



# WorldSkills

---

Annual Report 2017



## Individual and societal change is central to what we do

---

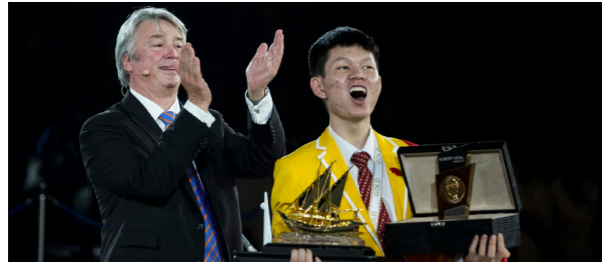
WorldSkills is a movement. We are a group of people and organizations that together advance the shared social objective of increasing the provision of skills. Our Member organizations cover more than two-thirds of the world's population.

Skills change the lives of young people around the globe. They build self-esteem and release potential. Skills create opportunities and connect communities. They are the foundation of economic progress and the building blocks of our world.

WorldSkills and its Members help young people who want to change their lives, and the fortunes of their communities and societies.

Our skills competitions measure excellence, celebrate Champions, and encourage hundreds of thousands of young people to turn their passions into a profession.

Our mission is relevant everywhere – whether you are from a G20 country, or a developing economy.



## Report from the President

### *Simon Bartley*

Reflecting on the huge achievements of WorldSkills over the past year is to realize what a truly global organization we have become.

We celebrated WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017, the first time a WorldSkills Competition with seven decades of history has been held in the Middle East, a region of 300 million, many of them young people hungry for the empowerment vocational skills can bring to lives that are often lived under the shadow of unemployment and poverty.

We look forward also to WorldSkills Kazan 2019, the first time the event will be held in the Russian Federation, the largest country by area in the world, and to Shanghai, selected as host city for the Competition in 2021.

And we welcomed Bangladesh as the 79th Member. With a population of nearly 150 million, the addition of Bangladesh expands the reach of our movement to more than two thirds of the world's population.

The past year has also seen the first crucial steps towards implementing our Vision 2025, sharpening our focus on the core areas that will create a unified organization responsive to the challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

We saw the first International TVET Youth Forum at Abu Dhabi, with young people declaring their hopes for the future of vocational skills, a message delivered directly to the many opinion formers and government officials and industry experts who attended.

We saw the arrival of a new set of Champions, celebrating their magnificent achievements but also challenging them to use their talents to improve skills worldwide.

None of this would have been possible without the tireless efforts of so many. We thank the volunteers who gave so freely of their time in Abu Dhabi, the Experts, Team Leaders, Delegates, Competitors, our Global Partners, and sponsors who all believe in the power of skills.



## Report from the CEO

### *David Hoey*

As with every Competition year, the climax of 2017 was the 44th WorldSkills Competition. We thank all those who made this such an unforgettable occasion, ACTVET, and the many people who worked tirelessly to make the event happen.

Those six days in October, and even the many months of preparation beforehand, only tell part of the story of the past year.

That story sees WorldSkills as an organization making important strides towards our shared vision and goals for the importance of vocational skills in a rapidly evolving and fast changing global economy.

Reaching out to young people is central to this mission. A brand review recommended that we place young people at the centre of all our work and messaging. These findings will be further developed during 2018 during the implementation of new brand positioning, and a broader brand refresh. For World Youth Skills Day in July, we invited young people to create their own skills message on the importance of **#SkillsForAll**.

We also held the first BeChangeMaker, offering teams of young people, the chance to develop as social entrepreneurs, with financial support and mentoring.

We saw one of the first practical applications of Vision 2025, adopted only a year earlier with the inaugural Skills Excellence Forum in Livingstone, Zambia.

Spreading the message of vocational skills and training in Africa has the potential to change the lives of millions and offer hope to a generation that hopes to escape poverty.

These are just some of the ways WorldSkills International has made a difference over the last year. They show that whatever the challenges, as an organization we are ready with the solutions.

We are grateful to all our Members, Champions, sponsors, partners, Secretariat, and volunteers for their tireless dedication, hard work, and commitment to an extraordinary 2017.

## WorldSkills Building Blocks

---

*Skills change the lives of young people around the globe.*

They build self-esteem and release potential. They create opportunities and connect communities. They are the foundation of economic progress. WorldSkills Members help young people who want to change their lives, and the fortunes of their communities.

### Develop

---

- Career Building
- Education and Training

### Inspire

---

- Skills Competitions
- Promoting Skills



### Influence

---

- International Cooperation
- Research





## WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017

---

*For the first time, the WorldSkills Competition was held in the Middle East and North Africa Region.*

WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017, the 44th Competition, took place in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates 15–18 October.

The Competition was awarded to the hosts EmiratesSkills, the WorldSkills Member organization for the UAE, and the Abu Dhabi Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Education (ACTVET), the parent organization of EmiratesSkills.

With 59 Member countries and regions taking part, WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017 saw 1,251 Competitors compete in 51 skills.

The biennial event was watched by

150,000 visitors, many from local schools and colleges from across the UAE, with the Competition taking place at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre and Opening and Closing Ceremonies at the du Arena on Yas Island, the home of the city's Formula One racetrack.

With the One School One Country cultural exchange reaching its climax on the eve of the Competition, WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017 also saw the first International TVET Youth Forum, giving young people a chance to voice their views on the future of vocational skills and training.

## WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017 in numbers



## One School One Country

*The cultural exchange programme was a highlight of WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017.*

*One School One Country* paired 58 schools in the UAE with a WorldSkills Member country or region.

Leading up to WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017, students and Competitors learned about each other's culture, traditions, and values before meeting on 12 October.

After meeting the Competitors at their school, the 5,000 students visited the event to see them in action at the Competition.



## WorldSkills Standards Specifications

The WorldSkills Standards Specifications are at the heart of WorldSkills Competitions, reflecting the validity, clarity, and consistency of the global occupations and work roles represented, from Aircraft Maintenance to Hairdressing.

This year saw the advanced use of WorldSkills Standards Specification (WSSS) for skill competition design, through Skills Management Team workshops (SMT) to support materials and guidance notes.

A trend towards independent Test Project and Marking Scheme design saw some Members turning to WorldSkills Standards Specification to train their Competitors for WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017.

In addition, Skill Advisors, along with the Standards and Assessment Advisors, were able to monitor in detail the quality of the match between marking schemes and WorldSkills Standards Specifications well in advance of the actual Competition thanks to the improved functionality of the Competition Information System (CIS).

It was also observed that during the period leading up to the Competition, several Members

had begun to use the WorldSkills Standards Specifications as reference points for their own systems.

This gives WorldSkills an added responsibility to safeguard and sustain the WorldSkills Standards Specification as a global reference point. Since 2014, WorldSkills has partnered with UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and its networks to search for common “world reference levels.”

A comparison in 2017 between WorldSkills Standards Specifications and the UNESCO-Cedefop analysis of European and global qualifications produced positive results.

As a result Cedefop, the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, has now included WorldSkills Standards Specifications alongside the online career development tool O\*NET and the European Skills, Competences, Qualifications, and Occupations classification to appraise their value as global reference points.

It is hoped that the findings of independent researchers will be of considerable value both to WorldSkills collectively and for its individual Members.



## WorldSkills Kazan 2019 Flag Relay

*The Closing Ceremony for WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017 witnessed an exciting new addition to the movement, as the official WorldSkills Flag was presented to the delegation from WorldSkills Kazan 2019 it began a 100,000 kilometre journey around the world.*

The journey of the WorldSkills Flag seeks to remind us of the rich heritage of the international vocational skills family over more than half a century, while at the same time introducing a new tradition that will strengthen the bonds of the WorldSkills family.

The first stage of the Relay saw our flag head into space on a Russian Soyuz spacecraft to spend two months orbiting the Earth on the International Space Station, before visiting five continents to celebrate the 31 cities in 21 countries and regions who have welcomed the young Competitors of the world's greatest vocational skills competition over the past seven decades.

In 2018 the flag will also embark on a national tour of Russia, promoting the 45th WorldSkills Competition to a new audience, enthusiastic young people, before making its triumphal entrance at the Opening Ceremony of WorldSkills Kazan 2019 in August 2019.





## World Youth Skills Day

*Creativity and skills go hand in hand, as was demonstrated by the response to World Youth Skills Day in 2017.*

This is a day that offers young people from across the WorldSkills family and beyond a chance to share their experiences and hopes with us.

Young people were invited to demonstrate their talents in a social media competition, submitting a two-minute video with #SkillsForAll that shared their vision of what skills meant.

In the end, an impressive 70 videos from 24 Member countries and regions arrived in the WorldSkills inbox for the #SkillsForAll World Youth Day contest.

At stake was the top prize of a trip to WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017, and with it the title of official video vlogger for the Competition.

The winner was Jacob Dawson from New Zealand. Jacob impressed the judges with his witty and inspirational story of his first year of studies on the journey to become a product designer.

World Youth Skills Day, which is marked on 15 July, is a worldwide celebration and acknowledgement of the power of vocational skills to inspire young people and change lives.

Over 29 Members promoted World Youth Skills Day Campaign through social media activities and events.

Key highlights included Korean, Japanese, and Chinese Taipei Competitors in Taiwan for a mini-skill competition. In Ireland, they used World Youth Skills Day as their official launch of Team Ireland and to promote a new programme designed to widen participation from non-traditional groups to apprenticeship programmes.

In China there was a celebration in Kunming City, the capital of Yunnan province with high level officials and supporters.

In Abu Dhabi, they hosted a youth circle to discuss the major water challenges facing their communities and WorldSkills Kazan 2019 launched the official names of their Mascots.





## Champions Trust

*One of the key roles of the Champions Trust is to look at ways WorldSkills Champions can use their considerable talents to help others. One example is Skills on the Move.*

Initiated at the Champions Forum 2016, the project saw a team of six Champions travel to Rwanda in 2017 with support from Autodesk, one of our Global Partners. The project aims to help Rwandan trainees in their work to improve the skills of both local people and refugees from neighbouring countries, making them more employable and raising living standards.

The Champions Trust played a prominent role in the WorldSkills Conference, International TVET Youth Forum, and Closing Ceremony at WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017. During their term (2016-2017), the Champions Trust

participated in or spoke at 35 unique events, representing WorldSkills and bringing the youth perspective to VET discussions.

Our thanks are offered to the six members of the Champions Trust who completed the 2015–2017 term as WorldSkills Champions Trust representatives.

Jenica Branscombe, Rachel Chloe Chau, Barthélémy Deutsch, Victor Simon, Tayla Shou, and Ricardo Vivian, brought a diversity of skills and cultures that strengthened the role of the Champions Trust as it continues to move forward and expand.

Three representatives continued on to the 2017–2019 term; Gary Condon, Chirag Goel, and Anna Prokopenya.

## Skills Development in Africa

---

*Providing young African women and men vocational skills and training, will be one of the keys to lifting Africa from poverty in the coming decades.*

In May 2017 the inaugural International Skills Excellence Forum was held. Its mission is to promote and enhance skills among the continent's young people.

Held in Livingstone, Zambia, a WorldSkills Member country since 2014, the forum was an open invitation to officials from education, industry, and government to witness how skills can improve the careers of African youth.

The forum featured a mini-skills competition and also saw WorldSkills hold its Board of Directors meeting in Africa for the first time.

Zambia's Minister of Higher Education and the WorldSkills President, Simon Bartley both attended, as did San-Quei Lin, the WorldSkills Vice President for Special Affairs who has special responsibility for Africa.

Mr Lin observed that, "The Skills Development in Africa project is one of the top priorities within WorldSkills Vision 2025. Its focus is on improving skills among all young African men and women, rather than just increasing the numbers of African Members of WorldSkills."

Africa offers enormous potential to expand WorldSkills – there are currently six Member countries, of which only three are in sub-Saharan Africa.

## BeChangeMaker

---

*The idea is simple. Young people have great ideas and great potential to change the world for the better. What they often need are the resources and guidance to get them there.*

BeChangeMaker is built around the concept of social entrepreneurs, the idea of start-up companies that can find solutions to some of our most pressing social problems in the communities that need them most.

BeChangeMaker means just that – helping committed young people with a mentoring programme and some financial support to get these projects on their feet – and make changes.

From the start of the first year it was clear that the teams would be as diverse as their ideas, from Mexico, Nigeria, South Africa, Russia, Columbia, and Indonesia, and subjects that ranged from gender equality, to affordable housing, and tackling obesity.

All those taking part were given free access to online courses by HP LIFE, and specially

created webinars on YouTube, to create viable business models for their concepts.

For three of the teams there was also an award of seed capital to bring these projects to the market.

A panel of 16 volunteer mentors from HP gave freely of their time to assess and guide these young social entrepreneurs along their year-long journey, bringing expertise that ranged from sales, finance, business management, and technology.

The three winners were Team Sci-Kid Hub from Mexico, with a concept for teachers to make science more interesting, Indonesia's Terracotta, with a training programme for rice farmers to improve crops, and Team T-Chan, also from Mexico, for a business that would help poorer people build their own homes.

They were given start-up financing and further support for up to six further months.



## WorldSkills Conference

*Taking place alongside the WorldSkills Competition in Abu Dhabi, the 2017 Conference was a ground-breaking event that involved participants from government, ministers, educators, and industry experts as well as young people – the future of vocational skills.*

A highlight was the first International TVET Youth Forum, bringing together 200 young people from more than 60 countries for two days before the start of the Competition. This culminated in the Youth Declaration, their manifesto about how the future of skills should be shaped.

The 2017 Conference will be remembered for the diversity of its participants, gathering

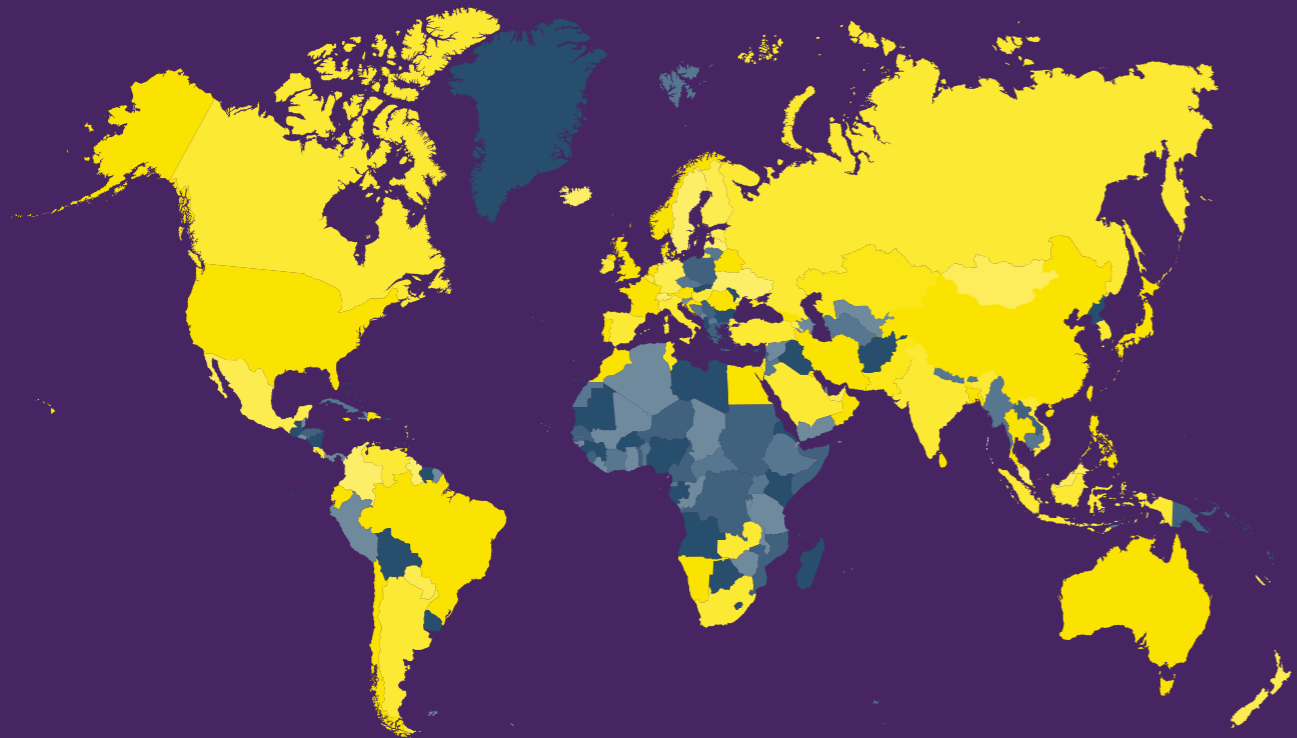
70 panellists and nearly 450 attendees from more than 50 countries in the sectors of education, government, and industry as well as the Champions Trust and young Emiratis from the host country.

At the heart of the discussions was the role that technical and vocational skills can play in meeting the economic and social challenges our rapidly changing world will face in the years ahead.

Also taking place for the first time was the TVET Ministers Summit, bringing together 11 international ministers and official government representatives, and three UAE ministers to compare strategies and share solutions to the current and future challenges in vocational education and skills training.

## 79 WorldSkills Member countries and regions

*Our Member organizations cover more than two-thirds of the world's population.*



## Global Premium Partners



### **Samsung**

Samsung has been proudly supporting young students' dreams and hopes through skills excellence as a long-standing partner of WorldSkills.

Being an Overall Event Presenter for WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017 was another good journey for Samsung cooperating with WorldSkills and UAE to inspire many young people in the MENA region.

I surely believe that all the WorldSkills Champions to be good role models to young talents in their own countries. I wish them good luck for their successful future.

#### **Dr DS Jang**

*Secretary General of Samsung Skills and Vice President for Samsung Electronics*



### **Stanley Black & Decker**

At Stanley Black & Decker, we're for the makers, the doers, and the creators of the world. We work hard to bring the innovative tools needed to build and maintain our world. That's why we're excited and honored to partner with WorldSkills again this year. The Competitors at WorldSkills are true professionals and deserve to use the best tools as they compete.

#### **Tim Perra**

*Vice President, Public Affairs  
Stanley Black & Decker*

## Global Industry Partners



### 3M

The values and priorities of WorldSkills International and 3M are closely aligned. Our company's vision of "innovation improving every life" supports the development of skilled trades across many industries around the world.

The diversity of 3M technologies and products, along with our subject matter experts, complement the wide range of WorldSkills Skills Competitions, and can help solve safety and health, productivity, and other challenges while on the job in a variety of trades.

**Maureen Tholen**  
3M, Sustainability Director



### AWS

There's no question that skilled trades are the foundation of our economy. The American Welding Society is excited to be a Global Industry Partner of WorldSkills, fully supporting its efforts to bring youth, educators, government, and industry together to raise the profile and recognition of skilled trades.

AWS shares their commitment to preparing the next generation of skilled trades workers, actively encouraging youth participation in our welding education and certification programmes.

**Matt Miller**  
Chief Executive Officer,  
American Welding Society



### Autodesk

Autodesk is proud to help young people around the world to imagine, design, and create a better world. We are honoured to provide the same 3D design software used by skilled professionals globally to all WorldSkills Competitors for free via [www.autodesk.com/worldskills](http://www.autodesk.com/worldskills).

It is exciting to collaborate with the WorldSkills Champions Trust, allowing us to demonstrate how the power of design skills can have a positive impact on the world around us.

**Matthew Bell**  
Head of Global Strategic Partnerships  
Autodesk Education Experiences (AEX)



### DHL

DHL and the WorldSkills community share the same values and ethics. Under the principle of "Connect People, Improve Lives" we leverage our core competencies and the know-how of our people to contribute to a powerful and skilled new generation. DHL is a proud supporter of the new Freight Forwarding Skill.

Providing professional logistics and applying our special expertise in exhibition and event logistics, DHL contributes to successful competitions all around the world.

**Vincenzo Scudato**  
Global Managing Director DHL  
Trade Fairs & Events GmbH

## Global Industry Partners



### DMG MORI

In the course of digitization, the requirements for future specialists in the industry are changing.

This development presents new challenges for vocational education and training.

As training of specialists is the core competence of DMG MORI Academy, the promotion of young talent plays a major role for us. Therefore, as a Global Industry Partner of WorldSkills International, we support the competitions by providing our latest CNC machines with CELOS.

**Jan Möllenhoff**  
Managing Director of  
DMG MORI Academy



### Festo

Skills are vital in the transition to Industry 4.0 and a digitalized work and life environment. Theoretical and practical skills in the use of new technologies and processes ensure that companies can continue to work innovatively and sustainably.

We are proud to support the WorldSkills movement in innovative skills development and assist young people in schools and industries to learn the skills they need for their personal success and economic progress of their country.

**Enrico Rühle**  
Member of the Board, FESTO



### Fluke

As a Global Industry Partner of WorldSkills International – Fluke Corporation benefits from the opportunity to participate in a workforce initiative that is much bigger and more impactful than what an individual brand can achieve.

We value the consistency that occurs as WorldSkills Standards are adopted by an increasingly large number of countries and regions, as well as the chance as a WorldSkills International partner to directly assist those countries and regions, and their institutes.

**Wes Pringle**  
President, Fluke



### Glasurit

As a Global Industry Partner of WorldSkills International, BASF Coatings is committed to making young talent excited about the spraypainting profession with focus on promoting the next generation of automotive refinishers to support the growth of the industry.

Through the WorldSkills competition, and with our Glasurit® paint brand, we will help bring young painters from all over the world to demonstrate their technical abilities, master new challenges as well as focus on sustainable thinking and career development.

**Dr. Harald Borgholte**  
Global Strategic Marketing and  
Product Development  
Vice President, BASF Coatings

## Global Industry Partners



### IAPMO

The IAPMO Group is proud to collaborate with the international community of WorldSkills Experts, Champions, Skill Management Teams, Global Partners and Sponsors; those inspirational people who work tirelessly to drive excellence, innovation and sustainability for skills competitions and promotion of careers in the skilled trades, worldwide.

We look forward to the next chapter of our adventure together at WorldSkills Kazan 2019!

**Russ Chaney**  
CEO, IAPMO



### Lincoln Electric

WorldSkills provides excellent opportunities to collaborate with prominent international education leaders. Lincoln Electric values our relationship with WorldSkills because they are effective in fostering career pathways in trade skills and continue to offer educational growth opportunities for our organization.

We look forward to future WorldSkills events where we can continue to leverage our WorldSkills relationship as part of our education growth strategy.

**Chris Mapes**  
CEO Lincoln Electric



### Mastercam

As the global leader in CAD/CAM software, Mastercam believes that inspiring and educating the next generation of manufacturers is critical to the future prosperity of world economies.

Mastercam is proud to be the Exclusive CAM Partner at WorldSkills Kazan 2019 and official supplier to the four machining competitions: CNC Turning, CNC Milling, Plastic Die Engineering, and the Manufacturing Team Challenge.

**Meghan West**  
President and CEO, Mastercam



### Mitutoyo

Measurement is at the heart of every 'quality product' from design, to production, to fitness for purpose and Mitutoyo vows to support young Engineers in development of their metrology skills.

As a WorldSkills Global Industry Partner offering a vast range of precision measuring instruments, machines, systems and educational support – we are keen to embrace talent and take it further.

Our goal is to contribute to the well-being of society and we look forward to furthering our mission at WorldSkills Kazan 2019.

**Martin Weeks**  
Executive Director, Mitutoyo

## Global Industry Partners and Global Supporter



### Saint Gobain

We now have been many years in a very fruitful partnership with WorldSkills, which represents an excellent global platform of creating awareness about the importance of skills development not only in developed but also in developing markets.

In both markets we can see an increasing demand on skilled talents and therefore it is more important than ever to work harder and closer together to close this gap.

WorldSkills in Abu Dhabi was a great success and very important for the region and we look forward to continue our fruitful partnership in Kazan.

**Daniel Roehner**  
International Marketing Manager,  
Saint Gobain



### Siemens

Disruptive innovations are taking place in the automation industry and demand agile answers.

WorldSkills is giving these answers by advocating the wider recognition of skills-based qualifications. The WorldSkills movement is succeeding in even more countries to encourage young people to choose a vocational career.

My personal motivation for supporting WorldSkills is that I believe vocational education is critical in empowering individuals and fuelling economies.

**Ralf-Michael Franke**  
CEO of the Siemens Factory  
Automation Business Unit



### Studica

Studica is committed to developing robotics skills across the globe. We are proud to be working with the WorldSkills organization as a Global Industry Partner for Mobile Robotics.

We understand the importance of this field to innovate and generate solutions for our futures. Our goal is to assist in the process of developing Mobile Robotics Skills to industry standards and to constantly provide the best technologies, training, and support for all the Competitors.



### VEX Robotics

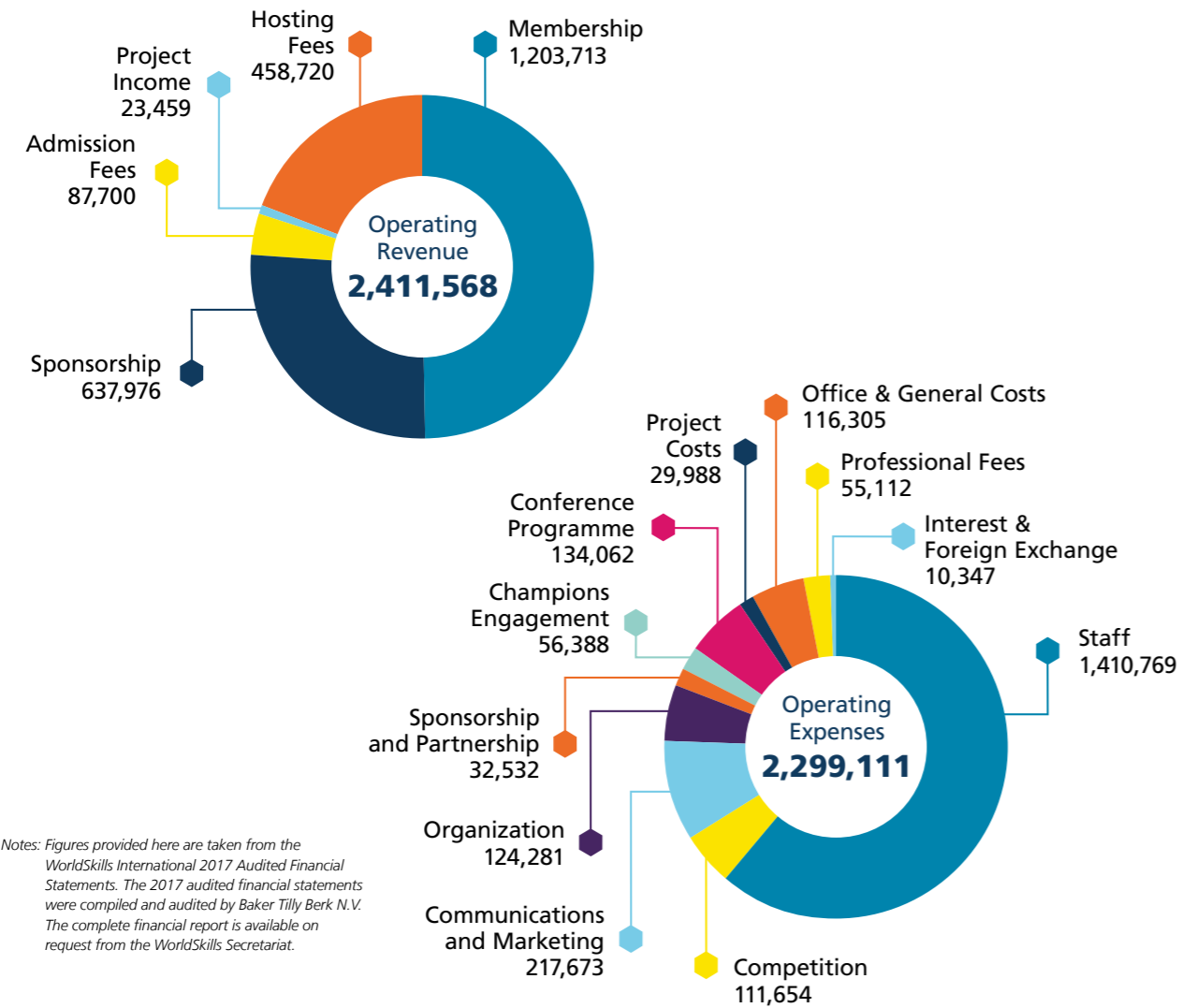
With a comparable Mission and Vision, our partnership with WorldSkills is an exciting one for both organizations. It has seen the first Junior competition in Abu Dhabi and this will grow in scale for Kazan. Robotics brings together many of the skills required for Industry 4.0 - critical thinking, computational thinking and project management.

VEX Robotics is at the forefront of educational and competitive robotics globally. Our partnership with WorldSkills allows us to help nurture the next generation of Competitors and create the problem solving leaders of tomorrow.

**Paul McKnight**  
Head of Operations, VEX Robotics

# Financial Report

All figures are in euro.



Notes: Figures provided here are taken from the WorldSkills International 2017 Audited Financial Statements. The 2017 audited financial statements were compiled and audited by Baker Tilly Berk N.V. The complete financial report is available on request from the WorldSkills Secretariat.

# WorldSkills Board of Directors



**WorldSkills Board** (left to right)

- Stefan Praschl (Austria)**  
Vice President for Competitions and Chair of the Competitions Committee
- San-Quei Lin (Chinese Taipei)**  
Vice President for Special Affairs
- Terry Cooke (Canada)**  
Treasurer
- Simon Bartley (United Kingdom)**  
President and Chair of the Board

- Jos de Goey (Netherlands)**  
Vice President for Strategic Affairs and Chair of the Strategy Committee
- Laurence Gates (France)**  
Vice Chair of the Strategy Committee
- Michael Fung (Hong Kong, China)**  
Vice Chair of the Competitions Committee



GLOBAL PREMIUM PARTNERS OF WORLDSKILLS INTERNATIONAL

---

**SAMSUNG**

**StanleyBlack&Decker**

GLOBAL INDUSTRY PARTNERS OF WORLDSKILLS INTERNATIONAL

---

**3M**



**AUTODESK**

**DHL**

**DMG MORI**

**FESTO**

**FLUKE**



**LINCOLN  
ELECTRIC**

**Mastercam**

**Mitutoyo**



**SIEMENS**

**Studica**

GLOBAL SUPPORTER OF WORLDSKILLS INTERNATIONAL

---

**VEX**  
ROBOTICS

 [facebook.com/WorldSkills](https://facebook.com/WorldSkills)

 [twitter.com/WorldSkills](https://twitter.com/WorldSkills)

 [instagram.com/WorldSkills](https://instagram.com/WorldSkills)

[www.worldskills.org](https://www.worldskills.org)