

Fulfilled wishes



In the XXI century even in Hungary most people tend to agree that staying for your entire life at one workplace is not very practical. By taking advantage of opportunities, even frequent changes are possible. Also, a large proportion of employers put great emphasis on having well informed employees with as much experience as possible. However, INFINEON's companies in Cegléd seem to contradict this principle, and so does, for example, the company's employee for more than one and a half decades, **Ördög Enrikó** who is convinced that you can spend years within the same group of companies and still gain experience and broaden your perspective without losing interest in your job.

- *Where do you come from and how did you end up working at a German parent company's factory in Cegléd?*

- I come from Bekecs, a small town near Szerencs in the Tokaj-Hegyalja region of Hungary. Instead of pursuing my childhood dream of becoming a pilot, I ended up studying at the Mechanical Engineering and Automation College of Kecskemét where I graduated in 2000. I participated in a course where each year a total of only twenty students obtained a degree. This course trained integrated mechanical and electrical engineers. Nowadays, the most similar field would probably be mechatronics. The whole training, including the exams, was in English, and we even had to write our thesis and take or state exam in that language. The college ran this course through an international student programme in cooperation with Nottingham Trent University and other Hungarian colleges. Apart from learning technical English, another great benefit of this training was that, in the end, we obtained degrees from both educational institutions at the same time.

In 2000, my first and current workplace was still called Eupec Hungaria Kft. The company produced electronic components, but since it was an assembly plant, some knowledge of mechanical engineering was also required. The company could put to good use a young professional proficient in mechatronics who could speak foreign languages (due to my mother's ancestry, I speak German on a native level), especially, since the first major developments had just then started.

Sztrókay István, the company's director at the time and **Bodor József** the current general manager introduced the
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company in one of the college's electro-technology classes. Some of us took this opportunity and travelled to Cegléd for a factory tour. Two of us liked the place and immediately asked for support and topics for our theses. Straight away, they allowed us to work here part-time and to get to know the production process directly during the college's final semester, while studying and writing our theses. Due to my family background, I wanted a job that allowed me to travel abroad multiple times. In the end, I never became a pilot. Even though I spent my internship at the airport, I wrote my thesis here at the company in Cegléd. Because of my job, I still have many opportunities to travel by plane and I enjoy reading literature on that subject in my spare time. The company's management put great trust in me, as I had the opportunity to visit the parent company in Germany as a final-year student at the company's expense, since I was working on a thesis in which I compared an important process step of the technology in Cegléd to that of the technology in Warstein.

- *What came afterwards?*

- I graduated successfully, and by the end of summer, already working as an engineer, I was entrusted with a task that allowed me to travel again to a factory near Nürnberg in September as part of a team preparing a technology transfer. I spent four months in Germany. Afterwards, I worked as the manager of the high-power ceramic disc factory that got relocated from here, Pretzfeld to Cegléd.

My ideas were realised straight away, and it is still mostly like that today. I enjoy carrying out tasks abroad, if my work allows it. I have to visit Germany often, but I have also been to Malaysia, and I got to spend a month in Xi'an, China – home of the Terracotta Army – in 2003, in connection with the supervision of a new production start-up. I could also visit the world-famous museum, and, luckily, I could get the book about this signed by Yang Zhifa who has discovered the first piece of the compelling find in 1974 while digging a water well. In the meantime, I have completed my mandatory military service, after which I returned here again.

In my current position I greatly benefit from having taken part in an almost 300-hour European Industrial Engineering Training. Additionally, I continuously participated in various professional development programmes organised by the company's own internal and also, by external organisers in both Hungary and Germany.

Since then, I have often been working abroad. I was the manager of four major technology transfers. In 2005, I married my partner, Szilvia and moved from Cegléd to Budapest. We have been living in the capital ever since. Unfortunately, I rarely make it home before 6 p.m. This autumn, there was a period, where my work required me to travel to Germany every two weeks, which proved to be a bit taxing, even for me. As a father of two young children, it is nice to be able to spend some time at home every now and then. In Cegléd, I am in charge of two departments: Operations Planning & Controlling, and Management

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Systems & Services. As a matter of fact, the two organisations ran by me form the company's "fourth technical pillar", besides production, engineering supporting production, and quality management. This "pillar" involves industrial engineering, production informatics, project management, strategic planning and location development, environmental protection, occupational health, and safety at work, certain parts of production documentation, and tasks related to plant operation. Basically, in the last sixteen years I gradually worked my way up from novice engineer into the company's senior management.

- *Can you cope with all this; do you not wish for "less troubled waters"?*

- The fact that I am here even after sixteen years shows that both me and the company have mutually found ways to help each other reach our goals. During this time, the site's staff has increased from ninety to nine hundred. Meanwhile, I have learnt a lot and could always find interesting tasks to develop and shape the company. As long my work keeps offering a wide variety of activities and a chance to create something, and as long the mutual trust remains intact, I am surely here to stay!