

Press release

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HILTI Chair of Information Systems and Business Process Management

Providing an impulse for the regional economy

The HILTI Corporation is endowing a new Chair of Information Systems and Business Process Management at the Hochschule Liechtenstein. The endowment of the chair by the HILTI Corporation underscores the solid cooperation between the business community and the university.

The HILTI Corporation, a leading global company specializing in fastening technology, has endowed a new chair of Information Systems and Business Process Management at the Hochschule Liechtenstein. Prof. Dr. Jan vom Brocke has been named the chair of the professorship. He was previously associated with the University of Münster and has research and teaching experience at a number of internationally-renown universities. Information systems concerns issues of development and usage of information and communications technology in the corporate world that are of central importance for companies nowadays. The Hochschule Liechtenstein intends to emphasize competences in shaping business processes that will support companies in economically using innovative technologies in a way that corresponds to individual commercial requirements.

The HILTI endowment is viewed as an expression of the excellent cooperation between the business community and science by Klaus Näscher, Rector of the Hochschule Liechtenstein. A professorial endowment signifies the acknowledgment of the scientific research and teaching at the university while also showing the great interest the business community has in the education and training of information and business process managers. The professorship also documents the importance that business assigns to the area of information management. The Hochschule Liechtenstein is setting a new area of emphasis with the HILTI endowment, explains Hagen Pöhnert, head of the Institute of Information Systems, that can be utilized not only by the production sector, but also by public administrators and financial service companies. An international study confirms that focusing on the management of business processes is gaining increasing significance and that research contributions support this development.

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The HILTI Corporation places a great deal of significance in the practical cooperation between research and business. Dr. Christoph Loos, member of the Hilti Corporation's Executive Board, underscores the mutual benefits that can be generated through the endowment of a professorship: «Based on the good experiences we have made with the Hochschule Liechtenstein we are convinced that a professorship for Information Systems and Business Process Management will generate significant synergy for both partners and, in particular, for the students and the entire region. A substantial supply of qualified information management graduates is not only a necessity for HILTI, but also for the companies in the Rhine Valley region.»

There has been close cooperation between HILTI and the Hochschule Liechtenstein for decades. The founder of the Hilti Corporation, Prof. Martin Hilti (1915 – 1997), was one of the founding fathers of the “Abendtechnikum Vaduz,” the forerunner institution of the Hochschule Liechtenstein. By promoting various courses of study such as «International Management,» with grants to students, by sponsoring semester and graduate work as well as awarding outstanding student performance, HILTI has provided support in the areas of research and study in the past.

The holder of the new chair, Prof. Dr. Jan vom Brocke, has formally been associated to the University of Muenster in Germany. He is an active member of the scientific community who has an international reputation for his work in the field of business process management. After graduating with a Master in Information Systems in 1998 and subsequently obtaining his PhD in Business Administration and Economics in 2002, he has been awarded the ‘venia legendi’ in Information Systems in 2007 by the University of Muenster.

The Hochschule Liechtenstein's emphasis as a regionally-based university of international character is further enhanced by the professorship for Information Systems and Business Process Management. «I find the small size, dynamism and the international emphasis of the Hochschule Liechtenstein, and of Liechtenstein itself, fascinating,» summarizes Jan vom Brocke. His decision to accept the appointment is based on this fascination. Jan vom Brocke also views his appointment as a factor in the cooperation between science and the business community in the region. Not merely for globally-active production companies and internationally-directed financial service companies, but also for small and medium-sized companies in the local region.

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