



“Explore the World of Minerals”

European minerals day 2011 – a big success for BKRI members!

The European Minerals Day 2011 provided an excellent opportunity for companies to show the general public the extraction activities and raise public understanding of the use and importance of minerals for daily life.

BKRI members planned and organised this day once again with great engagement, with a special focus on the youth. Information about career opportunities was also provided at this occasion.

The companies demonstrated how their operation activities were carried out following the principles of sustainable development, and how the extraction of minerals and biodiversity can go hand in hand and even may have a positive impact on local biodiversity. Overall, the feedback was very positive and the visitors clearly enjoyed discovering the world of minerals!

Blaubeuren - Omya GmbH organised a visit of the plant, the production facilities and the quarry and showed the company film. At the occasion of the EMD 2011, the public could also take part in an 11 km trail at the occasion of the 30th Action Field Day in Blaubeuren themed “To the white gold of the Alb - geology and use”. Leading alongside the Karst

phenomenon Blautopf, chalk rocks, caves, springs, creeks and marvellous lookout points. The quarry of Eduard Merkle offered the wanderer a good view of the different rock formations - an excellent point to give explanations on geology, raw materials and mining by scientists, company experts and regional authorities. Included was a visit of the prehistoric museum and at the end of the tour food and drinks were foreseen.

Diez / Hahnstätten - Schaefer Kalk invited students from regional schools to a trainee-Information Day at the local community center of Hahnstätten. Activities included the presentation of apprenticeships, chemical trials, a mobile training device, different workshops, and practical advice for job applications.

Effringen-Kirchen - Kalkwerk Istein invited pupils of a regional school on site.

Erwitte - Spenner Zement invited the public to an Open Day at the occasion of its 85th anniversary celebrations. Guided tours of the plant and quarry were organised and special activities took place for kids and their families.

Gambach - Quarzwerke also showed their engagement concerning environmental protection at the Quarzsandwerk in Gambach.



European Minerals Day 2011 welcomed more than 30.000 visitors to more than 200 events at 180 sites in 32 countries.

Overview of German events:
Total visitors: 5867
Open door days: 4
School/childrens' projects: 9

Themes: biodiversity, minerals extraction, careers, history

Partners: Gregor-Mendel-Gymnasium, Amberg, Landscape Architecture Bureau Blank, Freunde des Rieskratermuseums e.V., Bergbauverein Kamsdorf, Freiwillige Feuerwehr, Bemfsgenossenschaft, Dir. Händler, Gymnasium Am Kothen, Universität Bochum, Ziegel + Kalk Museum Flintsbach

Number of articles: 21
Web publications: 6

The European Minerals Day has been launched in 2007 as a biennial awareness raising and educational event. It aims to increase public understanding of the importance of minerals in daily life and promote biodiversity conservation and enhancement.

Participating companies organise events for their local communities - such as school projects or open days - while their European trade associations ensure the coordination, support and visibility at European level: IMA-Europe in partnership with CEMBU-REAU and UEPG. With the support of the European Commission, Members of European Parliament, EMCEF (trade union), EuroGeoSurveys, European Minerals Foundation, ELO, Association of Geologists, IUCN

www.mineralsday.eu



Harburg - Märker Kalk invited visitors to a guided plant tour, organized by the "Freunde des Rieskratermuseums".

Hirschau - Amberger Kaolinwerke Eduard Kick GmbH & Co. organised a launch event for a 1½-year long-term study on biology for students from the Gregor-Mendel-Gymnasium, Amberg. The target of the joint project "School and Industry – Research for biodiversity" is that a team of students map endangered pioneer species (fauna and flora) in a habitat with lean soil in the border area of an open pit mine of the Amberger Kaolinwerke. (link to video: <http://www.oberpfalz.tv/wsearch/schulprojekt-des-gmg-bei-den-amberger-kaolinwerken.html>)

Kamenz-Wiesa - Stephan Schmidt Meißen GmbH organised guided tours for school classes.

Kamsdorf - Großtagebau Kamsdorf organised an Open Quarry Day and officially inaugurated a new processing plant.

Landshut & Marl - IKO Minerals (S&B) organised guided plant tours accompanied by information desks, education videos and an entertainment program for children and adults. The visitors were shown the development of the raw material Bentonite up to the final product. Safety at the workplace was one of the main themes.



Neuss - OTAVI / S&B industrial minerals invited the neighbouring community to an open day event including a special children's programme. The children were invited to take part in a creative workshop. Under the guidance of a fine arts teacher, they created works of art using not only paints but also various minerals.

Menden-Oberrödinghausen - Rheinkalk organised walking tours in and around the Hönnetal quarry. Information on limestone, its processing into lime and also on plants and wildlife which have settled in the quarries were provided.

Mengerskirchen - Stephan Schmidt KG took pupils from a local school along on a guided tour through the underground mine and processing plant.

Moosburg / Isar - Süd-Chemie organised several activities for the local schools: Exhibition of Mining Equipment; Laboratory tour; Mini-train ride through the plant; Visit of the open cast mining; Product presentation.

Münzberg-Gambach - Quarzwerke offered a guided tour through the recultivated area with biologist Dr. Heybrock.

Regensburg - Walhalla Kalk offered guided quarry tours.

Rögatz - Cemex organised a

specialist conference on the topic "Sustainability in raw materials extraction".

Salz - The company Arno Witgert organised a school project with a theoretical part and a workshop concerning clay as a raw material. The 8 grade pupils worked with the clay and were very pleased to produce some 'souvenirs' by themselves.

Siershahn - Sibelco Deutschland GmbH, showed the historical development of clay coal mining from the past to the present at the "Tonbergbau-Museum Siershahn". A visit of the clay mine 'Hohewiese' was also on the programme.

Siershahn - Aloys Josef Müller GmbH&Co. KG held an Open Day in the Coal mine "Richard" near Wallmerod, explaining the development of clay to pupils and other interest groups.

Üxheim-Ahütte - Pupils of the 4. class of the bilingual school "Ecole de Gaulle-Adenauer" visited the plant of Kalkwerk-Natursteinwerke. BVK kindly is sponsored the bus.

Weitefeld - Calderys Deutschland organised an Open Day for schools and the public at the recultivated pit "Wilhem" to show its efforts for the protection of biodiversity. The visitors were taken on a guided tour through the pit to explore

the rich fauna and flora, while receiving expert explanations from biologists.

Winzer - The Ziegel + Kalk Museum Flintsbach exhibits BVK's "Touring Lime Exhibition" from April-October 2011.

Wülfrath-Rohdenhaus - Rheinkalk organised an Open Day at the Flindersbach plant with guided bus tours into the Rohdenhaus quarry. Geologists and mining specialists explained the formation process of the deposit 370m years ago and talked about the development of mining technology in the past 100 years.

Wuppertal - Kalkwerke Oetelshofen organised an Open Day on 14&15 May with guided tours, an art exhibition and several presentations on quarry activities and biodiversity: Nature and Quarry, Eagle-Owl-Project, Quarry-Action, The World of Stones, Inspirations for your Garden etc.