



27. Internationaler  
Berufswettbewerb 1983  
Linz, Österreich



Bundeskammer  
der gewerblichen  
Wirtschaft

Brucknerhaus, 10.30 hrs.

Linz, August 28, 1983

OFFICIAL CLOSING CEREMONY

- 1) Words of Welcome by Komm.Rat Carl Hans Schönbichler,  
Vice-President of the Federal Chamber of Commerce and  
Trade, Chairman of the Austrian Organising Committee
- 2) Fanfare; Awarding of Medals
- 3) Awarding of Honorary Membership;  
Distribution of Diplomas
- 4) Addresses:  
Mr. Valentín-Gamazo y de Cárdenas, President of the Member  
Assembly of the International Organisation for the Promotion  
of Vocational Training  
Komm.Rat Rudolf Trauner, President of the Chamber of Commerce  
of Upper Austria
- 5) Fanfare;  
Transfer of Competition Flag to the Organising Country of the  
28th International Vocational Training Competition, Japan
- 6) Austrian National Anthem

Music performed by  
Apprentices' Music Band of Steyr-Daimler-Puch AG  
Fanfares sounded by  
Military Music Band of Upper Austria

## ADDRESS

BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AUSTRIAN ORGANISING COMMITTEE,  
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE AUSTRIAN FEDERAL ECONOMIC CHAMBER,  
KOMM-RAT CARL HANS SCHÖNBICHLER

Nearly one week later I would like to welcome you once again to the same hall in my capacity as Chairman of the Austrian Organising Committee for the 27th International Vocational Training Competition. Today it is not my task to usher in events of days to come but bring the 27th International Vocational Training Competition to its official close. This closing ceremony, however, is not only intended to serve as a last official reunion, where we say "Thank you" and "Good bye" until the next International Skill Olympics. To some extent it is the highlight of this Competition. Today, the achievements are more or less summed up and presented to the general public. The winners of medals and awards are honored for their great efforts and their great skill and knowledge at this 27th International Vocational Training Competition, as representatives so to say for all participants. This is a clear manifestation of our gratitude to our young participants in this Competition. My special thanks, however, are also due to all those persons who have contributed towards the preparation of these events: the General Secretariat, the Official and Technical Delegates of the Member Countries of the International Organisation; the jury members who have served in a particularly responsible function; the workshop foremen and engineers of the WIFI who have made it possible to carry out the Competition; the observers, guests and visitors who have shown such great interest in the Competition; all public and private institutions, particularly all companies, which have promoted and supported the arrangements for this Competition; and last, not least, my co-workers on the Organising Committee for the 27th International Vocational Training Competition.

You, my young friends and participants in this Competition, are anxious to know the results. I therefore will not stop the course of events any further. Permit me, however, to thank all of you for coming to Austria. Let me wish you a pleasant and safe trip back to your respective countries. I would hope that you will keep fond memories of your stay in our country.



OFFICIAL CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 27TH IVTC LINZ, AUGUST 28, 1983

ADDRESS BY

MR. MANUEL VALENTIN-GAMAZO Y DE CARDENAS, PRESIDENT OF THE MEMBER ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND INTERNATIONAL VOCATIONAL TRAINING COMPETITIONS FOR YOUTH

We have now reached the goal in our very special Olympic run. Today all the work will be finished and our efforts will come to an end. We could devote ourselves to our work ~~thanks~~ to the hospitality with which the Austrian people surrounded us. We all know that the past days were days of work and joy. We will all keep fond memories of these days, which we spent in this great country during these hot days of August 1983. A short span of our lives is now closely linked to the streets and roads of the towns of this hospitable country, Austria. In return, each and everyone of us will take the message of Austria's hospitality to the remotest corners of this world.

My term of office ends with this Competition, the closing ceremony of which we are celebrating here. For nine years I presided over the Member Assembly of our International Organisation. I had the honor of chairing six Skills Olympics, in Madrid, in Holland, Korea, Ireland, the United States and, last, not least, here at Linz, this modern and progressing town with all its lights and vitality. Let me assure you that at all competition sites I met people, both young and old, who extended their hands to me in an open and cordial gesture, not in order to ask for something but in a sign of their generosity. They were all filled with ambition, but it was the success and the benefit of the young people which they had in mind not their own advantage.

I saw the joy and courage which guided the young people of all races in their struggle for success. I saw their clear eyes, reflecting their honest souls. And I did not encounter any hatred or egotism, as I walked through the Competition. I can therefore say that it is here, at events like ours, which we bring to an end today, that the way is paved towards peace and understandings between peoples and nations. Let me call upon all other people to follow our example.



The closing ceremony of this 27th International Vocational Training Competition is yet another good opportunity to strengthen our belief in the young generation and our confidence in their values. After all, we belong to that group of people who firmly believe in man's abilities, since we know that human dignity has its origin in spiritual values, that man possesses and owns these. We feel that every young competitor, just like every young student or worker, is a human being that is worthy of our help. Each and everyone of you constitutes a destiny which you must conquer for yourself. The governments and Parliaments, however, must take up this unavoidable challenge of this decade, which is to offer the young generation training alternatives, which are of use, just as they must offer serious job opportunities. We have listened to many words, we now ask for specific action, for effective solutions.

I must draw my conclusions. Let me wish all young competitors and senior competition members, all experts and visitors, all technical and official delegates, all coaches and members of the General Secretariat, a safe journey back home. I pray to God that He may lead you there in peace and happiness. My words of gratitude to our Austrian friends abound, yet I believe that, at least, I should say that I congratulate the Austrian Organising Committee for the excellent work that they performed. Let me thank you with all my heart for all the help which the Chamber of Commerce of Upper Austria and the Federal Chamber of Commerce and Trade have given us, without forgetting, of course, the support of the Austrian federal government and of the city of Linz. On behalf of the International Organisation I address these words of thanks and appreciation to all of you. You can rest assured that you have just made one of the most lucrative investments, and you will not have to wait long until you can reap the harvest.

Finally, I would like to bid farewell to the young competitors. Dear young friends: the hours of work which you spent in the workshops of the different trades were just as generous contributions to prosperity, peace, civilization and culture. Those of you who have been awarded a prize know that this is a personal challenge because these awards must bear fruit for the benefit of your countries. But all others should also travel back home knowing

that in their trades they are among the best skilled workers of the world; as it is written in the diplomas which you receive. The merit and the value of the tasks that you have completed is like "the black tree that stands against the skies, slender and in isolation" as Rilke, this great Austrian poet, said. It is right you must not admit that this event goes by without receiving proper attention; yet you need courage of soul and a measure of healthy ambition, without, however, causing a tumult or bustle. This is why Rilke said in his poem "Entrance" in his "Book of Pictures":

" .... you slowly lift a black tree and stand it against the skies: slender, in isolation.

And you have made the world. And it is great  
and like a word that ripens even during the silence that follows."

Dear young friends, the many, many hours of work and tension that you spent in the workshops can now be compared to countless diamonds on the starry skies of a world of hope. May these stars guide you!



## ADDRESS

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF UPPER-AUSTRIA

KOMM. RAT RUDOLF TRAUNER

Today the 27<sup>th</sup> International Skill Olympics come to an end in the Bruckner Festival Hall, a hall bearing the name of the famous Upper Austrian musician Anton BRUCKNER, representing the end of an event that led together the best of the young skilled workers from 18 countries and 4 continents.

Young people employed in a number of fields from all over the world have competed in 32 different professions for gold, silver and bronze medals; youths who set a striking example for the rest of the young people in the whole world.

As President of the Economic Chamber of Upper Austria and on behalf of the Upper Austrian economy I would like to express my sincerest thanks to functionaries, delegates and assistants for the large amount of work done before and during the Skill Olympics.

It is my task to communicate to you words of thanks also on behalf of the President of the Federal Economic Chamber, Mr. Rudolf SALLINGER, Councillor of Commerce.

Dr. Josef RATZENBÖCK, Governor of the Province, and Franz HILLINGER, Mayor of Linz, extend thanks, compliments and esteem as well as best wishes to all participants, especially to the young people.

I would like to thank in a special way all masters and professional instructors who have imparted all their professional skills to the young people, a fact proved by last week's events.

It is these skills and the readiness for peak performance which are a prerequisite for youths and all people in general in this world to coping with all problems at work as well as within the framework of a country's economy.

Professional training of young people and the readiness for peak performance represent the largest source of economic wealth of a country. But young people willing to work and provided with adequate training also contribute to maintaining peace. And peace, on the other hand, presupposes people getting to know each other and showing respect towards individuals and nations as a whole.

There is bread to eat because there is work and our daily bread is also a prerequisite to social peace within the boundaries of a country.

Ladies and gentlemen, dear youths coming from all parts of the world! I would like you to take this message on your way back home.

Let me express already now my sincerest compliments to those having participated in the Skill Olympics. I particularly congratulate the prize-winners of all professional fields and countries.

But let me just congratulate - and I hope this meets with your comprehension - expressly the participants from Austria and in particular the prize-winners:



The 27<sup>th</sup> International Skill Olympics have come to an end and I ask you, ladies and gentlemen, not to take home greetings only but also a request:

Keep a kind remembrance of the days passed in Linz! We have tried to prove to you the possibilities of our professional training, of the economy, of the young people and also of the population of a small country right in the heart of Europe.

This evening in the Bruckner Festival Hall intends to bring closer young people and to establish and intensify contacts between people speaking different languages and of different countries.

A cordial "Thank you" again to the retiring President, Mr. Manuel Valentin-Gamazo. I wish all the best of good fortune and success to the newly-elect President, Mr. Francisco Albert Vidal and the Secretary General, Mr. Daniel Sommer.

But I also wish good luck and success to the next International Skill Olympics which will take place in JAPAN in 1985.

Translated by Josef Lanner