PRESS RELEASE /

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European Vocational Skills Week

SONAE PARTICIPATES IN EUROPEAN VOCATIONAL SKILLS WEEK AND PROMOTES EMPLOYABILITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

This action introduces 100 students in the 9th grade to the jobs of the future within distribution and logistics with a high employability rate.

Sonae, in partnership with the Lisbon School of Commerce (*Escola de Comércio de Lisboa*), will be promoting the advantages of vocational education and training among young people, holding a training session under the European Vocational Skills Week. This initiative will welcome 100 students in the 9th grade, introducing participants to the jobs of the future in the field of logistics and distribution, where there is a lack of qualified professionals.

Isabel Barros, director of Human Resources at Sonae MC, says: "Vocational education and training are key to develop quality professionals and contribute to strengthen the competitiveness of the country and its companies. Through this initiative we seek to emphasize vocational training as a smart choice for young people, as it develops their creative and innovative potential and betters their employability."

The Logistics courses developed by Sonae MC, in partnership with the Lisbon School of Commerce, present a high employability rate, as students who excel are invited to integrate its teams.

"Those students who work hard and invest in distribution and logistics as a career have in Sonae an employer that is ready to welcome them. We look for professionals in this area who can show team spirit, the ability to work and the will to continue to learn and innovate", added Isabel Barros.

Sonae is a multinational company managing a diversified portfolio of businesses in retail, financial services, technology, shopping centres and telecommunications. Present in over 70 countries, it reached a turnover of more than 5 billion euros by the end of 2015.
Find out more at www.sonae.pt

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The young students participating in this initiative, which will take place next 6 December at the Lisbon School of Commerce, will have the opportunity to take part in a simulation dynamics of a warehouse or supermarket environment.

About the European Vocational Skills Week

The European Vocational Skills Week is an initiative by the European Commission, to take place from 5 to 9 December 2016, seeking to improve the attractiveness and image of vocational education and training (VET), emphasizing a strong investment in the development of competencies and consequent quality jobs. This initiative will officially start with an opening event on 5 December in Brussels, with events taking place throughout the week in parallel at European, national, regional and local levels, and in other participating countries. Stakeholders taking part in the Week will have the opportunity to share examples of excellence in VET, as well as innovative teaching practices, successful vocational programmes that encourage apprenticeships, workplace learning, upskilling and reskilling, and of sustainable business-education partnerships.

Find out more at http://ec.europa.eu/social/VocationalSkillsWeek

About Sonae

Sonae is a multinational company managing a diversified portfolio of businesses in retail, financial services, technology, shopping centres and telecommunications. Present in over 80 countries, it reached a turnover of more than 5 billion euros by the end of 2015.

Find out more at www.sonae.pt

About Lisbon School of Commerce

The Lisbon School of Commerce is a renowned private vocational teaching institution, which provides courses in the field of Commerce, looking to create conditions for a successful completion of mandatory education and to reduce early school abandonment in Portugal. All while developing scientific and cultural knowledge paired with technical, practical and professional skills, which can guarantee a better integration of young people in the job market and also allow them to further their education.

Find out more at www.escolacomerciolisboa.pt