

Caravan Competence: new training profession makes debut at Automechanika, which also features caravan repair methods and live demonstrations

Frankfurt am Main, 7 July 2022. New camper and caravan registrations are continuing to increase this year, presenting an exciting new business opportunity for workshops – if they have the expertise and trained staff necessary to take advantage of it. Yet the industry is not only short of skilled personnel, but also of talented newcomers in this segment. Automechanika Frankfurt will be showcasing caravan repair methods and offering additional live demonstrations for the caravan and camper sector. Graduates and newcomers will be able to find out more about the new ‘Camper and caravan technology’ specialisation in the ‘bodywork and automotive engineering mechanic’ profession at the trade fair.

The caravan and camper sector continues to grow. In spite of supply chain difficulties, the Caravanning Industry Association (CIVD) managed to post its best-ever half-year results in its long history, with over 100,000 new campers and caravans registered in the first six months of 2021. And the figures for this year make it clear that demand for recreational vehicles continues to be strong. Germans are particularly taken by caravans and campers, purchasing more such new vehicles than any other country in Europe. Olaf Mußhoff, Director of Automechanika Frankfurt: “The figures make it clear that campers and caravans have become a lucrative and growing market, presenting workshops with interesting opportunities for the future – not only for maintenance and repair, but also equipment, accessories and customising.”

Now the knowledge and technical expertise that is necessary to maintain and repair these recreational vehicles, as well as to upgrade and customise them, will be taught as part of a new training profession. Thomas Aukamm, CEO of the Central Association of Bodywork and Motor Vehicle Engineers (ZKF), explained: “The new ‘Camper and caravan technology’ specialisation makes the ‘bodywork and automotive engineering mechanic’ profession even more attractive as a career. From August 2023, young people should be able to take advantage of this wide-ranging training specialisation to learn about furniture-making for crafting the interiors, (automotive) electronics and electrical systems, gas and water installations, chassis and automotive engineering, exterior repairs, and much else besides. And the best thing is that these skills are in demand not only in industry, but in the trades as well.” In the Galleria, the Central Association of Bodywork and Motor Vehicle Engineers (ZKF) will be supplying information on the new specialisation, the creation of which is the result of efforts by the ZKF and the Caravanning Industry Association (CIVD).

At the 'Caravan Competence' stand in the outdoor exhibition area F11, the Central Association of Bodywork and Motor Vehicle Engineers (ZKF) will be supplying information on the many aspects of caravan and camper repair. A range of practical examples and live demonstrations allow participants to experience the unique aspects of this specialisation and find out more about the 'Caravan specialists' certification that is now held by over 130 bodywork shops throughout Germany.

Companies that are presenting products and solutions in the caravan segment at the trade fair can be easily identified by the 'Caravan Competence' special interest logo.

Press information and photographic material:

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Background information on Messe Frankfurt

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