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Press Release



Nigeria Williams Named GACCs Trainee of the Year

Trainee Honored at the Sixth Annual German American Business Outlook

New York, December 8, 2014 – The German American Chambers of Commerce (GACCs) today presented the GACC Award for Trainee of the Year to Nigeria Williams of MTU America. The GACC Award recognizes outstanding individuals working for German subsidiaries who have demonstrated excellence in their workforce training programs.

Trainee of the Year Nigeria Williams is the first young woman to participate in MTU's Skilled Metal Worker program. MTU America nominated her because of her strong work ethic and willingness to learn. She is considered a valued MTU America team member who comes to work with a positive can-do outlook and eagerly takes on assigned tasks with enthusiasm. Her leadership skills also directly support MTU's core value of continuous improvement, and serve as an excellent example to MTU's other apprentices.

Williams said, "Without this training program, I probably wouldn't know what I wanted to do with my life, but thankfully being introduced to this program I know that when I get older, I want to be an engineer."

Williams' employer MTU America is a wholly owned subsidiary of Germany's Rolls-Royce Power Systems AG. MTU America has several offices located throughout the U.S., and operates a state-of-the-art production facility in Graniteville, S.C.

Germany has the lowest youth unemployment rate of 7.6 percent of any industrialized nation in the world. This is largely due to Germany's vocational apprenticeship model – a path that 55 percent of all school graduates choose as their next step. Vocational apprenticeship programs offer trainees opportunities to obtain specialized technical skills to help them gain employment and the program also assist employers looking to fill their open positions with skilled workers.

The GACC Award ceremony, sponsored by FESTO and Lufthansa, is part of a presentation of the German American Business Outlook, an economic survey conducted by the German American Chamber network in the U.S.

For more about the GACC Award visit www.ahk-usa.com/gabo.

The **German American Chambers of Commerce** (GACCs) in Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, New York, Philadelphia, and San Francisco all work together under the network of AHK USA. With approximately 2,500 members and an extensive national and international business network, the GACCs offer a broad spectrum of activities and services.