



Please insert here at least one **PHOTO** of your traineeship stay abroad! Preferred motives are photos of your accommodation, of your work place, of being at work. Attention! Due to legal considerations we kindly ask you to send us only photos that have been taken by yourself!

STUDENT DETAILS

University department / faculty: **FWW**

Field of study: **FINANCIAL ECONOMICS**

Home university: **Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg**

Surname, Name
(optional field): ---

Nationality: **Romanian**

E-Mail (optional field): ---

Duration of traineeship (from ...to...): **From 23/08/2018 to 22/08/2018**

TRAINEESHIP INSTITUTION

Country: **France**

Name of traineeship institution: **Decathlon SA**

Web page: **www.decathlon.fr**

Address: **Rue Marcel Hénaux, 59000 Lille, France**

Contact person: **Rohit PRAKASH**

Telephone / E-Mail: **+33 7 60 04 75 62**

EXPERIENCE REPORT (approx. 3 pages + more photos if applicable)

1) Traineeship institution

Please give a brief description of your host traineeship institution.

Decathlon is a sports apparel company. It is both a merchandiser and a manufacturer. Decathlon focuses on each sports in particular and has the so called "Passion Brands." Each Passion Brand is linked to one type of sports. The vision of Decathlon is to bring sports apparel to anyone providing the lowest price.

2) Searching for a traineeship

How did you find your traineeship? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

I found my internship through a friend. Decathlon is a private company. One cannot see its offerings online.

3) Preparation

How did you prepare for your traineeship in terms of language, intercultural, professional and organisational aspects? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

I did not prepare much. The intercultural aspects are a little bit different from German ones but nevertheless it was very easy to adjust. I do not speak much french but you can always find someone who can speak a little english. Tip: If you plan to stay in France you can begin learning the language during your traineeship period, after all it is a new and advantageous language.

4) Accommodation

How did you find your accommodation? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

My sister lives in Lille. I did not have any problems with accomodation whatsoever. For people who are just embarking on a new traineeship to France, I recommend www.leboncoin.fr. It resembles ebay.kleinanzeigen.de but for searching a place to live it looks like wg.gesucht.de.

Many landlords require a "garant"(in case you cannot pay, the garant will be credited) if you plan to stay for at least one year.

5) Traineeship

Please describe the tasks and / or the projects carried out during your traineeship. In which way were you mentored and integrated? How were the working conditions? Did you have especially positive or negative experiences?

I was responsible for the Payment on Time to South Asia suppliers. First two months I, together with my teammates, was responsible for the POT to numeruous suppliers. Frankly, it is a rather tedious job. It does not require much technical and accounting skills. After the period of two months I started to ask for new supplementary tasks and in the end was given the the Genaral Expenses of China and Taiwan, management of the invoices of Turkey production country and Romania.

The working conditions were great. You do not feel pushed and you have a wide autonomy in terms of tasks. You are always welcomed to bring new ideas, and if they are good you can implement them easily.

6) Acquired Qualifications

Which qualifications and skills could you acquire or improve during your traineeship?

If you play your cards right and ask the right questions you can always find out something new in terms of accounting, management or tax and bank procedures. One can aquire plentiful information as everyone will be happy to answer a genuine question. Although there is a constraint, If one does not put into practice the theoretical procedures from asking you can never be guaranteed that you will retain that piece of information for a long time. It is usually forgotten.

7) National legal regulations concerning traineeships

Are there any specific traineeship regulations in the target country that affected you as an Erasmus trainee (e.g. France: housing allowance, convention de stage)? If yes, which ones? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

For France one requires a convention de stage. Usually, in France, it is issued by the UNI for both voluntary and mandatory internships. In Germany not. For a mandatory intership, the UNI will of course have this document. But for the voluntary/diploma supplement internship the univeristy will not provide this document. This is where Erasmus office helps you. Make sure that it is a voluntary internship. If your faculty does not provide a mandatory internship then you should make sure with the receiving company that the internship is purely voluntary. Once you have the approval, go to the Erasmus office of the uni. The people are super nice and they will guide you in your journey. Pretty straightforward.

8) Visa, residence and work permit (mainly for international students)

Which prearrangements did you have to make in terms of visa, residence and work permit? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

Unfortunately, I have a European citizenship and I cannot provide any information for this part. In case you have an EU passport nothing in terms of Visa is hindering you from going

9) Other

Is there anything else you want to let other students know?

You can subscribe to "Lille : location d'appart, échange, colocation !" page in case you would like more offers on apartments and WG-rooms.

10) Conclusion

What is the conclusion drawn after your traineeship experience abroad?

I liked it very much. I got to have my first experience in accounting, I was offered a new job as a Junior accountant, and also I live in the city my sister lives.

Please send this report by email to julia.schubert@ovgu.de!
Acceptable file formats: [.doc], [.docx], [.rtf], [.odt].