

ADLERSHOF JOURNAL

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- Science City as an export model
- Doctor Europa:
Better job opportunities for
joint PhD candidates
- Crafts for adults:
This is where the tone is set

Working in the world laboratory: Multiculturalism is good for us



INDEX

- 01** **ESSAY**
Çağlayan, my little waterfall:
Can names block an international career?
- 02** **INSIGHT**
Prime location:
First tenants in the "Air Campus"
- 03** **PEOPLE**
Global market pioneer:
Felipe Stark provides "fault recorders" to three continents
- 04** **COVER STORY**
High-tech for the world:
Niche and top of the range, with the main revenue sources abroad and multicultural employees
- 06** **NETWORKS**
Adlershof as a role model:
Technology transfer from South Africa to Israel
- 08** **CAMPUS**
Doctor Europe:
Better job opportunities for joint PhD candidates
- 10** **INQUIRED**
"The perfect place for us":
British company makes use of the "Welcome Package"
- 10** **ADLERSHOF ROUND TABLE**
with Jacqueline and Thomas Leibik,
caterer of Albert Speisenmanufaktur and the "Albert" café and bistro
- 11** **MEDIA**
Crafts for adults:
This is where the tone is set
- 14** **SCIENCE**
Adlershof Dissertation Prize
for Martin Hempel
- 15** **FOUNDERS**
New tools for Laser light:
Founder form Photonic Tools at the start
- 16** **ADLERSHOF IN FIGURES**



EDITORIAL

Good times, international times

Dear reader, are you comfortable in several languages? Then you will have had no problem decoding the collage of letters put together by our illustrator Ralph Stegmaier for the title page of this edition. The unusual way of writing "Adlershof" brings us to the point of this edition: we want to know how international things are in Adlershof and how visible the city of science is on an international level.

We found very few answers in the statistics. Five percent of the more than 15,000 people employed in Adlershof are foreign, according to a questionnaire asked of the local residents for the 2013 annual survey. In the pool of almost 1,000 companies and institutes, there are companies of American, Brazilian, Chinese, Israeli, Italian, Pakistani and Russian origin, to name but a few of the nations represented. Many of the high-tech firms in Adlershof have international dependencies, since the more specialised products and services are, the more internationally it is necessary to operate, as they say.

The fact that Adlershof extends well beyond the borders of Germany is also demonstrated through the Adlershof companies' and scientists' involvement in international networks. Learning through exchange with technology parks around the world is also part of how expertise is shared.

Furthermore, the fact that Adlershof has become noticeably more international in the past few years "is evident even on the street," says Holger Wenschuh from JPT Peptide Technologies GmbH. There are buses which tour the location on an almost daily basis – often filled with Asian tourists. In the canteen, there is a multilingual buzz over the lunch break. International congresses take place here. And there are companies such as Active Space Technologies GmbH which are made up of multicultural teams and in the corridors of which English is spoken as a matter of course.

Yours,

Sylvia Nitschke
Head of Adlershof Print



Çağlayan, my little waterfall

Friends of mine recently had their third child – a boy named Çağlayan. Nice. It means little waterfall. It has a cedilla under the C and a hachek over the G – he'll have to spell it and explain it a little when he's older.

■ "It's all Ahmet's fault," says his mother, before I've even managed to close the door behind me. Ahmet is her husband, who unfortunately has just gone for a walk with the little one in the pram, so I'm left all alone with the exhausted mother. I hang up my coat, and as I turn back to her I notice that she's crying. "He can forget an international career. He'll have to change his name," she says, pushing a stack of cards into my hand.

"I had a Chinese friend at uni, she called herself Rainbow because nobody could say her Chinese name," I say. Maybe that would comfort her. She wants to know what the woman's real name was, but I can't remember. "See, you can't even remember a short Chinese name," she wailed. I don't know how she came to the conclusion that the name was short, it may have been long and complicated. I simply called the woman Rainbow like everyone else. "Is my son supposed to go around calling himself Little Waterfall?" She was acting as if I'd had my heart set on Çağlayan.

"Nobody will ever be able to spell it right, let alone pronounce it correctly. A few people might know that you pronounce the Ç as "ch", but who knows that the ,ğ' is silent? They'll call him Chaglayan, or Tsaglayan, or Kaglayan. Look, even in the printing shop they screwed it up." She pointed to the cards in my hand that I've already forgotten about. On the front of the folded card there is a photo of her two older sons and the baby. The elder sons are sitting next to one another on their parents' bed with the newborn lying across their legs. One of the brothers got the top half of the baby; the other one got the bottom. You can see from

the boys' faces that they argued about who was allowed to hold which half, but they managed a strained smile for the photo. 3.5 kg, 56 cm. Then I see what she means. The cedilla underneath the C is there, but the hachek over the G was originally missing. Someone had added it on later with a felt-tip pen.

"I got my way with the older ones," she said. Fortunately she wasn't crying any more. "Ali and Burak are names everyone can pronounce, everyone can write them and they can be typed on a computer keyboard with Latin letters. No umlaut, no special characters, nothing." Nobody would ask if Ali was a boy or a girl either. I ask why Ahmet was so set on this name. Was he thinking of someone in particular? "Not at all, everyone in our family is called Ahmet or Mehmet. There's never been a Çağlayan. I bet not even my mother will spell it correctly." "Now you're exaggerating." "I shouldn't have let myself get soft." "Please don't cry again." "Ahmet said that in his whole life he had never got a letter in which his name was spelt correctly. His name is even wrong on his pay slip. He showed me the letters – from the bank, from his gym, his dental bill. It says 'Achmed', 'Ahmed', 'Achmett' or 'Achmat'. He said he wanted the name he liked because it would be spelt wrong anyway. Then I felt sorry for him, my Ahmet."

Dilek Güngör is a journalist and author. Her column "Weltstadt" appears weekly in the Berliner Zeitung.



Prime location

Adlershof is gradually becoming more urban. One of the most recent new builds is the Air Campus office building on the corner of Rudower Chaussee and Am Studio. There is still some space for new tenants.



Above: The team of cardiology practice Schauerte
Below: Seeks new tenants for the Air Campus: Eva Weiß

Patrick Schauerte keenly guides us through his medical practice on the first floor of the Air Campus office building in Adlershof, which opened in early January. The beds for the patients are currently being delivered, and there are other things which are not quite fully set up either. But the heart specialist is already convinced that he has chosen the right site: "the location right next to the S-bahn and opposite Kaufland is a real advantage," he says. He was also enthusiastic about the flexibility – the landlord built the practice according to his exact plans.

The Berlin firm ID&A Immobilien GmbH also offers this flexibility to the other tenants. "Up to three rental units from 170 square metres are possible on each floor, all of which can be developed based on the tenant's requirements," says Eva Weiß, Head of Project Development for ID&A Immobilien. Open office concepts and cell offices are both possi-

ble. Development generally only takes around six weeks from the signing of the rental contract. The modern equipment and the energy efficiency of the building are further advantages Eva Weiß lists. Thanks to the concrete core temperature control in the ceilings, additional cooling is mostly unnecessary.

In total, 35 percent of the over 4,000 square metres of retail and office space has been rented thus far. In addition to the cardiology practice, FAMAKO Anlagenexport GmbH, the plastics specialist REHAU AG + Co and the Berliner Volksbank have also chosen the Air Campus.

However, Eva Weiß admits that delays in the opening of the hub airport have not exactly been helpful for marketing. When construction started in late 2011, the assumption was still that the BER airport would be on the network of air routes in June 2012. Weiß told us that

two major users have bailed out of the project since then, as the proximity to the airport had been a key criterion.

She is still confident that there will soon be additional tenants for the building designed by the architect firm Nalbach + Nalbach. And then building work could continue: ID&A Immobilien has an option on the two adjacent plots of land on Rudower Chaussee and Am Studio, where a further two buildings with a total floor area of 3,500 and 4,500 square metres respectively could be built.

In the meantime, Patrick Schauerte identifies a further advantage to the location: the cardiologist, who previously researched in the USA and also lectures at RWTH Aachen university alongside his professional activities, sees the proximity to Adlershof technology firms as an opportunity "to realise a few things in medical technology." *ch*

Global market pioneer

Felipe Stark provides "fault recorders" to three continents

■ The washing machine was a bargain. Buy it and take it away immediately, that much Felipe Stark knew. The only question was how. Stark decided to take the tram. Together with a friend he hauled the whopper to the stop, heaved it into the tram and dragged it to his apartment at the time in Lichtenberg. "Not a single person in Berlin said anything," says Stark, amazed at this to this day. One woman indifferently told her friend on the phone that there were people with a washing machine on the tram again.

That's just Berlin: "a wonderful city," enthuses Stark. The man ought to know, he's been to various different parts of the world in his 29 years, and lived in cities of various different sizes. He was born and raised in Belo Horizonte, capital of the Brazilian federal state of Minas Gerais, with four million inhabitants. He spent some time as an exchange student in the Texan city of Corpus Christi, with just over 300,000 inhabitants. He spent one semester studying electronics at the university in Schmalkalden, with 30,000 inhabitants.

Now, the graduate engineer is sitting in a sparse room on the third floor of the founder centre in Rudower Chaussee. He has a seating area, a desk, a computer and white walls. The only decoration is a miniature bust of a bearded Greek philosopher which Stark (who says he loves Greece!) keeps to remind him of some colleagues who came from there.

From this small room in an Adlershof office, Europe, Africa and Asia are supplied with fault recorders. Here, Stark is currently in charge of two employees – even if he prefers calling himself "office manager" to "boss". This is also where they screw the fault recorders togeth-

er, in an adjacent room. Square, flat, black boxes covered with a huge range of cable connectors. The device is used in substations – it shows the electricity flow, registers faults and determines the source of errors.

It was developed by a small electronics firm in the south of Brazil, which chose to open two foreign offices in 2010 to conquer the global market. So Stark came to Adlershof, at the start just as a lonely pioneer. He is now living in his fourth apartment in Berlin and has acclimatised to life here. Brazilians are now the minority in his friendship group, and now he's found a manioc flour supplier he doesn't even have to go without his beloved pão de queijo.

Pão de Queijo, literally "cheese bread", is a speciality of Minas Gerais. The dough is made of manioc flour, cream and cheese. In Brazil, a special hard white cheese is used to make it. In Berlin, Stark has discovered that it also works with grated Emmentaler.

His business trips have already taken him as far as Taiwan. It is only Unterensingen in Baden-Württemberg that he has yet to visit from Berlin. That's where his grandfather emigrated to Brazil from in 1920. *wd*

Because he doesn't want to miss his beloved Brazilian "cheese bread", Felipe Stark began to bake them yourself



High-tech for the world



Some of the companies in Adlershof are firm international favourites in their industries.

Their employees are multicultural, which stimulates ideas and business. The location itself has become visible in the international arena as a high-tech melting pot.

■ In the corridors of Active Space Technologies GmbH, English is spoken as a matter of course – it is the unofficial official language of Adlershof. The working environment also benefits from this, reports boss Riccardo Nadalini, because 90 percent of his 19 employees, almost half of whom are women, don't come from Germany they come from Italy, Spain, Portugal, Israel, Iran, India, Russia, Turkey, the USA... "It's almost easier to count the countries we don't have any employee from," jokes Nadalini.

He himself came to Germany from Italy 15 years ago. In the early days, he worked for the German Aerospace

Centre before founding his own fine little aerospace technology company. This company made a global name for itself as a specialist in heating and energy management, and among other things was involved in NASA's "InSight" Mars mission. The company only recently moved out of the founders' centre into newer, larger premises. "We grew quickly," says Nadalini. This was also possible as a result of the international spirit flowing through the company: "In Germany, there really is a lack of skilled employees, but we were able to get round this because we could recruit employees from around the world without any problems," explains Nadalini. In the polyglot envi-



International spirit: the Active-Space-Team



ronment, every-
onesettlesinwellregard-
less of their nationality. The brightly coloured team also brings an additional, key advantage: "it makes it easy to work with clients around the world, because there's always somebody here who knows the culture," says Nadalini.

Understanding other cultures, particularly their aesthetic opinions, is essential for the IFS Design team. Among other things, the Adlershof industrial designers led by boss Jochen Dittrich have designed the new Berlin tram and the metros in Paris, Beijing, Helsinki and Tianjin, the Zillertal Railway and the tram in San Diego.

San Diego is also home to a subsidiary of HOLOEYE Photonics AG, which specialises in microdisplays and microoptics. "It was clear to us from the start that the company needed to operate internationally," says CEO Sven Krüger. The USA and Asia play a particularly significant role – Krüger highlights the facts that clients and partners there work as "drivers for ideas and trend setters". This has resulted in, among other things, microoptics for laser applications, microdisplays for video projectors for industrial use and projectors, which became the company's core business. In the very focused market in which HOLOEYE operates, the company is an international favourite and one of the technological leaders. This international visibility is almost mandatory for Krüger: "the more specialised products and services are, the more international the company

Jochen Dittrich and his team designed the new Berlin tram type

needs to operate. That applies to a lot of high-tech companies here," he says.

Holger Wenschuh, CEO of JPT Peptide Technologies GmbH, can only agree. In its industry, the biotechnology firm is seen as one of the leading providers of innovative, peptide-based services and products for biomedical research, for example when developing new vaccines to prevent illnesses or biomarker tests for the early recognition of diseases. The company, which employs 60 people, has branches in Boston, Denver and

Brussels. "We make most of our revenue abroad," says Wenschuh. Operations in Germany only account for around 20%, 25% is made in Europe, 40% in the USA and the remaining 15% in China, Japan, India, Australia and Korea. At home in Adlershof, staff from France, Poland, Peru, Belgium, Zambia and the USA research the medicine of tomorrow. "In the past few years, this location has become noticeably more international as a result of the high-tech firms, congresses and the students here," observes Wenschuh. "Something's happened, you can see it on the street."

And you can tell, as HOLOEYE boss Krüger says: "Many of the foreign clients who visit us here have other meetings in Adlershof when we are finished." For Krüger, there's no doubt about it: "the location is perceived to be international." *c/*



Researches for the medicine of tomorrow: JPT



Adlershof as a role model

Two delegations per week, 1,200 mostly international visitors a year. The figures already show that Adlershof has long been radiating well beyond Berlin and Germany.

Adlershof's doers are globally networked. They learn through exchanges with technology parks from around the world and are prepared to share their expertise.

WISTA CEO Hardy Rudolf Schmitz has been Chair of the Advisory Board of the International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation (IASP)

■ The Indian Ocean is splashing in the background as Konrad Hochhold explains his project. What started as a vision in 2011 is slowly taking on the shape of a technology park. Soon, the construction teams will descend and create the structures in stone that the Berliner has been developing with politicians, universities and investors and with the supporters from his home town for months.

The South African region of KwaZulu-Natal is hoping for Hochhold's planned "Renewable Energy Development Hub KwaZulu-Natal" to be successful. By the end of this year this should be home to research, development and production of all things to do with renewable energy, energy efficiency, smart grid, water and biodiversity.

"We lost a year because the previously planned location fell through," says Hochhold. He didn't let himself get demoralised, and found the new 80-hectare campus in the coastal town of Ballito, which is between the port cities of Durban and Richards Bay. There is a huge amount of support locally. What started as an idea at the World Climate Conference in Durban has caught on in the minds of regional and local decision makers. Among other things, Durban University of Technology is building new institutes at the site orientated towards the focuses of the technology park.

The Adlershof technology park is a role model for this. "In five years, we want to develop around a quarter of what Adlershof is currently able to do," says Hochhold. In the future, companies from Adlershof will get the status of preferred suppliers. Since 2012, there has been a close partnership with WISTA-MANAGEMENT GMBH, without whom his project would not be where it currently is. Delegation visits and workshops have brought the Adlershof role model closer to those responsible in South Africa: successful clusters and incubators, short pathways from basic research to industrial application.

Hochhold attributes the fact that his concept of a technology park which is mainly home to medium sized companies blew the strong international competition away to the help he received from Berlin. One of the aims is to transfer the knowledge and experience of the "Berlin Energy Network" to KwaZulu-Natal. Hochhold has also brought partners from China, South Korea, France, Spain, the Netherlands and Belgium on board. Thirty-nine companies have already signed letters of intent to occupy.

"Like in Adlershof, the important thing is creating synergies between science, technology, production and project development," says Hochhold. The aim is to increase local value creation in the field of renewable energy from 20 to 80 percent. In order to ensure that this doesn't remain a pipe dream, Durban and the provincial government have committed to buy electricity produced through commercial and pilot projects in photovoltaics, wind and bioenergy totalling 300 megawatts.

WISTA CEO Hardy Rudolf Schmitz knows Hochhold's project and is impressed by the progress. He himself often casts his eye over



FOC CEO Christian Kutza presents the world wide smallest Fiber Optic component, the Fiber Optic Reflectors, to a South African Delegation.

technology parks around the world: he has been Chair of the Advisory Board of the International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation (IASP) since October 2013. Schmitz feels that this role is a real asset. "Dealing with various different developed technology parks around the world sharpens your sense of your own strengths and weaknesses – and for further potential for development after 20 years in Adlershof," he says.

According to Schmitz, developed technology parks are feeling that infrastructure, functioning clusters and competence when creating solutions is not sufficient to an increasing extent. "In order to be really attractive, a location needs a soul," he says.

In Adlershof, the aim is for academic excellence, architectural class and a lively habitat for growth with over 1,000 companies to combine to form an even stronger identity than before: "Science at Work".

Adlershof as a location where science is practised and knowledge is converted into jobs brought to life through collaboration. The plan is for urban life to come here and invigorate the district. That would be the icing on the cake. Because the skills which successful technology parks around the world are able to take from the few successful ones Adlershof already has: here, companies find networks where they can crack even the hardest nuts within walking distance. And the commodity which is in the greatest demand around the world is present almost to excess: young, motivated and excellently educated minds.

This is the message which is coming through. This can also be seen in a project which is planning on bringing together a small group of Adlershofers with Israeli partners: and Israeli centre in Adlershof. The plans are in motion, but not definite yet. The initiators will only give one thing away: "we want to be the focal point for Israeli technology companies and startups who want to gain a foothold on the German market." *pt*



Since autumn 2012, doctoral candidates in geography (comparative town planning) can take part in a joint PhD programme between the Humboldt University of Berlin and Kings College London. They will research a topic for three years, spending one year at the partner university. This means they will become familiar with two different academic cultures and have the opportunity to make contacts with other academics. The student will also be given two certificates: one German certificate and one English certificate. This should also increase job opportunities.

A similar programme has also started recently for doctoral candidates in mathematical physics at Humboldt University. Through GATIS (Gauge Theory as an Integrable System), young academics can research gauge theory at European partner universities or with industrial partners. However, unlike with geography, these students are not awarded a joint PhD.

Ellen Köhrer spoke to the joint PhD students about their experiences.

Doctor Europe

"Berlin is an urban laboratory"

James Field, 33,
from Coventry, UK

Start of joint PhD: September 2011 in London

Berlin: June 2013 until September 2014 (expected)



James Field

★ I was the first participant in the joint PhD programme. At the start I couldn't speak German very well. I'm writing my doctoral thesis on the public spaces of Canary Wharf in London and Potsdamer Platz in Berlin. In order to do this, I have to survey passers-by. I found that difficult at the start in Berlin, but I now speak reasonably good German.

Since I want to pursue a career in academia in the future, I think I will have

better chances with my job hunt as a result of the joint PhD. I already know the British university system very well as I worked in administration there for a long time before starting to study geography. I can now see what is different in Germany and what cultural differences there are. As a PhD student I get a lot of feedback from my two supervisors from the UK and Germany.

Berlin is an urban laboratory – the history of the city is very exciting and I am very interested in how German academics experienced reunification. Berlin is not as expensive as London, so I can do a lot more here. I like going to museums and galleries, or going on walks from my apartment in Tiergarten to Potsdamer Platz or through the government quarter.

"Networks for the future"

Sebastian Schlüter,
32, from Berlin

Start of joint PhD: October 2012 in Berlin

London: October 2013 until summer 2014 (expected)

★ I'm writing my doctoral thesis about Christian communities in London and Berlin and the role they play in their neighbourhood. The joint PhD means that I get to know two different universities in two countries. I have a supervisor in each country, and since I'm writing my doctoral thesis in English I am learning the language to a

higher level. In Adlershof, I have my own office where I can work in peace – in London all of us doctoral candidates work together in one large office. In our free time we like to go to the theatre or to the pub. It brings people together.

The British are very open towards other cultures and they are good networkers. It is easy to make contacts and exchange views, whether at uni or at conferences. Here in London, there is an internationally renowned research group for my doctoral topic, and I have got to know them. These contacts may be able to help me when I am searching for a job in the future. At the moment, there are more jobs for academics in England than in Germany.

Doctoral candidates from around the world"

Julia Nast, 29, from Berlin

Start of joint PhD in social sciences: October 2011 in Berlin

London: September to December 2013



Julia Nast

★ In Germany, we as doctoral candidates are very free and organise a lot ourselves. In contrast, my professor in London said to me "dissertations here normally have eight chapters". A clear statement. Since my professor in London was supervising relatively few doctoral candidates, he had a lot of time for me. The staff on both sides are closely interlinked and know exactly who is responsible for which issues.

We doctoral candidates come from Germany, France, the UK, Sweden, China and Ethiopia. We are currently working together to organise a session for a conference of the Royal Geographical Society

in London, which we are also moderating. Through this, we are gaining valuable experience for the future.

In our free time we used to go to the pub with our professor or met at one of the food markets to eat. I think life in London is exciting, but because it's so expensive most students don't live in the centre and have a long commute to uni.

When I have finished my PhD, I can definitely imagine going to London again, but I still don't know what job I would do then.



Sebastian Schlüter

Thanks to the Berlin Business Welcome Package, the founders of the British company Wellation Studios have had an easy start in Adlershof. They were able to test whether they wanted to settle with their company in Berlin with very favourable conditions.

■ The only thing Ashley Harris and Vishal Kawatra have to find fault with on this day in January is the winter. Severe frosts at night and temperatures below zero throughout the day that's not really their thing. "We're still getting used to the weather, but fortunately the gym here has a sauna," says the Englishman, Ashley. The Indian Vishal can only smile tensely – the current coldness will take him a little more getting used to.

It's lovely and warm in their office in the Innovation and Founder Centre (Innovations- und Gründerzentrum, IGZ) in Adlershof. They are both originally from London, but have lived and worked in the USA, Asia and various different countries

"The perfect place for us"

in Europe specialising in digital marketing. Ashley and Vishal see themselves as lucky to have worked for such well known companies as IBM, Adidas, Nike, MTV and Sony. They have also been part of some cool and innovative startups in the past.

Now they are founders themselves, calling themselves "co-founders" since they want equality in their partnership. Their company is called "Wellation Studios". They explain what is hiding behind this name using vocabulary from the IT and marketing industry: "our vision is to close the gap between content and e-commerce. We want to provide video marketing via various different platforms in order to better support consumers in their purchasing decisions."

It doesn't exactly create a storm when people like Ashley and Vishal set up in Berlin. The German capital is a favourite destination for young online companies in Europe. Ashley and Vishal appear to

be spurred on by this: "we believe that Berlin is one of the most exciting cities to live in and start a new company."

So what tipped the scales for Adlershof? The relevant reports on the Berlin founder scene mostly mention lofts in Friedrichshain or backyards in Neukölln or Wedding. "Right now, Adlershof is the perfect place for us. We have been here for two months and were very warmly welcomed by the IGZ team and WISTA-MANAGEMENT GMBH. They made it easy for us right from the word go, and since then have been supportive at all times. We quickly understood the opportunities and the potential of working in Germany's most modern technology park. For us, it's the best place to found a company. We're also very close to the students at Humboldt University. We hope to be able to work more closely with them soon."



ADLERSHOF ROUND TABLE



Has Berlin, which is said to have such an exciting flair, met Ashley and Vishal's expectations thus far? "There's so much culture and history to experience, so much entertainment and so many restaurants to try out. The people are friendly. Adlershof, on the other hand, is green, peaceful and relaxing. At the moment we have the best of both worlds. Adlershof is a little quiet for us in the evenings and at weekends, but that gives us the chance to get to know the centre of Berlin better." If the two founders decide to settle in Berlin, they will have to get used to the weather, for better or worse. That will only be half as bad as expected, because winter had gone again just a week after we met. *hm*

... with Jacqueline Leibik, who works with her husband Thomas to ensure that the researchers and entrepreneurs of Adlershof don't go to work on an empty stomach.

The two of them run Albert Speisenmanufaktur in the Centre for Photovoltaics and Renewable Energy (ZPV) which opened on 10 February, and the "Albert" café and bistro on Albert-Einstein-Straße.



Adlershof Journal:

■ *What is your favourite place in Adlershof?*

Jaqueline Leibik: I particularly like the foyer of the ZPV building with the impressive spiral staircase which really catches your eye.

■ *What do you do on your lunch break?*

I work of course – lunch time is when we do most of our business. Our team works every day to ensure that all of our guests are offered a relaxing lunch break with short waiting times and of course culinary enjoyment.

■ *What was your first experience of Adlershof?*

We used to live in Köpenick, so we watched the development of the technology park from the start. We took a closer look around the location itself four years ago. We were looking for premises for a subsidiary of our café in Schöneweide. In summer 2010 we opened the "Albert" in the health centre building.

■ *How do you get to work?*

We live on the south-eastern edge of Berlin, so we come by car.

■ *Can you name one thing that has most pleased you recently?*

Our son, who started school last summer. He is now able to read and write. Watching this developmental leap makes me really happy.

■ *...and one thing that most annoyed you?*

One irritation is the unsatisfactory parking situation at the technology park. As a result of the constant parking chaos in front of the two health centre buildings, we had a minor car accident at the end of January. We really hope that things become more relaxed when the planned car park is built at the Europa-Center this year.

■ *What is your next goal?*

Using Albert Speisenmanufaktur to make the canteen in the ZPV building the foremost and best break time location in and around Hittorf-Straße from 8 o'clock in the morning to 3 o'clock in the afternoon. We have 110 inside seats, and a further 100 outside seats for when the weather is nice. As a second mainstay, we also want to develop the catering line and provide catering for corporate events and conferences. Other ideas for the future are linked to the development of the new residential area on the campus, for example a Sunday brunch for students.

■ *What do you do in your spare time?*

Since we work together, the drama of catering sometimes spills over into our free time. When we intentionally switch off, though, we like to go for bike rides. Our favourite holiday destinations are in Asia. *sn*



Ethem Bozkurt in his recording studio Efendi Audio Solutions

Crafts for adults

Bruce Willis and Nicolas Cage are talking about running shoes? In the corridor in Johannisthal? Ethem Bozkurt doesn't believe his ears when he goes to get a coffee from the kitchen in that Johannisthal corridor. And he shouldn't. Because the voices belong to Manfred Lehmann and Martin Kessler – the German voices of the actors – who are in the building for a dubbing session. Bozkurt often has these types of listening experiences, because in his recording studio Efendi Audio Solutions the Hollywood stars (or at least their voices) pass the microphone around. Even Samuel L. Jackson – Engelbert von Nordhausen – has been to visit.

■ Ethem Bozkurt's studio is not very big. Three monitors stand in front of a specially made desk in and around which any number of technological devices are installed. Music players, amplifiers, computers, loudspeakers. From this desk, you can look through a window into the voiceover booth. This booth has a "swimming floor", reflection-proof walls and absorbers. In the middle there is a desk, a microphone and a stool, and in front of that a screen and the recording lamp. "You don't need anything else," says Bozkurt. A maximum of four people work here: the director, the cutter, the sound engineer and the speaker. When they are making the recordings, they ensure that the dialogue "fits with the mouth", the "lips match", so that the words correspond to the lip movements and that "it sounds technically clean". "It's basically crafts for adults," says Bozkurt, adding "speaking is a greater challenge than acting in front of a camera."

Johannisthal, which is directly adjacent to the technology park, has a long tradition of being a part of films. The former airfield needed a new role after the First World War and the Treaty of Versailles. The hangars became film studios, and Germany's first directing team made "Nosferatu", "Dr. Mabuse" and "Mother Krause's Journey to Happiness".

In the film studios, Wolfgang Staudte produced the first all-German film after the war, "Murderers Among Us", and the "Johannisthal Group" of the Deutsche Film-Aktiengesellschaft (DEFA) made "Jacob the Liar" – the only GDR production which was ever nominated for the Oscar for best foreign language film. From 1952, the DEFA dubbing studio was set up here, with more than 7,000 films and series being dubbed here in the years up to 1989. The area closed for the first time in 2004 after more than 85 years. As a part of the Kirch Group, dubbing in Johannisthal ceased operations. At that time, Ethem Bozkurt had just graduated as a sound engineer. Bozkurt comes from

Tool of voice actors:
Microphone in the Efendi Tonstudio



Plenty of technology for a good sound

a musical background. The band he formed with friends in 1992 was called "Kanacks with Brain". They were around for 15 years and wanted to polarise society and make rap music, but in Germany at least no label wanted to produce their music. So the band cleaned clinics in Istanbul. One record company dared to take on the experiment, and there were radio and television appearances. "But we didn't made any money from our music," says Bozkurt. What was left was an entry in the music lexicon in the protest culture section, the sample CD "Von Oi bis Turku" for use in schools and a love of sound and sound engineering. When the

band broke up, Ethem Bozkurt started studying to become a sound engineer.

One of his first stations in the "sound business" was the Berlin radio programme Metropol-FM, with many Turkish listeners and advertisers. Bozkurt produced audio advertisements for them in Turkish. They were a great success, as Bozkurt produced them in Istanbul. The number of Turkish speakers in Berlin is limited, so advertisements quickly sound very similar. Bozkurt sent his speakers – mostly well known Turkish actors – to the studio in Istanbul. Bozkurt still works for the programme regularly to this day,

but now that's only a small part of his work, which now includes audio book production, such as the audio book "Moldin the Sorcerer's Apprentice" which was awarded the radio play prize "Ohrkanus", music productions, sound editing for cartoon series such as "Batman", sound design for films and dubbing: such as the Scorsese documentary on George Harrison or the Baghdad Railway and the Fall of the Berlin Wall. The most varied of subjects can be found on the (sound) table here. "Dubbing creates," says Bozkurt with a smile. *rb*

The three finalists who were competing against one another on 13 February really were the academic elite. All three of them completed their dissertation in Adlershof in the past 18 months. In order to win the Adlershof Dissertation Prize, they had to present their results in a particularly understandable way in a short lecture.



Martin Hempel is researching high performance diode lasers at the MBI

Adlershof Dissertation Prize for Martin Hempel

■ Martin Hempel (30) is researching at the Max Born Institute (MBI) where he is currently a postdoc. In his dissertation, which was supervised by Thomas Elsässer, Director of the MBI and professor at the Humboldt University of Berlin (HU), the physicist looked at high performance diode lasers.

Hempel was particularly interested in Catastrophic Optical Damage (COD) in which the laser suddenly breaks down and is destroyed. As Hempel found out, this started with an alteration of the material, then there is a self-reinforcing process which leads to a local melting of the laser material at approximately 1,600°C. Secondary damage then completely destroys the laser. Using thermographic and spectroscopic methods, Hempel was able to follow the development of the defect. He developed a model which can reconstruct the defect process and identify weaknesses in the construction element.

On 13 February, Martin Hempel won over the jury and was announced the winner of the 2013 Dissertation Prize. Two other nominees also competed for the Adlershof Dissertation Prize, who had been

awarded annual by HU, the Initiative Community of Non-University Research Facilities in Adlershof (Initiativgemeinschaft Außeruniversitärer Forschungseinrichtungen in Adlershof e. V., IGAF) and WISTA-MANAGEMENT GMBH.

The chemist Nicole Welsch was supervised by Professor Matthias Ballauff of the Helmholtz Centre in Berlin and HU, and looked at synthetic colloidal microgels. She placed a soft polymer layer onto a solid polystyrene core, which reacts very sensitively to changes in the temperature, acidity or salt concentration. As a result of what Welsch calls "controllable features", the microgels are interesting for a number of applications. They can be used as question particles in biocatalysis, or for diagnostics in medicine.

In certain applications, the adsorption of proteins is to be prevented, in others it is to be induced in a targeted manner. Welsch was able to research the interactions between proteins and microgels using sensitive calorimetric and spectroscopic methods. She also developed a model which can be used to reliably describe the adsorption of proteins. The 29-year-old has been working as a

postdoc at the Georgia Institute of Technology since March 2013. She wants to return in 2015.

The dissertation by Jan-Carl Beucke (32), completed under the supervision of Professor Norbert Kathmann at the HU Institute of Psychology, dealt with patients with compulsive disorders suffering from troubling thoughts, such as whether they had turned the stove off. "Although the assumption has been made since the 1980s that patients with compulsive disorders had anomalies in specific, closed neurone circuits, previous research has only looked at how active the associated regions of the brains are," says Beucke. This is why the psychologist chose to look at how communication between the circuits near to the surface and those in the depths of the brain functions. Using functional magnetic resonance imaging, it was possible to show that the circuit areas in those patients showed abnormal links, not only within the circuits but also with far-reaching parts of the brain. *pj*

The metal workpieces which sit on the window sill in Björn Wedel's brand new office are not exhibitions pieces for his newly founded company Photonic Tools. Rather, they remind the 47-year-old of his successful past and of everything that is possible as the founder of a company. He dared to make a new start after 16 years with his companion and university friend Bernhard Lummer. Same industry, the latest technology and without the American investors, the operative involvement of whom in the jointly-founded company HIGHYAG was the reason for their exit.



Björn Wedel dared to make a new start

■ But the heads and computers of the two physics graduates are full of new ideas for products. Their company logo is a spanner which is working on a green laser beam and a lens. It symbolises the development of special laser tools which they want to use to make ultrashort pulse lasers more fit for use for industrial material processing.

Using lasers for this is nothing new. You can use them to bore holes, weld materials or cut them apart. "In the past few years, the development of ultrashort pulse lasers has advanced so much that we want to bring that into industrial applications too," says Wedel. The advantage of this laser technology is that the extremely high energies which are focused on a workpiece in very short laser pulses enable a higher level of flexibility in the materials to be processed – in addition to metals this also includes various different plastics and carbon fibre composites – and significantly greater precision, which also makes microprocessing possible. This means that, compared to the old company, the new company is also accessible to other industries, fields and applications, with Wedel wanting to target

both laser manufacturers and users from the semiconductor industry, manufacturers of electronic and solar modules and also the automobile industry.

One of the future products of Photonic Tools will be a laser beam guidance system for ultrashort pulse lasers which will bring the laser light to the workpiece without losing any of its excellent properties. Due to the high energies, special wave guides with the appropriate coupling and decoupling elements have to be used or developed. The second product area is modular laser processing heads in which optical components such as lenses and mirrors shape and guide the laser beam as needed for the application in question. According to Wedel, from a technological point of view this is a completely different calibre to the high-performance lasers which have been used to date.

"However, the development of the technology is only one aspect which will lead to success," emphasises Wedel. "The organisational framework conditions are

at least as important." First of all, the aim is to set up a medium sized, owner-managed company selling products which are tailored exactly to customer specifications. Within this company, Wedel is concentrating on technology, sales and marketing and Lummer is responsible for the finances and the other organisational areas of the company. With the diverse combination of laser technology, applied optics, engineering, precision engineering, electronics, control engineering and laser application, Photonic Tools wants to become an attractive employer. They have very consciously chosen Adlershof as a location. Here, Wedel and Lummer hope they will be able to achieve fruitful collaboration with the various research facilities and companies who are also actively working in the laser industry. Initial contacts have been made and the first employees found. "With a powerful team," Wedel is convinced, "we can rise to the technical challenges in just a few months." *ud*

(as at: 31.12.2013)

CITY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA

Area: 4.2 km²
Staff: 15,553
Enterprises: 996

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK

Enterprises: 459
Staff: 5,576
Non-University research institutions: 10
Employees: 1,786

HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY OF BERLIN

Science departments: 6
(Institutes of Chemistry, Geography,
Computer Sciences, Mathematics, Physics
and Psychology)
Employees: 1,056
Students: 8,438

MEDIA CITY

Enterprises: 140
Employees: 1,939
(including freelancer)

COMMERCIAL AREA

Enterprises: 380
Employees: 5,018

LANDSCAPE PARKLAND

Area: 66 ha



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