

: HONEST, PURE, ICONIC GLASS

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

For more information, contact:

Leen Van Parys
Senior Consultant
+32 486 73 24 16
leen.van.parys@outsources.be

Hands-on apprentice program guides young people to a technical job at O-I's glass plants

Schiedam, 7 december 2018 – Since the beginning of September 2018, twenty young people have joined a new apprentice program in the O-I glass plants in Leerdam and Maastricht. The purpose of this Learning & Working Program is to further spread technical education in the Netherlands, get young people prepared for their professional career, and help these apprentices to obtain a Process Operator's qualification. Ultimately, they would be offered a permanent job at O-I.

The Learning & Working Program of O-I is a deliberate and future-oriented investment. "O-I has always been very committed to people's education and training. With this program, we are reaching out to young people having no technical degree but who do have technical affinity. By offering them a very hands-on education, we want to prepare them for a job in the glass packaging industry," explains Rob Daamen, HR Director Netherlands at O-I and "sponsor" of this program.

Education and training are key

Theory and practice are closely intertwined in the program. Classroom technical training is given by Technicom - a well-known institute for technical trainings in the Netherlands -, while the practical experience is provided by two highly experienced O-I employees, working in Leerdam and Maastricht. "After two years, each participant should have acquired the necessary knowledge and experience to start working as a Process Operator at O-I", says Rob Daamen.

Both the apprentices and O-I coaches are very enthusiastic. "It takes quite an investment of time and effort from our coaches. They work closely with them and they eagerly pass on their knowledge," says Daamen.

Rowan Tucker (18 years old), apprentice at O-I Leerdam: "I feel very welcome at O-I. All knowledge and skills are available to learn the job and, through internships, we get a broad insight into how a glass bottle is made. It is a great opportunity to get a specific training, resulting in a diploma and a permanent contract."

Investing in the future

O-I's intention is that a new group of young people starts the two-year apprentice program every year. "As of March 2019, we will accept applications for the second group. We expect that the positive experience and feedback of the current apprentices will trigger other young people to seize the opportunity," says Daamen. "They will learn a lot and have an exciting time as they prepare for a successful start into their professional life."

Similar programs exist in various European O-I locations. The new apprentice program in the Netherlands represents a significant step forward for the Dutch plants. "Our commitment is to continue to find opportunities to launch similar programs in locations where we still don't have them and to harmonize the curriculum as much as possible in order to have a consistent EU offer" concludes Daamen.

ENDS

About O-I

Owens-Illinois, Inc. (NYSE: OI) is the world's largest glass container manufacturer and preferred partner for many of the world's leading food and beverage brands. The Company had revenues of \$6.9 billion in 2017 and employs more than 26,500 people at 78 plants in 23 countries. With global headquarters in Perrysburg, Ohio, O-I delivers safe, sustainable, pure, iconic, brand-building glass packaging to a growing global marketplace.

For more information, visit o-i.com

For more information on O-I : EXPRESSIONS, visit discoverexpressions.com