**Press information**

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StrikoWestofen Group (Gummersbach)

**Talents of today – winners of tomorrow**

StrikoWestofen sponsors young handball players

**Reliable partners: the young handball players of the traditional club VfL Gummersbach can enjoy having new shirts again this season. The white T-shirts of the male D youth team are being sponsored by StrikoWestofen, the manufacturer of industrial furnaces, which is also headquartered in Gummersbach (Germany). Besides their three-year-old partnership and their attachment to the region, both sides share a common basic philosophy: targeted sponsoring of young players is always an investment in the future – even one’s own future in the best case.**

StrikoWestofen defines itself as a “partner for life” and an expert in matters of high-end furnace technologies and heat treatment solutions for the global light metal casting industry. The company has recently become part of the Norican Group, which is home to four other internationally leading brands: DISA, Italpresse Industrie, Gauss Automazione and Wheelabrator. The repertoire of the Gummersbach company comprises solutions for all phases of production, from melting to heat treatment – of structural castings, for example. If necessary, the company supports customers by offering them tailored services at all times – a long-term partnership, in other words.

Others being consistently supported by this globally active company are the young handball players of VfL Gummersbach. Here StrikoWestofen has been sponsoring the shirts of the male D youth team for three years now. The well-known club realized quite a while ago that good sponsoring of young talent is the best foundation for sustainable success.

**Sponsor talents, demand performance**

And the handball youngsters are successful: in April, the first team won the Talentiade 2017 of the Mittelrhein Handball Association. This is the highest possible level of performance for this age group. “After the fourth place we got last year, we wanted to improve at all costs. We’ve done that now – and we came in first into the bargain,” explains team captain Yannick Eckstein (13), who grinningly adds: “It must have been because of the new white shirts!”

StrikoWestofen backs gifted new talent of its own too: in the form of internships or supervised bachelor or master theses, talented young people can gain a comprehensive insight into the work of an international medium-sized company.

Further information is available at **www.strikowestofen.com**.

This text can also be accessed online under **www. strikowestofen.com** (under “News and Press”) or [**www.dako-pr.de**](http://www.dako-pr.de).

**Captions**

**[17-03 VfL Gummersbach]**

*Successful new talent: the D youth team of VfL Gummersbach won the 2017 Talentiade of the Mittelrhein Handball Association. This is the highest possible level of performance for this age group.*

Image: StrikoWestofen.

**[17-03 The winner]**

*Here’s how winners look: captain Yannick Eckstein (13) is happy his team came in first at this year’s HVM Talentiade.*

Image: StrikoWestofen.

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