

challenges *in purchasing*



1. What Shall We Do With ...

Tochterfirma

SPEEDWAY AM is a subsidiary of Speedway International Inc. of Nashville, Tennessee. In their plant in Hensington, Albitania, SPEEDWAY manufactures and markets two types of battery-driven electric vehicles: short-range delivery vehicles and one-person cars for disabled people.

behinderte

The vehicle bodies are manufactured in SPEEDWAY's own factory, whereas all other components including electric motors, batteries and wheels are bought to two months' stock and assembled in the factory.

montiert

unterbesetzt

SPEEDWAY employ 650 people, and in the last few years, they have been permanently short-staffed, as business is going well - demand for electric vehicles has noticeably increased. Due to the structure of their business, they require well-qualified staff on the shopfloor as well as in the sales and purchasing department.

Nachfrage / bemerkenswert
gestiegen / wegen

benötigen / in der Produktion

eingestellt

Nick West is the Head of Purchasing, and he has just taken on two new assistants to support the department: Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman. They have been working for SPEEDWAY for a bit more than a week now.

unterstützen

... arbeiten für Sp.

... seit

NICK

Überblick

Hi, Nicole, hi, Tom. How are things going? Have you been able to get a first overview by now?

TOM

Lieferanten / Einblick

Good morning, Nick. Yes, we have, thank you. Nicole and I were introduced to some suppliers and got an insight into some of the main contracts. The other colleagues have been very helpful.

NICOLE

Yes, it has been very interesting. Everybody is positive and I hope that we can help to reduce their workloads!

Suddenly, Nick's phone rings.

NICK

Excuse me, I'll just answer the phone.
 Nick West speaking. Oh, hallo Albert. Oh yeah, we had a really good time up the mountain. Yeah, nice of you to take us up, nice of you. Erm... I know what I wanted to ask you. Have you had any dealings with FullPower?
 Uhuh, oh, that can't be true. FullPower Batteries? Yeah, but they've been doing really well Well, if you got this from him, I guess.... errr I guess there must be some truth in it..... Yeah, we ... we kind of depend on them, they've been supplying us for quite a long time now. No, they're our ... er ... sole suppliers. Hmmm. Well, thanks for the tip. I'll ... I'll get my new assistants to investigate. sure. Nice talking to you. Bye, Albert.

hängen von ihnen ab / beliefern

einziges
 untersuchen

schockiert

A little startled, Nick turns to Nicole and Tom.

Verhältnis
 wir arbeiten
 ... seit vielen Jahren

Well, it seems as if I've got something for you. You may know already that we have built up a good relationship with most of our suppliers. We have been working with most of them for many years. FullPower Batteries is one of them. They seem to have problems - maybe it's just rumour, but we'd better make sure. See what you can find out about them, will you?

Gerüchte / wir gehen besser sicher

NICOLE

teilnehmen an

Sure. There's a meeting we have to attend at 10, but then we can deal with that, if you agree.

NICK

Certainly. Maybe you will find something by... let's say, after lunch, in the afternoon?

TOM

We'll do our very best, Nick! Let's just hope there won't be any delivery problems.

NICK

ich will Sie nicht aufhalten

Exactly. Well then, I don't want to keep you... See you later!

After Nicole and Tom attended their meeting, they flip through some newspapers and magazines and search the internet for news and information on FullPower Batteries. Suddenly, Tom turns to Nicole.