

Press Release

Schaeffler Vehicle Lifetime Solutions drives talent development and professional qualification in the independent aftermarket

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- Joining forces as a new partner of the ATR Service GmbH apprentice challenge “Camp der Champs”
- Supporting the ATR Expert Trophy to strengthen further training of experienced workshop specialists

Schaeffler Vehicle Lifetime Solutions (VLS) is committed to being a dedicated partner and driving force for the targeted training and development of automotive professionals. In doing so, the company helps prepare workshop employees for modern drive technologies and equips them for demanding repairs now and in the future.

In 2021, the Schaeffler division VLS supported ATR Service GmbH's “Camp der Champs” talent development program for the first time as a partner. This year, the company is expanding its commitment to include the ATR Expert Trophy – a nationwide competition that promotes further training of experienced automotive professionals. With this holistic qualification approach, Schaeffler VLS is actively contributing to sustainably securing the growing demand for skilled workers and the competitiveness of independent workshops.

Camp der Champs: competition for “trainee of the year”

The program is aimed at automotive mechatronics technicians in their second and third year of training. In addition to vocational school lessons, practice-oriented training courses provide in-depth knowledge on current topics such as engine control, power transmission, e-mobility, and digitalization. In 2026, the camp will focus on modern transmission and air-conditioning systems. The apprentices not only learn the theoretical fundamentals, but also train hands-on with engine and clutch models, enabling them to deepen their knowledge. The best talents qualify for the summer finals, which will take place from 25 to 26 June 2026 in Hamburg.

ATR Expert Trophy: further training for experienced professionals

With around 30 training camps in 2026, the ATR Expert Trophy offers experienced professionals an intensive and cost-free development format. The program focuses

on technical challenges and practical scenarios to convey up-to-date knowledge of current and future vehicle technologies and to foster professional exchange.

"The qualified training of young talent and the further development of experienced mechatronics technicians is of central importance to us. Through our involvement in the 'Camp der Champs' and the ATR Experts Trophy, we create optimal conditions for the sustainable development of the industry. At the same time, our own training programs provide continuously updated know-how to strengthen future-proof workshop competencies," says Jürgen Steinsberger, Manager for the DACH and Benelux subregion at Schaeffler Vehicle Lifetime Solutions.

Know-how transfer through Schaeffler training and digital learning formats

In addition to these joint initiatives, Schaeffler Vehicle Lifetime Solutions offers a comprehensive portfolio of its own training and development programs. Ranging from technical seminars and digital learning formats to workshops on innovative drive technologies, the Schaeffler division provides practice-oriented expertise. In this way, Schaeffler prepares automotive mechatronics technicians for demanding repairs today and in the future.

Schaeffler Group – We pioneer motion: The Schaeffler Group has been driving forward groundbreaking inventions and developments in the field of motion technology for 80 years. With innovative technologies, products, and services for electric mobility, CO₂-efficient drives, chassis solutions and renewable energies, the company is a reliable partner for making motion more efficient, intelligent, and sustainable – over the entire life cycle. Schaeffler describes its comprehensive range of products and services by means of eight product families: From bearing solutions and all types of linear guidance systems through to repair and monitoring services. Schaeffler is with around 110,000 employees and more than 250 locations in 55 countries, one of the world's largest family-owned companies and one of Germany's most innovative companies.

Schaeffler VLS is a new partner for the apprentice challenge "Camp der Champs" and the ATR Expert Trophy. Photo: Schaeffler

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