

American Friends of Arts & Metiers ParisTech
Attn: Benhamou Global Ventures, LLC
540 Cowper Street, Suite 200
Palo Alto, CA 94301-18069



Dear ParisTech Arts & Metiers,

I hereby, Alan Miny, give my full authorization to publish the content of this letter on your website in recognessence of the financial support that you have provided me with.

Full Name: Alan Miny

Date: 10/22/2010

Signature:

1. Name of student, background, professional aspirations

I am Alan MINY, a French student at Arts et Metiers ParisTech, Lille, where I finished my first two years. I will be next year in Paris, PA13, to finish my degree.

I plan to attend IFP School after I graduate from Arts et Metiers ParisTech as I plan to work in the Oil & Gas (O&G) industry. What I have in mind now, is to start as a field engineer in an O&G company or in a oilfield services company (such as Schlumberger where I am an intern now) my real aim is to work off-shore, I then would like to climb in the company to deal with issues and projects which require more of an overview of the O&G industry, or even energy industry, maybe strategy. There will be hundreds of opportunity, so it's no point trying to be more precise right now.

2. Please tell us how you were able to get your internship, and the date and length of your stay.

My aim doing a P2I (international and industrial project) was to enter the O&G industry which organization is very complicated until you actually are in. I though looked for positions in several companies such as TransOcean which operates off-shore platforms, Total which activity is too vast to describe, Schlumberger which is an oilfield services company and others.

I was often checking the AFAM website looking for a backup plan if I couldn't have a position in the oil sector. I was thrilled when I saw the Schlumberger offer on their website. I applied and was selected. I truly thank AFAM for making this experience available to me.

My internship started July 26th because of delays with the J-1 visa, and will end January 28th, which is 6 month total and enables me to have a real project to take care about.

3. Please tell us the company or university where you interned and the objective of your internship and why you were excited to work there.

I am right now a mechanical engineer intern at Schlumberger, Houston Conveyance Services in Sugar Land (20miles southwest from Houston). The Sugar Land campus is a Tech Center, it "develops and manufactures products to help customers find and produce hydrocarbons more effectively" see www.slb.com

Schlumberger's activity is huge, and my 3 month experience so far provides me an insight which is not enough to explain it to you. I would only say that our main mission is to provide information to help improve Oil production.

I am working in the Tractors team. We develop and manufacture systems to give motion to tools that are put in oilwells. Basically, in non vertical wells, tools are no longer moved by earth gravity, so we provide them add-ons to move by themselves.

One of our solutions is to add a motor, linked to wheels by gearboxes. The wheels are on the well bore and make the tools move, like a car on the road. My main mission is to create, produce and test a break-in machine for gearboxes. I also created manufacturing procedures and helped in calculations for CE certification for new tools.

This position is really exciting as the company trusts interns and gives them useful missions. Mine addresses an answer to troubles discovered in the lab where tests are conducted 20m from my office, and is a step to improve reliability and quality Schlumberger is committed to. Even if I receive support from other engineers, I am responsible for the success of the mission. It gives you responsible behavior, some pressure, but will be truly rewarding if it ends being successful.

Another really interesting here is the multitude of backgrounds of colleagues. As Schlumberger is worldwide, teams are made of very different people. This aspect is even truer as engineers have very different education, and as we are close to labs and assembly lines colleagues. One of the persons I more admire here is a worker. Inspiration might come from where you didn't expect. This is very stimulating.

Last but not least, I was glad to come to the United States as people here have a high level of professionalism.

4. Please tell us how you used the funds provided by American Friends of Arts et Metiers

As Schlumberger takes good care of interns, I didn't need AFAM funds.

5. Please summarize your internship, how you achieved the company/university's objectives (1 paragraph, 5 lines), as well as your own personal goals and lessons from this experience (1 paragraph, 5 lines), and finally how this impacted your professional aspirations (1 paragraph, 5 lines).

My first hour in the company was a design review meeting, I didn't even know my boss who was conducting the meeting, the second hour was touring the building with my boss and the third was starting the project. Dive into the job and do your best!

The first step of my mission was to find and get used to all the thoughts that had been given to this projects by a former intern and my boss.

The second was to have a critical look at what had been done. What was good, what could be improved. The device I have to create will be used in a manufacturing company, so it needs to be easy to use and reliable.

I think this is where our Arts et Metiers education was the most valuable: being able to look at a solution, and understand what is easy to use, convenient or not.

The third step was thinking to and designing technical solutions to achieve the goal.

Fourth was making manufacturing drawings

Fifth is to produce the device. This is my next step.

Testing, improving and setting documents will follow.

I am only half way to my internship, but so far, I think the most valuable lesson learnt is industry thinking: changing my time scale, thinking quality, doing right the first time, setting everything clear to minimize work next time we want to do the same thing, keeping in mind we are not building a onetime prototype but a reliable and easy to manufacture product, producing documents that are self understandable and not requiring author's explanations.

I think this experience is definitely strengthening my will to work in the O&G industry. It gives me the opportunity to understand how actors are related, who does what, and to know where my strengths will most fit.

It also gives me trust in Arts et Metiers education and reinforces my will to build solid and durable technical knowledge which will be strong foundation to support limitless team projects.

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