



Zwick Roell Academy in Chennai

Since 2015 Zwick Roell AG works with the non-governmental organization Don Bosco Mondo e.V. to establish a training program for young marginalized Indians to become Zwick testing machine operators, with a focus on testing metals and plastics. The programme's aim is to train disadvantaged young people from the poorest backgrounds and provide them with the skills needed to start a career, giving them the chance of a better future.

Zwick partners with Don Bosco to widen its corporate social responsibility with the Zwick Roell Academy in India.

„Our project in Chennai is designed to help young people who normally do not have access to a decent education, to learn an appealing occupation and, by building on this, to take control of their own lives. India is a fascinating country - we benefit from our Indian customers, so we would like to make a contribution, by means of this project, to improve training and education in India.“

Dr. Jan Stefan Roell, CEO Zwick Roell AG

Local support is provided by the Salesians of Don Bosco. This catholic congregation is involved in sustainable youth and social work, particularly in education and vocational training. The worldwide congregation is active in over 132 countries, opening up future opportunities for young people in need.

“Such partnership between the Technical educational institutions and industries is the need of the hour and these partnerships will provide a platform to the economically weaker youth (Male and Female) to obtain a job oriented technical training

and to secure a prosperous future”.

Fr. Jayapalan Raphael SDB,
Provincial of Salesian Province of Chennai

The Don Bosco Tech Campus in Basin Bridge, Chennai is supplying the infrastructure for this project. On the 33,022 m2 site of a former factory, the Salesians offer a wide-ranging training and education program for around 1000 young people. The Don Bosco Tech Campus is located in the middle of one of the largest slum areas in Chennai, precisely where training and education are most urgently needed.

Training and Laboratory

Zwick rents an empty workshop on the Don Bosco Tech Campus, refurbished it and equipped it with the latest testing machines. A training instructor who will qualify up to 12 students within one year to become Zwick testing machine operators. The students are between the age of 17 and 24, coming from Chennai, surrounding areas and villages that are up to one day travel away. Most of them are first generation learners, hoping for a better future through the vocational training at the Don Bosco Tech Campus in Basin Bridge. The Zwick Roell Academy is used both as a training center and as the first Zwick laboratory in India for demonstrations and trainings to customers.

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“Together, civil society and companies can achieve a lot for the future of youth. We are proud to be the partner of a company like Zwick Roell that is so dedicated to our joint work. Don Bosco Mondo supports companies of all sizes and in all industries in the implementation of Technical Vocational and Educational Training programs abroad: With consulting or project management. We respond to business needs and simultaneously serve young people. Together with the Salesians of Don Bosco we conduct local programs generating multiple-wins for everybody involved.”

Christian Osterhaus,
CEO Don Bosco Mondo e.V.

The official opening was on June 28, 2016 and marked the start of the first year's training. Through its corporate social responsibility Zwick aims to give the young trainees the chance of a better life and a way out of the cycle of unemployment and poverty.

“This material testing training will provide a wonderful opportunity to the target beneficiaries in making them confident & self-reliant in this job-competitive structure.”

Fr. Johnson Anthonisamy SDB,
Rector of the DB Tech Campus