

**2011/2012**

## **Jonas – University of Applied Science Ulm/Bachelor Mechanical Engineering**

Being in good company with enthusiastic fans of Germany

After some thrilling tropical city nights at KL, I took the train to Bangi. Arriving there, I faced the blue high rise of GMI's headquarters "KompleksTeknologi 5" and the red towers of the students' hostel. For the next 6 months this outstanding place should give me a new home, a new job and new experience of life.

After a warm welcome from a lot of friendly faces, I met my supervisor Mr. Ahmad TajuddinKasim (Head of Section for Tool & Die) to develop my individual GMI training plan. As a student of Mechanical Engineering from University of Applied Sciences Ulm I was placed in the Production Technology department and grew into the field of die manufacturing.



My plan focused on the attainment of practical skills. This decision was brought by me, as I have already acquired the theoretical background in Germany. When sharing my thoughts, they said the following: "No problem, you can do the training on whatever you are interested in. You will design your own die and you will learn the manufacturing on all the machines". Therefore I started with the preparation of the CAD design of a progressive stamping die for the mass production of the self-designed "GMI key chain". Subsequently I did the manufacturing and finally the assembling of all the parts and the testing of the completed die.

While the project was running, I joined various classes at GMI. I stepped into new classes and was immediately introduced to all participants. Many times there were a lot of questions towards my life and how things are going in Germany. Moreover they usually surrounded me and took a new class photo. GMI lessons brought me advance in several subjects – for example I participated in FEM course and the classes of CNC milling and programming, CAD-CAM and EDM machining.

After three months I started with the manufacturing of the first die components. I worked e. g. on the lathe machine, NC/CNC, grinding, and wire cut machines. Moreover I did the hardening of my die plates and guide pillars in the hardening workshop. When the deadline of my project came closer it started to get busy, but there was always some time to go out for a short trip to the touristic places of the country, to KL or to a friend's house at the kampung/village.



During my whole time in Malaysia I travelled a lot and many times I was hanging out with friends and TTOs (lecturers) from GMI to play squash, badminton or futsal in the evenings. One weekend we tramped through the rainforest and had a swim at the jungle creek's waterfall.

During my time at GMI, I found many friends and good neighbours. I experienced nearly all facets of the *gayahidupmelayu* (Malaysian lifestyle), was part of the classes and a part of GMI. I got provided with a second home at GMI, it is my "rumah yang kedua di Malaysia". I went back to my home country as a German-Malaysian – had a pressed backpack full of presents... and a smile comes to my face when I'm now remembering these times.

Thank you friends and neighbours at GMI for the great time with you!