

## The projects of the TÜV SÜD Foundation

**Munich. Promoting science and research, education, environmental protection and the prevention of accidents – this sums up the purpose of the TÜV SÜD Foundation. The foundation is designed to fund a broad range of projects. It will initially focus on generating enthusiasm about natural sciences and technology among young people, comprehensible teaching of even the most sophisticated curriculum content and promotion of research and development at university level.**

The first projects of the TÜV SÜD Foundation are:

### **TÜV SÜD Kids**

The goal of the TÜV SÜD Kids project is to familiarize children of elementary school age with technology and natural sciences. To do so, tutors equipped with experiment kits will go into school classes. In a play-based approach, they will show children how to make a power meter out of a drawing pin, rubber band, paper clip, LED and small battery or how to build a lifting platform for toy cars from one-way syringes, hoses and a small wooden board. The campaign was launched some years ago by the TÜV SÜD subsidiary TÜV Hessen and will now be expanded into further regions by the TÜV SÜD Foundation in cooperation with the Scheubeck-Jansen Foundation.

### **Innovative teaching methods at the Mannheim university**

Within the scope of the innovative teaching methods project, the Foundation will support the project of Prof Hermann Merz at Mannheim university. Instead of writing on a blackboard with his back to his students, the lecturer sits at a tablet PC and writes lecture texts on the screen with a special pen; an LCD projector projects the text onto the wall. These lecture notes are then saved as pdf files and transmitted by WLAN to the teaching and studying platform ANGEL. The students can thus access a flawless set of lecture notes and concentrate better on the lectures themselves. Another goal of this method is to improve lecturer-student interaction, thus raising the percentage of students who successfully complete their engineering studies.

## TÜV SÜD Foundation Visiting Professorship at Technische Universität München

The third project is the newly established TÜV SÜD Foundation Visiting Professorship at the Technical University of Munich (Technische Universität München, TUM). This project addresses advanced students and junior scientists. The visiting professorship programme provides the professors at the TUM with the funds to invite internationally renowned scientists and experts to Munich. The first professor visiting under this programme of the TÜV SÜD Foundation is Prof Steven Glaser from the University of California in Berkley, a recognized expert in earthquake analysis and seismology. In a five-day workshop scheduled for late July, Prof Glaser will introduce future civil and construction engineers to the subject of "Seismology and non-destructive testing". His lectures, workshops and seminars will contribute to academic discourse at the university.

### Editor:

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