



Euroskills 2016 in Gothenburg 8 countries for “Agricultural mechanic” skill



Excellence, performance, endurance, preparation, stress, competition... That is what lived the 8 candidates before and during the 5th Euroskills competitions in Gothenburg, Sweden.

Mikhail Mesheryakov (18) from Russia, Anders Ebbekaer Pedersen (23) from Denmark, Maurice Bakker (23) from The Netherlands, Christian Hilpert (21) from Germany, Maurice Häner (23) from Switzerland, Thibaut Laboute (23) from France, Krisjanis Jurans (24) from Latvia, and Dominik Stauffer (23) from Austria, were the Europeans champions in their country that have brilliantly competed during 3 days on 5 assignments.

The tasks were based on 5 big themes : hydraulics, electronics, engines, reparation and setting in motion, mechanics, and on the following machines : tractors, scrappers, big balers, forestry machine and engines.

The 8 candidates were judged on theory, practice, but also on thought process, deductive reasoning, security, explanations in English.

They have been prepared and judged by the following experts : Valeriy Lyovin from Russia, Per Hedetoft from Denmark, August Musmann from Germany, Alexandre Cabrol from France, Janis Vitols from Latvia, Werner Seltenhammer from Austria, and of course by the Deputy chief expert Paul Sidler from Switzerland and the Chief expert Paul Dijkstra from The Netherlands.

Congratulations to all, and specially also for the medallists !

- **Gold : Anders Ebbekaer Pedersen from Denmark**
- **Silver : Christian Hilpert from Germany**
- **Bronze : Krisjanis Jurans from Latvia**

Thanks also to the 2 Swedish teachers on the stand, Lars Holm and Fredrik Jensen, who helped to bring the machines and to be present during the competition, and also to AXIMA, the Swedish company who brought the 3 tractors, 2 balers, 2 scrappers, the engines and the forestry machine !

The school was also responsible for the **'try-a-skill'** corner nearby the stand, where the young visitors could practice on simulators some agricultural works and enjoy a game before receiving information on the skills and the possible future careers.

Sweden were expecting 40 000 visitors, but more **75 000 visitors** attended this big event, coming mostly from the South part of Sweden and from some neighbour countries. It is a big success.

This is the way of promoting our jobs to the public and specially the schools visiting the competition. A lot of televisions from different countries were present, for example in France the 2 most important televisions TF1 and France 2 were present during all the competitions and will give reports that we will use later on.

Following programme

- At the end of the competition, the experts decided to change the name of the skill and to be more in phase with the Worlskills competition. "Agricultural mechanic" will become "Heavy vehicle technology" and will be based on a larger types of machines. It was already the case here with 2 scrappers and the forestry machines.
- The Chief expert and the Deputy Chief expert remain the same after the votes : Paul Dijkstra and Paul Sidler. Werner Seltenhammer is also ready to help for the future.
- Next competition in Budapest (September 26-28, 2018). Pal Kis and Viktor Medina, from Megfosz, were present 2 days on the competition and learned a lot for the following edition.
- The following one will be in Graz, Austria in 2020.