

## **Holzindustrie Schweighofer offers 21 scholarships to eminent students from forestry and forest engineering faculties**

### **Education as a priority of the *Building Bridges* program, initiated by the company**

Holzindustrie Schweighofer, the biggest investor in wood processing industry in Romania and partner of academic studies institutions, will offer 21 monthly scholarships, in the 2016 – 2017 academic year, for 10 months, to students with excellent results in the study of forestry and wood engineering. Each scholarship has a total value of RON 8000 for the entire university year.

Holzindustrie Schweighofer scholarships are offered to students of the Faculty of Forestry of the “Stefan cel Mare” University in Suceava (7 scholarships), the Faculty of Wood Engineering – Transylvania University in Brasov (7 scholarships) and, for the second year in a row, to the Faculty of Forestry and Forest Engineering – Transylvania University in Brasov (7 scholarships). The winners are chosen by the representatives of faculties following contests consisting in theoretical and practical exams, organized by partner universities.

The Schweighofer scholarships initiative is in line with the social responsibility platform symbolically named “*Building Bridges*” and under which Holzindustrie Schweighofer joins all the present and future initiatives of social responsibility that the company conducts at the same time with its economical operations in Romania. In this respect, Holzindustrie Schweighofer recently signed a partnership with the Forestry Faculty of the Stefan cel Mare University in Suceava, consisting in the endowment of the Forestry Biometrics Laboratory with six latest technology equipments, amounting to a total of EUR 31.000. Supporting the future specialists in forestry and wood engineering, their education and professional development is a part of this sustainable development program, that became a tradition for the company.

*Current generations of students are the future professionals in forestry and wood engineering, and one of the commitments of Holzindustrie Schweighofer is to acknowledge and encourage performance. We were delighted to find valuable partners in educational institutions and we will continue to provide support in order to give young people professional training opportunities at the highest level. We have been, for many years, actively involved in the community life, building bridges for the future, in a generous program of sustainable development which we named “Building Bridges”,* declared Thomas Schiefer, Country Manager of Holzindustrie Schweighofer Romania.

Holzindustrie Schweighofer actively participates in the development of communities in the areas where its factories are located, namely Alba, Suceava, Bacau and Covasna counties. Thus, during 2010-2015 alone, the company offered financial support amounting to EUR 5 million for various projects in education, social assistance and health.



## **About Holzindustrie Schweighofer**

Holzindustrie Schweighofer is part of the Schweighofer Group and has its origins in an Austrian family business with over 400 years of experience in the wood processing industry. Currently, the Group is a leader in the wood processing industry in Europe, also having operations in the production of viscose, bioenergy, forestry and real estate.

Holzindustrie Schweighofer opened the first sawmill in Romania, in Sebes, in 2003. The company currently operates another two sawmills locally – in Radauti and Reci, a laminated wood panels factory in Siret and a blockboard plant in Comanesti, generating nearly 3,000 direct jobs in these locations and over 10,000 indirect jobs in related industries. Since October 2015 the Schweighofer Group has included a sawmill in Germany.