



Summary

Legal basis: The Braunschweig-Lüneburg-Stade Chamber of Crafts was created in 2009 through the merger of the Braunschweig and Lüneburg-Stade chambers, which were both founded in 1900. In accordance with § 90 of the Crafts Ordinance, the Chamber of Crafts was formed as a public corporation. The members are workshop owners, or owners of similar businesses, their employees who have completed their apprenticeship, and their apprentices. The chamber takes the form of a self-governing body; employers and employees make decisions jointly regarding the range of services and how these will be financed.

Management structure: The general assembly elects the board and the committees, and determines the administrative budget and the capital budget as well as the membership subscription and fees. The board is responsible for the administration of the chamber. The CEO is responsible for the day to day administration, in this respect the CEO represents the Chamber of Crafts. For specific regular tasks or interim tasks there are committees. The chamber is represented judicially and extra-judicially by the president and the CEO.

Significance of the number of members and the chamber region: The Braunschweig-Lüneburg-Stade Chamber of Crafts has 27,684 members (31.12.2017) making it the largest Chamber of Crafts in North Germany and the tenth largest of the 53 Chambers of Crafts in Germany. The chamber covers a region which is 20,575 km², this includes 16 districts and three urban districts which are almost equal to the size of Israel. In terms of area, this is Germany's largest Chamber of Crafts. The 160,000 employees in the craft businesses in the chamber region generate an annual turnover of approx. €14.8 billion.

Duties of the Chamber of Crafts in accordance with § 91 of the Crafts Ordinance (extracts):

- Promotion of the interest of crafts and balancing the interests in the craft industry
- Information and support from the authorities regarding issues about crafts.
- Administration of the register of qualified craftsmen and the register of apprentices
- Regulation and monitoring of vocational training including testing
- Promotion of the technical and business training for Master Craftsman and assistants to preserve and maintain the performance of employees in the craft industry
- Appointment of surveyors to assess goods, services and rates of craftsmen
- Formation of arbitration boards for disputes between craftsmen and clients

President: Master Chimney Sweep Detlef Bade, Braunschweig

CEO: Diplom-Kaufmann Eckhard Sudmeyer

Committees: Vocational education committee, business development committee, budget and finance committee, audit committee, construction committee, Master Craftsman examination committee, apprenticeship examinations committee

Locations and educational institutions:

- Head Office in Braunschweig and Lüneburg
- Technology centres in Braunschweig, Lüneburg, and Stade, stone masons centre in Königslutter, proficiency centre for commercial vehicles and agricultural machinery in Lüneburg, proficiency centre for innovative building services in Stade, practical centre for design and creativity in Lüneburg

Range of services: Vocational education, state duties, business support, lobby

Service provider: Around 1,500 people, of which 700 are volunteers, approx. 370 employees, 200 honorary lecturers, approx. 210 surveyors

Register of qualified craftsmen (31.12.2017, figures from the previous year and change compared to the previous year in brackets):

Total number of businesses:	27,684 (27,853; -169 = -0.6 %)
■ of which Appendix A:	16,400 (16,653; -253 = -1.5 %)
■ of which Appendix B1:	6,084 (5,988; +96 = +1.6 %)
■ of which Appendix B2:	5,200 (5,212; -12 = -0.2 %)

Register of apprentices (31.12.2017, figures from the previous year and change compared to the previous year in brackets):

Training companies:	5,427 (5,395; 32 = +0.6 %)
Total number of apprentices:	14,657 (14,575; +82 = +0.6 %), female 2,934 = 20 %
New apprenticeships:	5,459 (5,397; +62 = +1.1 %)

Administration of examinations 2017:

Apprenticeship/final examinations:	4,068
Master Craftsman examination:	1,572 continual assessments including re-examination
New Master Craftsmen in 2017:	349 (451 in the previous year)
Further education examinations:	661

Legal supervision (01.01.2018): 8 district craftsman associations and 216 guilds

Surveyors sector: 204 sworn surveyors in 44 trades in 2017

Arbitration: Approx. 340 general conciliation proceedings and 77 matters of arbitration pertaining to vehicles in 2017

Technology Centres: The chamber carries out the Industry wide Vocational Training in 24 trades as a supplement to the in house training. The scope of the training during the entire training period varies from three to twelve weeks (120 to 480 hours). For the building trade it is up to 32 weeks (1,280 hours). Overnight accommodation is offered in guest houses belonging to the chamber or in external facilities. Full time and part time preparatory work for the Master Craftsman examination is offered at the chamber for 15 trades.

Capacity and performance 2017	Total	Technology Centres Braunschweig	Technology Centres Königslutter	Technology Centres Lüneburg	Technology Centres Stade
Workshops	100	28	4	40	28
with employment	1,385	400	60	583	342
Classrooms	52	10	3	16	23
with places	995	190	63	386	356
Guest rooms	199	0	45	81	73
with beds	447	0	89	213	145
with recorded overnight stays	56,024	0	7,021	28,156	20,847
Industry wide Vocational Training Courses	2,257	607	105	764	781
with participants	23,339	6,216	945	8,061	8,117
Preparatory courses for the Master Craftsman examination	36	10	4	15	7
with participants	543	135	35	242	131
Education and training courses	310	85	1	159	65
with participants	2,951	866	5	1,504	576
Career guidance	5	2	0	1	2
with participants	778	211	0	230	337
Refugee integration	22	8	0	7	7
with participants	201	69	0	40	92
MobiPro EU	1	1	0	0	0
with participants	9	9	0	0	0
Total number of courses and activities using in-house training centres	2,631	713	110	946	862
with participants	27,821	7,506	985	10,077	9,253
Turnover	€18.5m	€4.9m	€1.2m	€7.1m	€5.3m

Business support 2017: 1,009 individual proceedings, 65 roadshows with 1,585 participants together with 26 seminars and courses with 212 participants.