

Dear ParisTech Arts & Metiers,

I hereby, Olivier Desbenoit, 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: Olivier Desbenoit

Date: 10/26/2010

Signature:



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1. Name of student, background, professional aspirations (1 paragraph, 5 lines)

My name is Olivier Desbenoit. After being graduated of High School (Baccalaureat in French), I went to the French Preparatory classes (intensive courses in Maths, Physics and Technology) in order to pass the competitive exam of French Engineering schools. I started my studies at Arts et Metiers ParisTech in 2008, in Cluny (in the South of the Burgundy Vineyard). As I am fond of aviation, I'm looking for a position in aeronautical industry, in production or manufacturing engineering.

2. Please tell us how you were able to get your internship, and the date and length of your stay (1 paragraph, 5 lines)

I got my internship thanks to another Arts et Metiers student. We talked about the opportunity to do a 6 months internship, between fourth and fifth year, in the end of my third year. As he was an intern in the company, I sent him my application (resume and cover letter, both in French and English). He gave them to the deputy director of the Manufacturing Engineering Department. In early December 2009, they contacted me for an interview and in late January 2010, I eventually got a 6 months internship between June and December 2010.

3. Please tell us the company or university where you interned and the objective of your internship (1 paragraph, 10 lines), and why you were excited to work there. (1 paragraph, 10 lines)

I was an intern at Dassault Falcon Jet, in Little Rock, AR. The facility of Little Rock is in charge of the completion of Falcon aircrafts (F2000, F900 and F7X). Falcons come "green" from France, which means empty and not painted. Falcon Jet do the Paint and install all the interior depending on costumer specifications, in order to deliver the airplane. Furthermore of installation in aircrafts, Falcon Jet is making cabinets from raw panels to a complete cabinet ready to be installed in the aircraft. I worked for the manufacturing engineering department, in a team dedicated to Cabinet Installation Improvement. The objective of my internship was to be the link between production and engineering. I was in charge of finding solutions to production issues and have them used by Engineering for future aircrafts. The objective is to reduce the time spent on each aircraft and to improve quality of completion.

As I have already said, I am a big fan of aviation, so working for a company like Dassault Falcon Jet, which is building upper market private jets, was really a great opportunity. For me it was an occasion to get close and to take part of the production of airplanes I like to see flying. Moreover, I was interested in having a work experience in the US to learn more about their way of life, at work and in their every life. I worked during summers in different companies, but always in France and I was wandering to see the difference with an American facility. This internship was also the occasion to learn a lot about American culture by talking with Americans and sharing their life for 6 months.

4. Please tell us how you used the funds provided by American Friends of Arts et Metiers (1 paragraph, 5 lines)

As I received the grant after my arrival in the US, I used it to reimburse my parents for the money they lent me to pay for my Visa. This was very helpful because going to the US for an internship makes you spend a lot, before your first paycheck : Visa, finding a place to live, buying a car, etc ...

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).

American Friends of Arts & Metiers ParisTech  
Attn: Benhamou Global Ventures, LLC  
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I used the first week of my internship to get used to the company: be familiar with company's organization, know who I can contact for help, what the company was waiting from me, etc ...My first project was to write some instructions for the production of cabinets. This project was a very good first project because it involved going to all departments and helped me know the company. After this I had three different projects at the same time: standardize a part, settle a control process for production and find solutions to recurring issues. I had to organize myself and always find root cause of every thing in order to come with a usable solution.

During my internship I worked in English and hung out with Americans. This was very interesting because now I'm able to see the difference with France and I could be useful in my carrier if I'll have to work with Americans. My only regret is that there were a lot of French people in my department and I think I could have improve my English a lot more if I worked only with Americans. My advice to future interns would be to find American roommates.

To concluded, this internship was a great experience and I learnt a lot. Now I am thinking about coming back for my PJE (end of study project) and even start my carrier in the US. In fact, I really like the American way of life and I can see more opportunities here than in France in aviation field.