AGP Arbeitsgemeinschaft Partnerschaft in der Wirtschaft

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European Parliament, Brussels, 22.03.2012 Dr. Heinrich Beyer, General Manager

AGP German Association for Employee Financial Participation

- is the independent national association engaged in promoting all forms of employee financial involvement.
- is a non-profit organisation with more than 200 members small and medium sized as well as large-scale enterprises.
- is run by a board with representative of it's member corporations.
- is the centre of a network of corporations, institutions, associations, entrepreneurs, employee representatives, experts and consultants.
- is partner of several political institutions and associations.

- Promote the development of all forms of EFI, which includes profit sharing, gain sharing, and employee share ownership schemes.
- Facilitate the exchange of information and best practice among companies who operate employee financial involvement schemes.
- Encourage a tax and legislative environment which supports the development of EFP.
- Make representations to government, state agencies, social partners, European and international associations and other organisations for the promotion of EFP.
- Develop public awareness and understanding of employee financial involvement through the media and public meetings.

How we achieve our aims

- Engaging in research, analysis and formulating recommendations.
- Directing publicity to appropriate issues.
- Seeking to influence legislators, policy makers and opinion formers.
- Providing information including statistical data, news, trends and advice to members through publications and meetings.
- Providing a range of comprehensive services for IPSA members.

Employee Participation in Germany is a ...

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	managerial strategy	business finance concept			socio-economic aim
•	to increase operating efficiency	 which lead more equilation capital a cost flex 	uity nd	•	to support employee asset formation and participation at economic growth
•	by participative corporate management and leadership	 by profit and emp financial participa 	loyee	•	by fiscal incentives and public promotion

Employee Participation – Scheme of the AGP

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EFP - Different aspects

large scale corporations / listed companies	family owned companies / SMEs / LLCs /
company shares with voting and decision rights	silent partnership / dividend certificates without decision rights
additional (monetary) benefits	monetary and non-monetary incentives to encourage employee engagement
to influence share owner structure	work floor participation and cooperative leadership
agreement with works council / employee representatives	entrepreneurial strategy / element of corporate culture

EFP - Dissemination in Germany

Employee Shares	Large scale corporations / listed companies SA/AG	1.2 Mio. employees 700 companies
Silent Partnership / Dividend Certificates	SMEs / LLcs / family owned companies	1.0 Mio. employees 3.500 companies
TOTAL		2.2 Mio. employees 4.200 companies

EFP - Dissemination in Germany

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German Employment Agency / Study, 2011

	Profit Sharing	Share Ownership
1-49 employees	8 %	2 %
50-500 employees	25 %	4 %
> 500 employees	34 %	7 %

Promotion of EFP in Germany

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• Asset Formation Law:

Employee contribution: up to 400 € per year

- Saving Subsidy:
 20 % (80 €)
- up to income level:
 20.000 € / 40.000 €

• Tax Law:

Employers contribution 360 € per year (free of taxes and social contributions) or Employee contribution 360 € per year (free of taxes)

- to be invested into the "own" company
- to be invested into employee ownership funds (do not exist !)

Why don't we find more EFP in Germany?

- lack of information in small und medium sized companies
- only poor tax incentives
- competition to social security system
- distance of trade unions and employers associations
- family companies with unsuitable legal structures
- prejudices of entrepreneurs with regard to an attenuation of property and decision rights

Contact

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