there for Airbus.

Can you also imagine that it is possible to make eco-power or (thermal and acoustic) insulation from meadow grass? The 'grass factory' of Bio-wert Industrie GmbH in Brensbach in the Odenwald is practising to do that already in a specially designed bio-refinery that is unique worldwide.

There are exciting examples of engineering performance in Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar!

Further information:
www.darmstadt.ihk.de
Doc. no. 134460, Doc. no. 119299





The Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region is knowledgeable

The special competences that the Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region possesses in the engineering sector are also reflected in its polytechnic colleges and research institutes.

Darmstadt Technical University, Darmstadt's University of Applied Sciences and the Rhine-Main University of Applied Sciences in Rüsselsheim specialize in courses to study engineering and science. Darmstadt Technical University is traditional and it is among the largest technical universities in Germany. The offer is supplemented by further universities in Frankfurt, Mainz, Mannheim and Heidelberg, as well as by polytechnic colleges in the surroundings: all of them cater for the trainees in the Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region.

Companies benefit from excellent skilled workers, academics as well as tailor-made talents. Thus, the recruiting potential is outstanding. The region's dynamic economy is supported by the cooperative agreements that have been made between polytechnic colleges and research institutes outside the universities, as well as by the close cooperation that exists between them and the business enterprises. The study entitled 'Darmstadt Technical University as an economic factor' shows that Darmstadt Technical University has created a considerable extent of jobs, gross added value and effective growth which arise from the skilled workers and innovations.

Numerous research institutes have their head offices in the region: the list of these facilities includes the Fraunhofer Institutes, the GSI Helmholtzzentrum für Schwerionenforschung with its particle-accelerator machine for ions that is unique worldwide, as well as the developmental centres of Kia, Hyundai, Opel and Honda. They do research on important subjects like IT security among other things, as well as on the safe materials that are typically used in the motorcar industry. The spectrum of research is extended by the Max-Planck Institutes in Frankfurt, Mainz, Bad Nauheim and Heidelberg.

It is not by chance that Darmstadt one town in the region bears the title of 'Science City'!

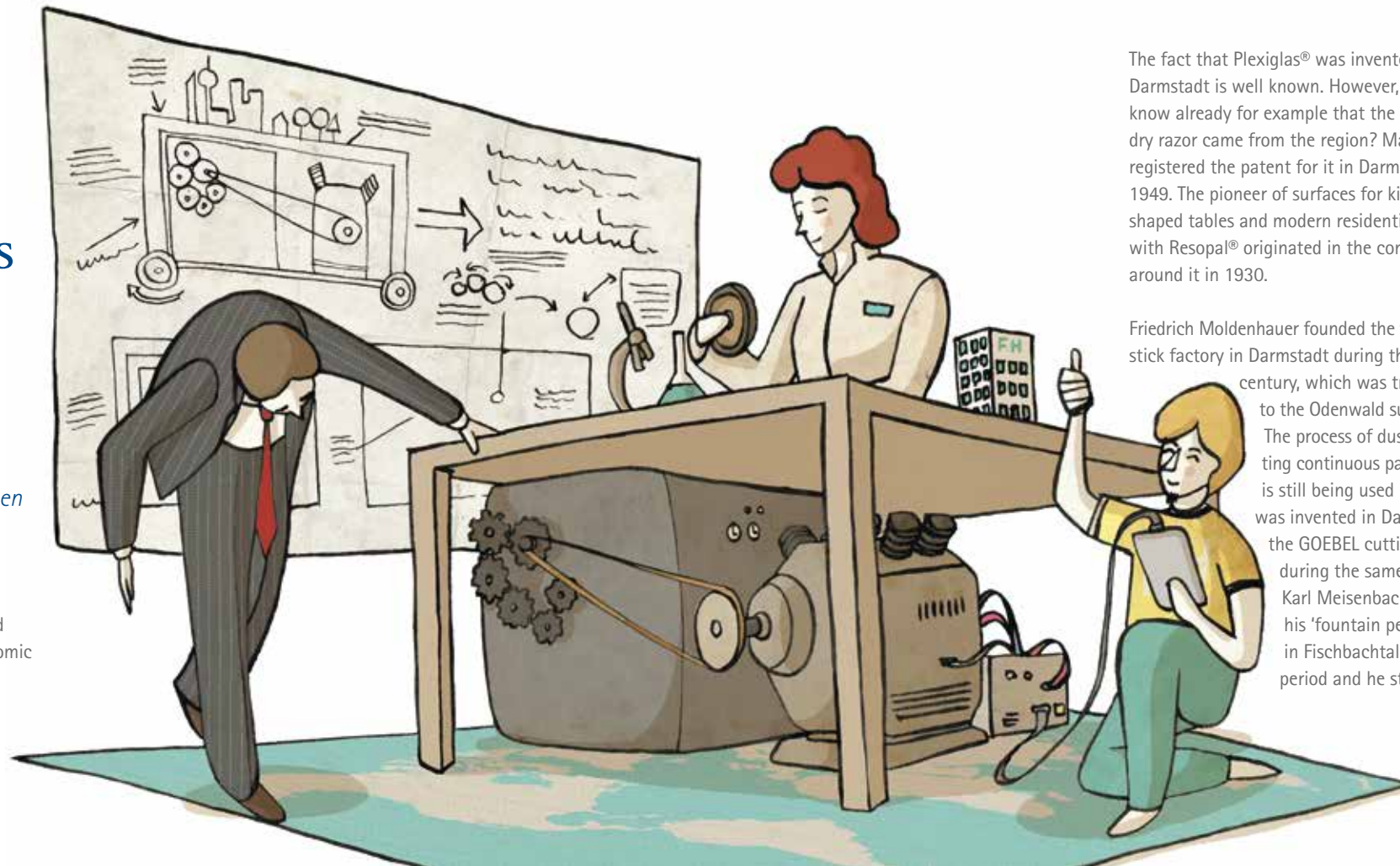
Further information:
www.darmstadt.ihk.de
Doc. no. 9810
diw-econ.de/publikationen/studien/wirtschaftsfaktor-tu-darmstadt



The Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region is innovative and it applies the research outcome

The study entitled 'The innovative location of Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar: research and development as factors for growth' established that the Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region is strong in research and above average when compared with the rest of Germany.

The regional innovative system functions perfectly thanks to the state-financed basic research, highly qualified skilled workers – a high proportion of whom are employed in research and development – and close integration between science and commerce, as well as an economic structure that is orientated to the scientifically intensive branches of industry!



The fact that Plexiglas® was invented in Darmstadt is well known. However, did you know already for example that the idea of the dry razor came from the region? Max Braun registered the patent for it in Darmstadt in 1949. The pioneer of surfaces for kidney-shaped tables and modern residential design with Resopal® originated in the conurbation around it in 1930.

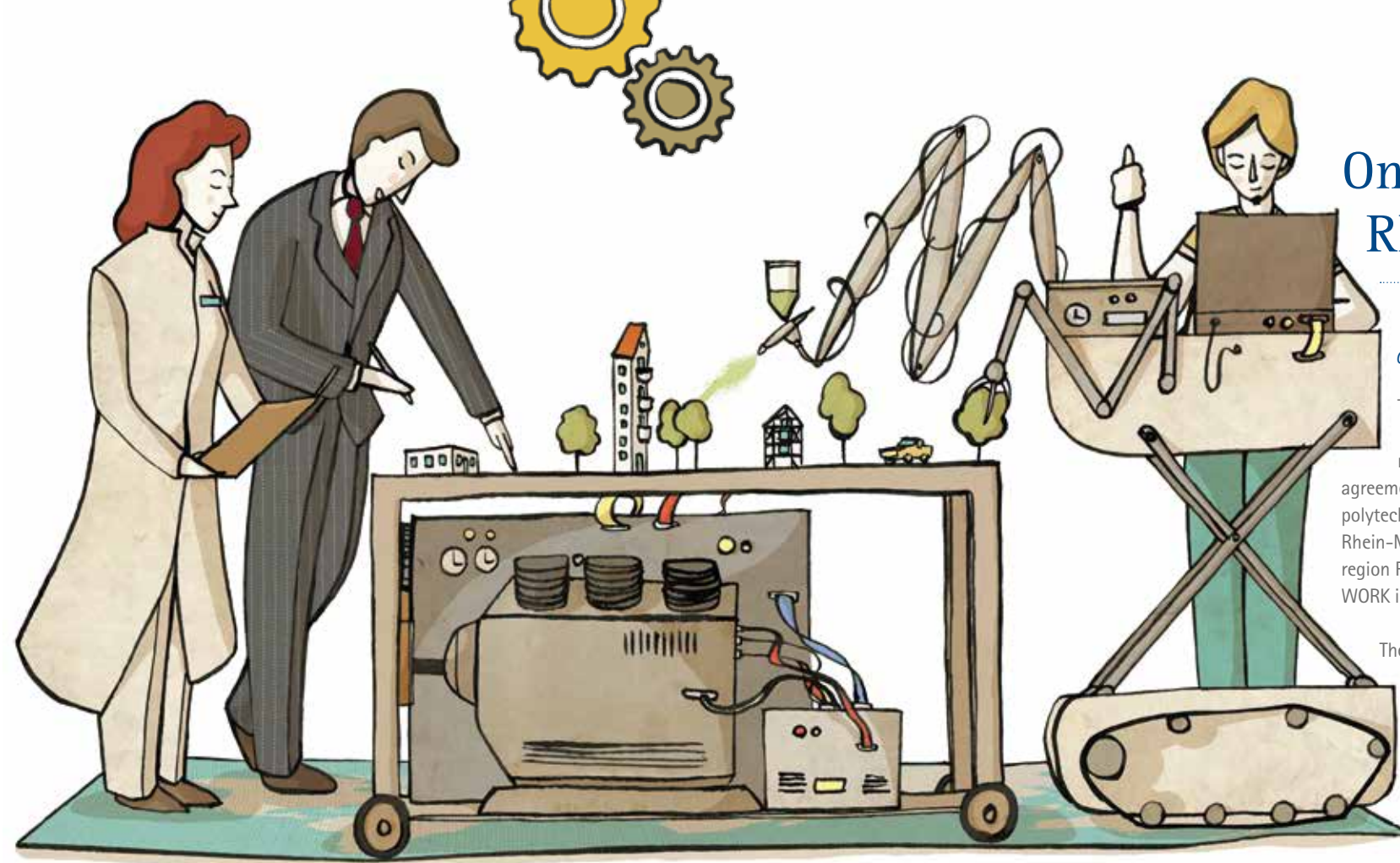
Friedrich Moldenhauer founded the first match-stick factory in Darmstadt during the 19th century, which was transferred to the Odenwald subsequently. The process of dust-free cutting continuous paper – which is still being used nowadays – was invented in Darmstadt as the GOEBEL cutting system during the same century. Karl Meisenbach founded his 'fountain pen factory' in Fischbachtal during this period and he started to

produce fountain pens and stylographs. The family-owned company achieved a breakthrough with the 'ink liner' in 1995 – almost 100 years later – which is a pen that can be refilled with commercially available ink cartridges.

The region is also setting the pace in this century. Adam Opel AG presented the 'Hydro Gen 3' in Rüsselsheim in 2001, which is the first motorcar that is powered by fuel cells and it has a road licence in Germany. The firm of Besam in Dieburg that produces revolving doors has patented an alarm system which is activated via the entrance door when a person is leaving the building. Sirona in Bensheim has registered the patent for developing a 3D camera to record the surface textures for manufacturing artificial teeth. Its LCD screens probably contain liquid crystals that were made by the firm of Merck too.

You can see that innovative ideas are applied in the Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region!

Further information:
www.darmstadt.ihk.de
Doc. no. 131614, Doc. no. 121390



One cooperates in the Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region

It is proven that business enterprises as well as the centres of research and commerce cooperate successfully in the region.

The business enterprises take 'cluster initiatives', exchange information reciprocally and enter into cooperative agreements among themselves and with the polytechnic colleges. The Automotive Cluster Rhein–Main–Neckar, the Automatisierungsregion Rhein–Main–Neckar and the IT FOR WORK initiative are successful examples of that.

The Software–Cluster around Darmstadt, Kaiserslautern, Karlsruhe, Saarbrücken and Walldorf is considered to be the European 'Silicon Valley' for corporate software. The network has been distinguished within the framework of the German government's top cluster competition.

One example illustrates the proximity of science to the economy in the Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region: the firm of Continental and Darmstadt Technical University are working together on developing a driver-assistance system that is intended to protect the vehicle's occupants from road accidents, within the 'PRORETA' interdisciplinary cooperative research project.

The fact that cooperative agreements function well across the various branches of industry in the Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region is viewed impressively as a successful example in the industrial area of 4.0: information technology (IT), which is setting the pace again in logistics, automotive engineering and

automation. For example, automatic unloading of lorries and storage in a high-density racking system is taking place at the firm of Fresenius in Biebesheim and in DHL's supply chain, which handles breadsticks – among other things – logistically for Wolf Bergstrasse in Biblis.

The Wetropa Group of foamed plastic processors has utilized the web applications and mobile applications that are based on the corporate software of Bright Solutions GmbH: the customer assembles foamed plastic inlays for tool boxes in an online configurator according to his requirements. An automatic cutting programme makes the individual inlays according to the customer's guidelines.

Illustrative examples of how ideas go hand in hand can be realized in the region.

Further information:
www.darmstadt.ihk.de
 Doc. no. 3244
www.automatisierungsregion.de
www.automotive-cluster.org
www.it-for-work.de
www.software-cluster.com

Last but not least: you can live well in the Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region

The Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region is located in the middle of a significant economic zone in a central position with outstanding means of public transport and motorways: it also offers proximity to nature as well as to cultural places and sites.

The region is not only an excellent location for working in but the quality of life is also outstanding. You can choose whether you prefer a residential location in town or in greenery!

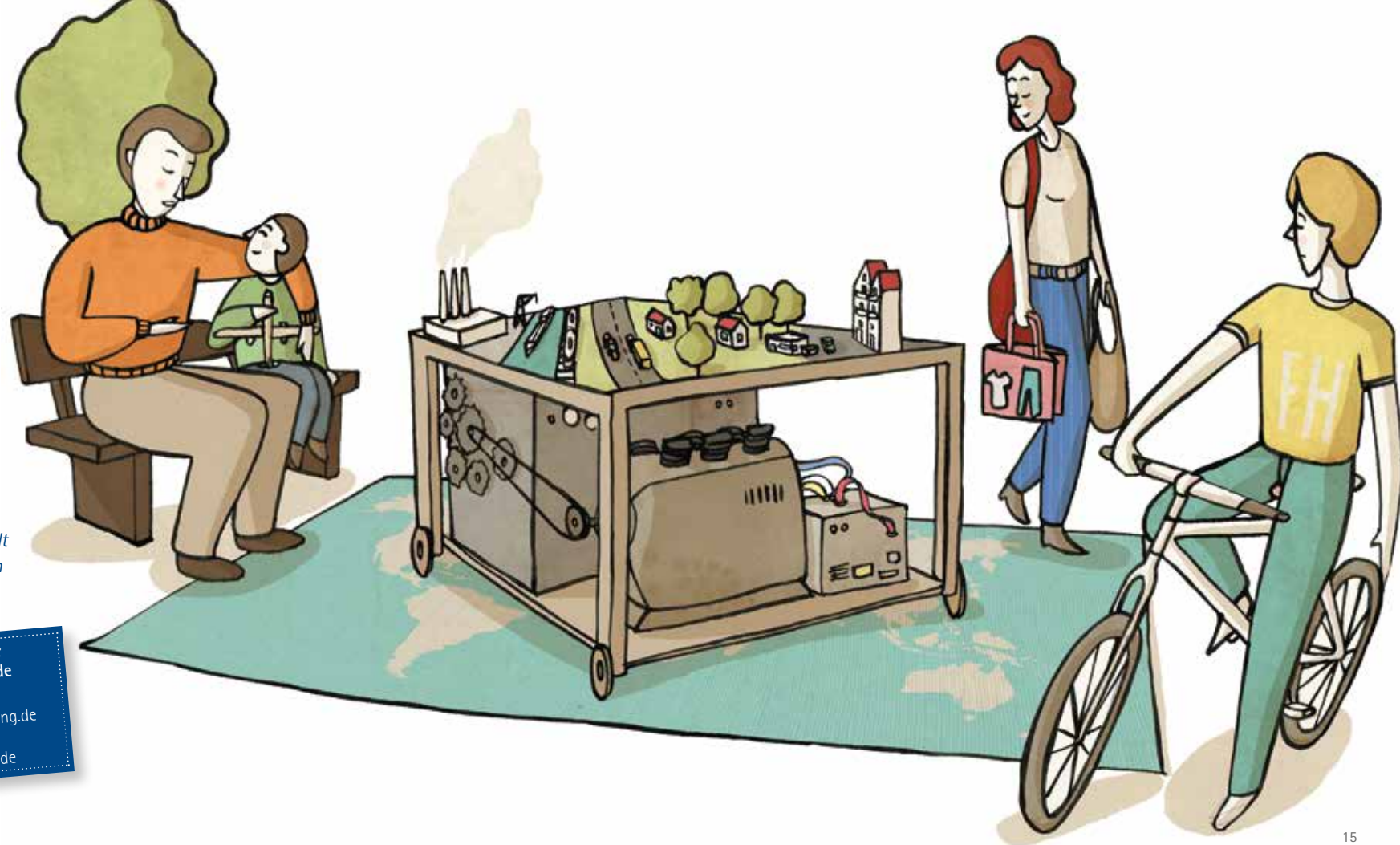
The region emphasizes a hospitable attitude to newcomers. Skilled workers and their families are also intended to feel well and at home here after all. Some local authorities have committed themselves particularly and they have been rewarded with the IHK certificate of 'Excellent local authority for skilled workers and managers'.

Bergstrasse, Odenwald and the river landscapes offer a huge number of recreational activities and leisure facilities nearby: someone who would like to be active in natural surroundings will find outstanding conditions in the Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region, whether it be walking on the certified nature trail of Nibelungensteig for example, or cycling, mountain biking or horse-riding. Exercise, culture and information combine wonderfully on numerous educational trails in the Bergstrasse-Odenwald Geo-Nature Park, which has its northern entrance gate in the UNESCO world heritage site of Grube Messel.

The region's cultural offer ranges from castles, chateaux and the UNESCO world cultural heritage site of Lorsch Cloister, as well as museums, theatres and festivals, to the town of Darmstadt as the centre of Art Nouveau. Gourmets are well catered for too: they can taste fresh asparagus from the reeds, as well as lamb and cooked cheese from the Odenwald with a little glass of wine from Bergstrasse.

One can enjoy the Darmstadt Rhine Main Neckar region in this way!

Further information:
www.darmstadt.ihk.de
Doc. no. 120972
www.darmstadt-marketing.de
www.odewald.de
www.diebergstrasse.de





Darmstadt
Rhein Main Neckar

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