Young skin from the lab
Institute for Regenerative Medicine works on making aging skin appear younger

Optimized simulation chambers with dry-air purge
To meet automobile industry standards

BINDER presents a global innovation at ACHEMA
Innovative products attract industry professionals from a whole range of sectors to the trade fair stand
Dear BINDER WORLD Readers,

The path that BINDER is following in 2015 is one marked by innovation and growth. In June, we set off for Frankfurt to attend this year’s ACHEMA, the world’s leading trade fair for the process industry, where our revolutionary technology and new products proved a hit among industry professionals from around the world. Many countries saw expansion in their sales activities – and continue to do so, ensuring even closer proximity to customers and high-quality consultation services.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to our Research and Development department for their tireless efforts to create technically superior products, their drive for perfection, and their fantastic innovation skills: The five new products that their work has resulted in were a delight to our customers attending ACHEMA. This unique potential for innovation is a thread that runs through every department of our company, and it is only as a result of our employees going beyond the call of duty, and their highly motivated attitude, that we have achieved success in treading our new path. One such example is the Marketing department’s work over the past six months to develop a modern, user-friendly website. By the end of the year, it is also set to publish a completely reworked product catalog that conforms to our new corporate design standards.

BINDER’s premises are also on the grow and are due to expand even further in the near future. For 2016, the green light has already been given for the construction of a new production hall at the Tuttlingen site.

I hope you and your families enjoy every health and happiness as the year continues, and that you enjoy reading our summer issue of BINDER WORLD.

Sincerely

Peter Michael Binder
CEO
Young skin from the lab

Institute for Regenerative Medicine works on making aging skin appear younger

The Bioscience Institute and Clinic are among the world’s leading centers for regenerative medicine. Founded in 2006 in San Marino, the company has recently opened a subsidiary in Dubai. The Institute specializes primarily in personalized autologous stem cell therapies, which involve harvesting the body’s own cells for use in applications such as plastic surgery, anti-aging therapy, tissue repair, or dermatological treatments. Every step of this complex process is performed in-house by the Institute, including tissue recovery, stem cell isolation and expansion, and ultimately patient treatment. It also boasts its own cryopreservation equipment with long-term storage for specimens that can be used in stem cell therapy. Whatever the requirements for extracting and storing stem cells, the Institute knows it can rely on climate chambers from BINDER, as they offer the utmost safety and defined, constant conditions that are so essential for these sensitive processes.

“*When incubating the cells, it is vitally important for the set parameters to remain exactly constant across all levels.*”

**Dr. Simona Alfano, Biologist at Bioscience**

**Cryopreservation and long-term storage**

Once expanded and tested, the stem cells can be stored in liquid nitrogen at -196 °C for future use. These conditions allow the living cells to retain their vitality for years so that they can then be used in innovative therapeutic applications as they are conceived. The first step of this process is cryopreservation. This involves aliquoting (dividing into smaller portions, or “aliquots”) the cells and freezing them at -86 °C in a BINDER ultra-low temperature freezer before transferring them to liquid nitrogen. At this point, the water’s critical glass transition temperature of -130 °C is undershot and the water ice becomes amorphous, i.e., the ice crystals that would otherwise destroy the cells no longer form.

**Natural and sustainable results**

The Bioscience Clinic only uses skin and fat tissue specimens from adult (mature) cells. Using the body’s own – i.e., autologous – cells minimizes the risk of rejection while also preventing the complication of graft-versus-host disease (an unwanted reaction to the donor’s immune cells). BINDER’s CO₂ incubators are predominantly used to incubate stem cells from mesenchyme tissue (undifferential connective tissue). Before these cells can be placed inside a CO₂ incubator, however, they must first be extracted from the fat tissue. This process is performed by means of enzymatic disaggregation (separation) using various steps of filtration and centrifugation. The crucial stage here is the expansion, i.e., extracting as many stem cells as possible, which is why it is absolutely essential to create the best possible growth conditions. Dr. Simona Alfano, biologist at the Bioscience Clinic explains that when incubating the cells, it is vitally important for the set parameters to remain exactly constant across all levels.

**The Cell Factory**

Once tissue has been recovered, the first critical step is to extract and isolate adult (mature) stem cells from it. It is absolutely essential during this process to work carefully and perform extensive incubator tests. The selected cells are then expanded, i.e., multiplied in vitro in a CO₂ incubator and subjected to final genetic tests in an incubator for added safety before being used in patient treatments.

![Incubation of cell cultures in a CO₂ incubator](image1)

![Utmost safety is essential while preparing stem cells](image2)
Regenerative medicine is opening up completely new perspectives in modern medicine.

Research in cardiac surgery has taken a quantum leap forward in recent decades. For instance, while a defective heart valve used to be equivalent to a death sentence, operating on heart valves is now a routine intervention. In addition to conventional procedures, the range of research today encompasses many innovative topics such as minimally invasive operating techniques, materials science, molecular biology and regenerative medicine. The goal of the Swiss Center for Regenerative Medicine (SCRM) at the University of Zurich is to apply the principles of these technologies to next-generation therapies. It combines the fields of basic biomedical research and clinical research. Current focuses at SCRM are minimally invasive cardiac surgery and therapies using tissue engineering, i.e., in vitro cultivation of tissues and cell clusters with subsequent cell transplantation. One possibility is to harvest the patient’s own stem cells from the body and transplant them directly into the damaged tissue. On the other hand, living tissue, e.g., new heart valves or blood vessels, can be grown from stem cells in the laboratory. The SCRM is part of the Center for Clinical Research and is jointly supported by the University Hospital Zurich and the University of Zurich. The intention of the Center, which opened in 2011, is to be a regional and national authority in the field of clinical applications of regenerative therapies. There were several hurdles to be overcome before the Center opened. The European regulatory authority granted authorization for research only provided that rigorous safety requirements were met.

“The sterilization cycle of BINDER CO₂ incubators conforms precisely to the requirements of the European Pharmacopoeia, which means that the risk of contaminating cell cultures is reduced to an absolute minimum.”

Dr. Martin Kayser, Head GMP

Since no laboratory in Zurich satisfied these requirements, the Center for Regenerative Medicine was constructed at great expense. “A highly specialized infrastructure is the most important prerequisite for the successful translation of research results into clinical applications in the fields of tissue engineering and regenerative therapies,” explains Dr. Martin Kayser, Director GMP at the Center for Regenerative Medicine. Working in a sterile environment is just as important. Researchers enter the facility through a safety and climate airlock. The five clean rooms, the actual laboratories, provide a sterile environment. CO₂ incubators manufactured by BINDER are used in the process of stem cell propagation. The incubators can be automatically sterilized virtually overnight with hot air. BINDER’s fixed, heat-sterilizable CO₂ sensor is unique. “The sterilization cycle of BINDER CO₂ incubators conforms precisely to the requirements of the European Pharmacopoeia, which means that the risk of contaminating cell cultures is reduced to an absolute minimum,” says Kayser. The equipment also has a patented air jacket system, which guarantees optimized cell growth. “The short recovery times for temperature and CO₂ concentration after door opening, and the uniform temperature distribution ensure a high rate of reproducibility of cell propagation. This was another reason we decided on BINDER incubators,” says Kayser in closing.
Optimized simulation chambers with dry-air purge
To meet automobile industry standards

Standards are in place in the modern automobile industry to guarantee the safety and quality of the entire production process. Special environmental simulation chambers with dry-air purge make complex material load testing possible, which is required to fulfill the standards stipulated by the automobile industry. Especially in the field of automotive manufacturing, the entire production and delivery chain is determined by standards, and standardized testing specifications regulate test procedures for functionality and safety. Every component in an automobile must function perfectly, even under the harshest of conditions; in daily use, they are repeatedly exposed to severe climatic and mechanical loads. BINDER GmbH, one of the world's leading experts in simulation chambers for scientific and industrial laboratories, has now responded to the constantly increasing requirements in this field and expanded its product offerings. Since the beginning of 2014 all sizes of BINDER’s Series MKF and MKFT environmental simulation chambers have been available with an optional controlled dry-air purge function with expanded climate range. Since the beginning of June one additional chamber, MKFT 240, with optional dry-air purge are now optimized for the most common automobile standards, which allows to support automobile manufacturers and suppliers in their development and testing procedures. The expanded climate range enables climate values such as 10 °C and 5 % RH or 0 °C and 10 percent RH. This is possible because dew points of down to -28 °C can be achieved. The specified humidity values are achieved quickly and maintained precisely. The unit is therefore especially well suited to carrying out with no problem the often difficult testing scenarios prevalently found in the automobile industry. The automobile components are subjected to demanding material load testing to determine the resistance of materials and molded parts to weather factors, temperature and temperature shifts. The test samples undergo cyclical climate change tests and/or accelerated short-term tests with a time-lapse effect to determine service life. In this way, possible weaknesses can be detected early in the product-development process in order to avoid costly failures or even image-damaging product recalls. In addition, the tests are reproducible at any time.

BINDER meets automobile industry standards

Dry-air purge — because quality is paramount

BINDER supports rising stars
Supporting students at the Technical University of Darmstadt

As a specialist in climate chambers for scientific and industrial laboratories, research is close to BINDER’s heart. We therefore regularly support projects with the goal of researching the well-being of mankind. This is the third time BINDER is supporting the students at the Technical University of Darmstadt, who regularly take part in the iGEM competition, an interdisciplinary academic competition in the field of synthetic biology. The iGEM competition is targeted at students who use standardized components to construct and characterize a „biological machine.” The goal is to highlight and tackle current problems in these areas with such a machine. The Technical University of Darmstadt also entered a team in the iGEM competition last year to work on a biotechnical solution for creating energy. The aim of the 2014 iGEM team was to develop a solar cell from plant pigments that could be used to create continuous access to bio-energy from self-produced pigment. The students took second place in this competition—an incredible success! Our donation made it possible for the students to conduct innovative independent research, gain new skills and establish international contacts. In October of this year, we will see how far the students at the Technical University of Darmstadt will come. We have our fingers crossed that they will take one of the top places.

Participants of iGEM–Competition 2014
At this year’s ACHEMA, among the many highlights that BINDER GmbH presented was its thermoelectric cooling incubator with a capacity of 170 liters – an innovation that cannot be found anywhere else in the world. The innovative products and technologies attracted industry professionals from a whole range of sectors to the BINDER stand at the trade fair.

Between June 15 and 19, ACHEMA 2015 – the leading international trade fair for the process industry – provided the venue for BINDER GmbH to showcase its products under the motto „Evolution in Simulation Technology – Best Conditions for Your Success“. The Tuttlingen-based family company is the world’s leading specialist in simulation chambers for scientific and industrial laboratories. BINDER presented new products and pioneering technologies to industry professionals and, for the first time the specialist are venturing with the KBF 1020 constant climate chamber into the new market territory of machines with capacities of over 1000 liters. The large-volume model of the tried-and-tested KBF series is featuring 1,020 liters of usable space. The cube-shaped interior is exceptionally roomy and allows large samples to be stored efficiently. Particularly where the pharmaceutical industry is concerned, it offers clear advantages for carrying out stability tests. As further highlight of the event, exhibited its thermoelectric cooling incubator with an interior volume of 170 liters – a product that cannot be found anywhere else in the world. The fully-fledged table unit provides ample space with a user-friendly depth and is significantly quieter than a comparable compressor unit.

Thanks to new stacking options, the cooling incubator is ideally suited to mixed stacking with its smaller sibling, the KT 115, making it extremely flexible to use. A new size has also been introduced for the C series of CO₂ incubators: In the future, the standard model for cell cultivation is to be available with an expanded interior volume of 170 liters. Up against its 180 °C hot air sterilization, potential sources of contamination do not stand a chance.

The new preheating chamber technology developed by BINDER ensures reliable, reproducible incubation conditions. This enables homogeneous temperature distribution thanks to a horizontal airflow on both sides, even when fully loaded. These were benefits that were clear to see for visitors to the BINDER trade fair stand. The units are supplemented by a new, state-of-the-art controller featuring an LCD display, which enables intuitive operation. A team of experts at the stand provided information on the use and function of the different units. They are designed to suit all kinds of applications in the laboratory or in the process industry, and can be used in stress tests of any type. BINDER had even prepared refreshments to help hot and bothered visitors cool down amidst the hustle and bustle of the trade fair – ice cream creations offering an indulgent treat.
BINDER has now expanded its product portfolio of KT series cooling incubators with thermoelectric cooling by adding a new model: From July 1, a cooling incubator with a capacity of 170 liters will be available alongside the existing KT 53 and KT 115 sizes. BINDER is the world’s first supplier to bring a unit of this class and with this interior volume to the market.

A standout feature of the incubator is its excellent balance between size and usable space: Despite having the same footprint as the smaller KT 115, it provides more than 65 % more usable space. A table unit, the KT 170 can be used exceptionally flexibly and is perfect for stacking with its smaller sibling, the KT 115, thanks to its identical base dimensions. The unit runs with an extremely low noise level and, at under 48 dB (A), is significantly quieter than a comparable compressor unit.

All the incubators in the KT series feature excellent environmental credentials and safety, since the Peltier cooling unit works without the need for climate-damaging or flammable refrigerants. In addition, they are highly energy-efficient, particularly when operating at ambient temperature.

The electronically controlled temperature range is between 4 °C and 100 °C, with the maximum temperature primarily intended for interior disinfection. The preheating chamber technology from BINDER creates reliable and reproducible incubation conditions. It enables homogeneous temperature distribution thanks to a horizontal airflow on both sides, even when fully loaded, and also ensures quick heating up and recovery times. „When incubating microorganisms, processes must be reproducible“, explains Dr. Jens Thielmann, biologist and product manager for incubators at BINDER. „For this to happen, it is imperative that the parameters are completely stable. Uniform air distribution on both sides of the inner chamber ensures reproducible incubation results, even when the incubator is fully loaded.“

ISO 9001 certification is an internationally recognized standard that both verifies that companies are in compliance with quality requirements and guarantees customer satisfaction in the supplier-customer relationship. „A successful recertification confirms our company philosophy,“ explains Managing Director Peter M. Binder. „In addition to our high quality standards, close collaboration with and a focus on our customers are our most important business principles.“ The TÜV auditors confirmed BINDER’s constant and continuous process improvement over recent years. In order to guarantee ongoing optimization directly at the workplace, BINDER employees also regularly attend workshops on topics such as lean management, 5S, process optimization and occupational safety.

Lean management is a method of organizing individual workspaces and the shared work environment so that employees can work at their greatest efficiency. This creates a stimulating, collegial work environment as well as the seamless, uninterrupted flow of internal work processes. Workshops also cover safety and process optimization in the workplace. BINDER’s safety officer, together with employees and supervisors, inspects various work areas to identify possible sources of danger and instruct employees in the use of personal protective equipment. Individual work processes are also scrutinized. Joint analyses based on individual tasks are carried out in order to determine the tasks’ impact on the overall process; procedures are defined and, if possible, improved during the training itself.
For his outstanding cell biological research in the area of cancer therapies, Dr. Holger Bastians, a scientist in the Department of Molecular Oncology at the University Medical Center Göttingen and the Göttingen Center for Molecular Biosciences, has been awarded this year’s BINDER Innovation Prize by the German Society for Cell Biology (DGZ). The award, which includes prize money of 4,000 euros, is given for outstanding work in basic cell biology research. The award was presented to Professor Bastians by Dorothea Fichter-Fechner, PR Manager of BINDER GmbH at the international meeting of the DGZ on March 24, 2015, at Cologne University. Bastians and his international team of researchers discovered a key mechanism in colon cancer cells that, when defective, results in the maldistribution of chromosomes. Such maldistributions promote the development of metastases or resistance to treatment methods. This chromosomal instability means that the tumor cells pass on flawed complete chromosomes to their daughter cells each time they divide. The researchers have now succeeded in suppressing this mechanism of maldistribution of chromosomes in human tumor cells. This allows the constant mutation of the genome in chromosomally unstable cancer cells to be halted. This discovery could be of fundamental importance, particularly in the area of cancer therapy, because it could suppress the development of resistance to therapies as well as impede the adaptability of tumors. The molecular basis of chromosomal maldistribution is one of the central, as yet unexplained questions in tumor research.

Since 1998, the BINDER Innovation Prize has been awarded annually by the German Society for Cell Biology (DGZ). The prize money is underwritten by BINDER GmbH, the world’s largest specialist in simulation chambers for scientific and industrial laboratories. With this award, the family-owned company headquartered in Tuttlingen desires to support the effective fight against illnesses using basic cell biology research and foster a wide range of ideas in scientific research.
New, well organized, informative

The new BINDER website!

Are you looking for solutions? Have you got some questions? Or are you simply curious? Then you’ve come to the right place. We’ve given our website a complete makeover to provide you with all the information you need and answer any questions you may have. Take a look and see for yourself.

Search functions
- Easy to select products via our filter function
- Product finder: Find the perfect unit in just three clicks
- Search based on text or item number

The log-in area
- Recommended prices for products
- Pre-filled forms make it easy for you to get in touch
- Quick access to our white papers

The wish list
- Save products to your wish list
- Send the list to our sales department as a no-obligation inquiry

Are you curious? Then simply pay a visit to www.binder-world.com. You can find detailed information about our new website in our News section. We look forward to seeing you there!

Training with a future at BINDER

BINDER presents itself at the region’s largest training fair

Jobs for Future, the largest training and career fair in the region, opened its doors from March 12 to 14 in Villingen-Schwenningen with a record 271 exhibitors. Jobs for Future offers numerous opportunities, from initial orientation to the job market through reorientation in one’s professional life. In addition, the fair has become established as a cross-regional networking clearinghouse. For years BINDER has been engaged in operational training and continuing education and this year was again represented with a booth at Jobs for Future. Training manager Timo Haag and a team of apprentices provided information about career opportunities at the company’s headquarters in Tuttlingen or at any of the company’s numerous international offices. Secondary students, university students and job seekers had the opportunity to talk directly with the apprentices about the many training possibilities at BINDER in different administrative and technical careers as well as in dual technical programs of study. When it comes to young talent, BINDER has looked inward for years. The attractive career opportunities are also reflected in the number of apprentices, which increases every year. Their numbers have more than doubled in the last five years alone. „Many young people who stopped by were earnest about learning more about the various career opportunities with us,” says Timo Haag happily. „We had several very interesting and promising conversations with potential applicants.” The apprentices also generated enthusiasm with a short video of their two-day team training. It was clear from the video that team building, team spirit and above all a lot of fun at work are writ large among the trainees. Link to video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGOknVRtv-A
Get the Party started!

Summer party for employees and families at BINDER

Sunshine, culinary delights, cold drinks, and hot rhythms were the ingredients that made this year’s BINDER summer party a complete success once again.

On Friday, June 17, BINDER GmbH invited employees and their families to a summer party at its premises in Tuttingen – an occasion that has become a company tradition. Around 500 people took up the invitation from the corporate management team, and amid summer temperatures, Managing Director Peter M. Binder warmly welcomed the large crowd of guests. „At BINDER, many positive developments have emerged and great things are on the horizon. I am very much looking forward to breaking new ground together with you. Now, let’s enjoy the beautiful weather and celebrate BINDER’s success together!“

It was then time to sample the delicious spread on offer, this year provided by BINDER’s new caterer, apetito, who indulged the guests with many tasty treats from the grill and an extensive salad buffet. For those with a sweet tooth, there was also a large selection of cakes, ice cream, and desserts.

BINDER had come up with yet another varied fringe program to entertain its guests, offering a number of different attractions. Grown-ups were given the opportunity to prove their skills at “Dosenwerfen”, a game which involves throwing a ball at stacks of empty cans, and the shooting range – while kids romped around on the bouncy castle or let their creativity run wild in handicrafts and face painting. The “Show me your workplace” offer for family members was a hit again this year, with many visitors grabbing the opportunity to look behind the scenes of BINDER, take a tour of the plant and find out more about the manufacturing processes. In the afternoon, DJ Gunnar Frey provided a pure party atmosphere with some hot rhythms. Accompanied by good conversation and cold drinks, the celebrations continued into the early hours of the evening.

Our 2015 summer drink

Gin Basil Smash

A tangy gin drink with a fruity taste to tingle the tongue...

Ingredients
• 60 ml (6 cl) good-quality gin
• 20 ml (2 cl) lemon juice
• 6 – 8 basil leaves
• 20 ml (2 cl) sugar cane syrup

Preparation
Crush the basil in the shaker with a mortar, allowing its herby aroma to develop, then add all the other ingredients, fill the shaker with ice cubes, and shake well. Filter through a fine hair-sieve into an ice-filled tumbler – and enjoy. Cheers!
Cool-down

Say cheese!

Factory tour

Challenge accepted

Cheers!
A conversation with:
Sebastian Gleich, Commercial Manager
BINDER International Service

Sebastian, what is the exact name of the program of studies you completed at BINDER in the context of your dual degree program?
After completing my secondary education in 2009, I first completed a dual degree program with BINDER at Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University (DHBW) at Villingen-Schwenningen, earning a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in industrial business administration.
Then came a two-year, career-integrated, project-competency Master of Science (M.Sc.) program in innovation and technology management.

At which university did you complete your studies?
At the Steinbeis School of International Business and Entrepreneurship (SIBE) of Steinbeis University Berlin.

Which departments did you come to know during your studies at BINDER?
While studying at DHBW I rotated through nearly all the business departments, including Sales, Controlling, Finance, Marketing and Product Management.
Also during this time, I completed a three-month internship at the subsidiary BINDER Asia Pacific Hong Kong Ltd. in Hong Kong. During my Master’s studies I was employed as an assistant to the Director International Service. This was a full-time position that lasted through the entirety of my studies. But my projects allowed me to interface with many other departments, above all with IT, Controlling and Sales.

You decided on a dual degree program. What did you find particularly positive in this degree path?
The constant connection between theoretical knowledge and practical implementation in the company. From the beginning I was given the opportunity to take on a great deal of responsibility, to work independently and to design my tasks relatively freely. The high-quality seminars and workshops were very helpful for my personal development. Thanks to my stay in Sao Paulo, Brazil, I was also able to earn a Brazilian MBA (double degree).

Were there any negative points?
I had quite a heavy load during those two years, since I not only often had to attend seminars on weekends, but also, as a rule, still had to work on papers or study after finishing a day’s work at the company. Unfortunately, that doesn’t leave a lot of time for leisure.

What is the advantage of a dual degree program?
Especially in the Master’s program I was in — unlike in most dual study programs — you get two years of professional experience.
during the course of your studies. The constant connection between theory and practical application offers an enormous advantage over traditional degree programs and is recognized by employers as a huge advantage. And, of course, it’s terrific that you earn a salary, even though you’re still in a degree program.

If you had to decide today, would you choose this kind of study program again? Yes, absolutely.

Did BINDER provide any form of support during your studies? BINDER supported me financially with tuition and fees as well as with my travel costs to seminars. My studies were only possible at all through the company’s arrangements with the university.

What position were you offered after completing your Master’s degree at BINDER? Commercial Manager BINDER International Service.

What does your job entail today? My day-to-day work entails controlling and reporting in the Service area as well as calculating prices for this area; coordination, maintenance and roll-outs of all service processes; supporting international offices with service processes; ongoing development of IT tools, (ERP, CRM) in the Service area; and calculating and negotiating service contracts with customers.

What are your goals for the next three years? To continue working on and managing exciting projects in order to gain experience for the next steps in my career.

About Sebastian:
Sebastian is 25 years old and was born in Mühlheim/Donau. After completing his secondary education, he began his training at BINDER in September 2009 and completed a dual degree program with a Bachelor of Arts degree (B.A.) in industrial business administration. Sebastian then completed a Master of Science degree (M.Sc.) in innovation and technology management at BINDER in October 2014. In his free time, he is a passionate soccer player with VFL Mühlheim, enjoys skiing and meeting up with his friends. Sebastian is single and lives in Mühlheim/Donau.
“Mini-Evolution” for loyal partners

Apprentices create a sculpture in recognition of long-standing customers and employees

The first thing any guest will notice during a visit to BINDER GmbH is the large, gleaming sculpture in front of the building. Its clean, simple shapes create a captivating expressiveness, while the steel used in the work symbolizes at once power and lightness through its interwoven elements. It is the perfect complement to the BINDER headquarters – a building which exudes the style of classical modernism throughout in a clear, transparent architectural form – and it shapes the way in which the company presents itself. It is possible to find a large number of artworks on display throughout the company building thanks to Managing Director Peter M. Binder, who harbors a strong passion for the fine arts and wants to not only share this with employees, but also have a positive impact on and inspire them.

The sculpture, called “Evolution”, was created by internationally renowned Tuttlingen artist Jörg Bach on commission from Peter M. Binder, who discovered his work in Galerie Gottschick in the town of Tübingen and was immediately captivated by it. “Jörg Bach has the ability to create something fascinating, simple, and transparent from brittle stainless steel using slight curves and slender shapes. The elegance of the forms in his artworks fascinated me from the very moment I saw them. His figures are powerful and full of energy, but they also represent a sense of greatness and resilience because of the material they use. It immediately struck me that a sculpture in this vein would be the perfect symbol of the values that BINDER upholds.” Peter M. Binder commissioned the artist to create a sculpture for his company – one that would not only symbolize the pursuit of growth and constant improvement, but also allude to paths which perhaps cannot be followed right to the end, thus requiring a change of direction. The artwork is also intended to express the passion of the employees, who strive to move the company forward through their hard work. “In my sculpture “Evolution”, I was able to create a piece of art by combining the ideas and visions of Mr. Binder with my own sense of artistic freedom and creativity – so we were the perfect complement to one another”, recollects Jörg Bach.

Over the past year, the idea then arose of working with Jörg Bach once again to give partners, employees, and dealers “Mini-Evolution” awards in recognition of special achievements. What makes this such a remarkable project is that the sculptures are produced by trainees in the in-house training workshop and made from the same material as BINDER chambers – stainless steel. Making the idea a reality proved highly complex, since the artist had to construct a piece that would be technically feasible for the training workshop to create. “With this BINDER award, I want to express my appreciation of the many years of loyalty that partners and employees have shown to us”, explains Peter M. Binder. “I think it’s wonderful that the sculptures are made by our trainees and that this gives them an introduction to the art. Bringing the idea to life was a significant challenge for them, as they had never encountered the process of manufacturing individual pieces before now.”

For Jörg Bach, of utmost importance was the symbolism carried by the figure. The two individual parts, which are then interwoven with one another at the center, are designed to represent the cooperation between BINDER GmbH and its partners. The effect is open and transparent – exactly what the relationship that BINDER has with its business partners should be.
Together we are strong
A variety of training opportunities at BINDER

Headed up by Timo Haag, BINDER’s training team has a particular method of encouraging the development of its trainees, with emphasis placed on team spirit, enthusiasm for learning, and interpersonal skills, and a range of team-building activities offered throughout the year. June 26 marked the annual farewell barbecue for BINDER trainees at Wurmlingen’s barbecue area. The organizing team, made of up Denise, Marius, Max, Linda, and Kai, made every effort to ensure the trainees were well taken care of, and steaks, grilled sausages, salads, and desserts – as well as no shortage of fun – kept the group in high spirits throughout the evening. The celebrations continued until late into the night and were accompanied by guitars and singing around the campfire.

Daredevil inventors in their souped-up boxes
Thinking outside the box

Building a soapbox racer offered some trainees an entirely different opportunity for learning. An invitation to a soapbox derby in Wurmlingen at the start of the year resulted in the idea of building our own BINDER soapbox racer in the training workshop. It wasn’t long before things sprang into action, with a team comprising technical product designers Lena and Ina plus trainees Fabian, Kai, and Simon – all adept craftsmen – set up for the project. Not only did the project require significant skill and creativity, it also gave the team an insight into business processes as materials had to be procured, a schedule had to be devised, and there was a budget to stick to. Precise coordination between all the participants was a must, both during the process of building the “box” and when carrying out the individual assembly steps later on. With expectations running high, the team finally approached the starting line on July 4 – and despite ultimately finishing toward the back of the pack, they found the activity a fantastic, fun experience.
Crossing the finish line
A successful conclusion for the apprentices

For many trainees, the summer marks the final sprint toward the end of their apprenticeships. This year, Lara Wietfeld and Enes Ramadani both crossed the finish line, proudly receiving their certificates of completion on June 23. Representing the Steinbeisschule vocational school in Tuttlingen and achieving outstanding grades, Enes completed a machine and equipment operator apprenticeship, and Lara an industrial mechanic apprenticeship with a commendation. During a free period at Villingen-Schwenningen vocational school on June 24, Daniel Glunz was also awarded his certificate in recognition of completing a mechanical engineer apprenticeship. Daniel is among the BINDER cohort known as the „Studies Plus“ trainees, and first learned a trade as an industrial mechanic over a period of two years before going on to complete a two-and-a-half-year course of studies. Achieving an average grade of 1.3 – equivalent to a high A in the American system – he received a prize in recognition of his outstanding achievements while still in education. For the first time this year, BINDER said goodbye to a warehouse logistics trainee from within its own ranks. Betina Lohrer successfully completed her training at the end of June. Our congratulations go to all graduates.

New employee cafeteria
A spot for good conversation – and good company

At BINDER, even the employee cafeteria is a reflection of the company’s corporate philosophy and culture: It knows that employees who are delivering maximum performance on a daily basis need a place to get away from the hustle and bustle, recharge their batteries, and, of course, refuel on nutritious food.

It was for these reasons that BINDER decided to remodel its cafeteria entirely at the start of this year – a project that required significant investment, but paid off in the end. The regenerated space has become a favorite spot for employees to meet and provides a pleasant atmosphere in which the various departments can come together and converse. Guests visiting BINDER have also praised the new cafeteria, and look forward to the high-quality food they know they can expect each time they are there.

In good weather, employees now have the opportunity to enjoy meals in the newly designed outdoor area. What’s more, the kitchen has attracted a top-class chef in the shape of Sebastian Lenz, who has previous experience of working in prestigious establishments such as the Restaurant Garnter in Tuttlingen. And thanks to BINDER subsidizing meals, employees can enjoy healthy fare at a fantastic price every day.
Imprint

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Issue: September 2015