

## **Interview with a head of a company (ERASMUS-Project)**

### **1. What is the name and the main focus of your company?**

The name of our company is „Bauplanungs- und Ingenieurbüro Brakemeier“ (translation: Construction planning and Engineering Office Brakemeier). We are not an architectural office, but we do very similar things, mostly construction planning.

### **2. Where is your company located?**

Extertal, Bösingfeld, Mühlenstraße 2 (in Lippe, North rhein-Westphalia)

### **3. What is your profession, respectively, does your profession go above the role of the head of a company?**

I work in construction and have a diploma in construction engineering and I am, among others, the head of the company.

### **4. When and by whom was the company founded?**

The company was founded by my father, Kurt Brakemeier, on 15th April 1960.

### **5. How was the takeover? Did everything proceed relatively quick and easy or have there been any problems?**

No, there were no problems at all. Everything was already planned ahead. I knew from very early on that I wanted to go into this area and one day, my father confronted me and told me, that he wanted to take it slower and asked me if I wanted to take the company over. This happened on 1st January 1997.

### **6. What do you love the most about your profession and your company?**

The variety, the creativity, I often have and obviously the contact with clients and colleagues.

### **7. What is the most important thing in your position?**

The coordination and work with the colleagues and employees.

### **8. What is, in your opinion, the most fundamental thing in order for a company to function?**

The collaboration of every party involved.

### **9. How to you evaluate your relationship with your employees/colleagues?**

I would say it is collegial (cooperative) and I hope, they would say so too.

### **10. What is the hardest thing in your position?**

That sometimes you have to make uncomfortable decisions.

### **11. Which effects does your company have on the region?**

I would say, there are no important effects.

### **12. Would you want to change your position today for a different one?**

No.

### **13. If you look back on your career up to this date, what makes you the most proud, or what brings you the most joy?**

There are so many projects, so you can't exactly say, what was the greatest, but you are always glad when projects, in which one put a lot of effort and work and which can be very complex, satisfy us and the clients. It can happen, that one put a lot of effort into a project and is satisfied with the result, but the client isn't, so the moments, when one gets a positive feedback, are very fulfilling.

**14. What would you tell teenagers today, who take a career in your field into account?**

If you want to build a stable position in the construction and engineering field, you should get enough practical experience, maybe even a special training next to an education in this field.

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