

## **Young Germans want to work**

Faced with a shortage of technically trained young workers in the Netherlands, a temporary employment and secondment agency have switched their attention to Germany. The attitude of unemployed young people is also said to be better there. Trying to get Dutch drop-outs into work is like flogging a dead horse.

Scores of young trainees from eastern Germany will be starting out on technical courses in the Netherlands from early in 2010, with the aim of making good the shortfall in the labour market in the country. Job agency TecLine have set up special training projects at the ROC in Amsterdam.

While there are plenty of unemployed young people in the Netherlands, Muller will not be recruiting from among their number. Everybody is drawing from the same pool here. But we have also had to may bad experiences with Dutch youth. We have tried working with the UWV and the Youth Employment Taskforce when that was still in existence, trying to help drop-outs to find work, but we found we were flogging a dead horse. They simply don't have the motivation. You need to give 80% of them a wake-up call in the morning, or they walk around looking bored. The young people Muller seeks out in Germany are frequently without work there. They have no job-specific qualifications, and get by on odd jobs. There is little future in that. Over here they get a second chance. The young people will work a five day week, and two evenings a week they will go to college. After their training they will receive a Dutch MBO diploma, which can be converted to a professional diploma valid in Germany.

Paul Muller, one of the Directors of TecLine, who supply temporary workers from eastern Europe to Dutch companies in construction, engineering and metalworking, is currently in the final stages of negotiations leading to the launch of these training courses. TecLine arrange work, salary, training and accommodation for applicants. Muller hopes to be able to attract several hundred young people to work in the Netherlands each year. Muller says that the intention is for the young people to establish themselves here. The aging population profile in the Netherlands will affect the labour market in coming years. Too few young Dutch people are leaving school for all the jobs to be filled, which is why we are looking to the east of Germany.

## **Dialogue**

The first batch will be trained for jobs in electrical engineering and installation work, early in 2010 if Muller is successful in his negotiations. He also plans to start training courses in construction and metalwork. The young trainees will get lessons in the Dutch language.



I n t e r n a t i o n a l

Figures from the CBS for September this year recorded some 95,000 unemployed young people aged between 15 and 25. In response, the UWV said that there are plenty of well-motivated young people of all levels on their books. According to a spokesman, very few Dutch youngsters are choosing to enter a field of employment where you are likely to get your hands dirty.

TecLine International bv  
Paasheuvelweg 34a / 1105 BJ Amsterdam  
Tel.: 020 - 565 91 30 / Fax: 020 - 565 91 35  
E-mail: [info@tecline.nl](mailto:info@tecline.nl) / Internet: [www.tecline.nl](http://www.tecline.nl)  
KvK 34138277 / BTW nr. NL8096.01.825.B01  
Fortis Bank rek.nr. 64 21 90 216