

## Press release

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02/05/2024

ID: 396

# Schoolchildren mastered the basics of future technologies in a robot-building and programming competition in Miskolc

Bosch organized the finals of the international FIRST LEGO League in Northern Hungary again this year

- Bosch supports the developers of the technologies of the future already at school age
- Bosch helped 11 school teams by taking over the entry fee, with the robots and laptops needed for programming
- The teams from four Miskolc schools made it to the national finals.

The regional finals of the FIRST LEGO League robot building and programming competition were held in Miskolc. At the competition held on February 3rd, teams of 9-16-year-olds built and programmed robots performing various tasks, and developed an innovative solution to a challenge that also affected them. Five hundred thousand young people from kindergarten to high school take part in the international competition held in more than a hundred countries each year. Competitors in the age groups all over the world have to solve the same tasks; this year the focus was on the role of natural sciences in art. 113 competitors from 16 schools participated in the regional finals in 16 teams.

### Solving real challenges in a playful way

Participants in the FIRST LEGO League competition can not only learn the basics of how robots work and how to program them, but also develop other skills such as cooperation and communication. They can solve real challenges in a playful way, experiment freely, while developing their creativity and critical thinking. At the competition, the jury awards not only the performance of tasks, but also the quality of teamwork and good intentions. "Young people are innovative and talented, extremely open to future solutions. At Bosch, we consider it natural to

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support the development of the school age group, to help them acquire skills that will enable them to be active shapers of the technologies of the future as adults. It always pays off to train replacements," said László Fükő, plant manager of Robert Bosch Power Tool Kft. in Miskolc.

The FIRST LEGO League is not only about developing and competing, as good results in the competition may also mean extra points during further education.

#### **Four teams made it to the finals**

From Saturday's competition, the teams Navigátor (Észak-Magyarországi Informatikai Management Nonprofit Ltd.), S-Team (Földes Ferenc Secondary Grammar School), Szentimre (Szent Imre Roman Catholic Elementary School and Kindergarten) and KANDÓ (Kandó Kálmán IT) made it to the finals in Hungary, which will be held at the end of February in Szigetszentmiklós. Those interested could follow the regional final in Miskolc on the spot, the organizers prepared a number of adventurous programs, the participants in the competition could, for example, do DIY, the little ones could play Duplo, while the older kids could make creations from LEGO Technic.

#### **Bosch supported the teams' preparation with robots, laptops, and a workshop**

The Bosch power tools plant in Miskolc not only undertook the organization of the final, but also supported the 11 teams participating in the competition. It took over the entry fee, the procurement of the LEGO sets necessary for the start, and the travel costs, as well as provided educational robots and laptops for programming to more institutions. A mentoring day was organized for teachers preparing young people, and the University of Miskolc was also involved in the preparation.

One of the core values of the Bosch group is talent management. The power tools plant in Miskolc participates in dual training, so vocational school students from Miskolc also study at the Bosch power tools plant, in jointly operated workshops. In addition, the company also welcomes young people to its internship program.

Robert Bosch Power Tool Elektromos Szerszámgyártó Kft. was founded in Miskolc in November 2001, and its role has been decisive not only within the company group, but also in the region. The company, which employs 4,000 associates, is engaged in the assembly of electric power tools, garden equipment and the corresponding batteries and eBike batteries, as well as the assembly of professional electric tools for woodworking. The company is one of the most important employers in the region and a strategic partner of numerous small and medium-sized enterprises in Hungary. Thanks to Bosch's outstanding, future-shaping innovations, the projects implemented here also promote the development of the region.

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## **Basic information:**

Bosch has been present in Hungary since 1898 with its products. After its re-establishment as a regional trading company in 1991, Bosch has grown into one of Hungary's largest foreign industrial employers with currently eight subsidiaries. In fiscal 2022 it had total net sales of 2.255 billion forints and consolidated sales to third parties on the Hungarian market of 314 billion forints. The Bosch Group in Hungary employs more than 18,300 associates (as of December 31, 2022). In addition to its manufacturing, commercial and development business, Bosch has a network of sales and service operations that covers the entire country.

The Bosch Group is a leading global supplier of technology and services. It employs roughly 421,000 associates worldwide (as of December 31, 2022). The company generated sales of 88.2 billion euros in 2022. Its operations are divided into four business sectors: Mobility Solutions, Industrial Technology, Consumer Goods, and Energy and Building Technology. As a leading IoT provider, Bosch offers innovative solutions for smart homes, Industry 4.0, and connected mobility. Bosch is pursuing a vision of mobility that is sustainable, safe, and exciting. It uses its expertise in sensor technology, software, and services, as well as its own IoT cloud, to offer its customers connected, cross-domain solutions from a single source. The Bosch Group's strategic objective is to facilitate connected living with products and solutions that either contain artificial intelligence (AI) or have been developed or manufactured with its help. Bosch improves quality of life worldwide with products and services that are innovative and spark enthusiasm. In short, Bosch creates technology that is "Invented for life." The Bosch Group comprises Robert Bosch GmbH and its roughly 470 subsidiary and regional companies in over 60 countries. Including sales and service partners, Bosch's global manufacturing, engineering, and sales network covers nearly every country in the world. The basis for the company's future growth is its innovative strength. At 136 locations across the globe, Bosch employs some 85,500 associates in research and development, of which nearly 44,000 are software engineers.

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