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Benny Booyesen

Hoffmann Power

Collaboration advantage between Hoffmann Power Product and the Faculty of Engineering at the North-west University Potchefstroom Campus.

It is to the huge advantage of both the mentioned companies to have this collaboration agreement. More than 400 engineering students (per year) have training in their first and second year in three modules namely, Practical Engineering Practice (8 credits) and Fundamental Engineering Application Programme I and II (both 24 credits each). All fields of engineering students at the NWU therefore spend 56 credits (about 560 hours) experiencing real life workshop training, planning, design and constructing projects, to the advantage of communities, in their first and second year of study.

All this efforts are not possible at an university without partners from industry. University budgets are far not big enough to buy the latest technology equipment to give relevant training to students. Hoffmann Power Products was the first company who understood our needs and dreams, and partnered with us to supply training equipment below cost to enable each student to roll up sleeves and gain experience how to strip and assemble some engine sections, to have a better understanding of the different materials used in an engine, and to have a feel of what effort goes in a design of a quality engine. Hoffmann Power Products did not only give us good prizes on the purchases, but also supply technical support to ensure the equipment stays functional.

In these modules students interact with well trained and experienced personnel, with a real-world problem, client and money to solved the needs of the community and industry. We used the project to interdict the engineering proses to the students. Students work in groups of six as a project teams in the industry (we try to mimic industry as closely as possible) to introduce students to real life.

Yours sincerely

P.J. Tolmay