



New church tower in Delft city center (View from my room terrace)

STUDENT DETAILS

University department / faculty:	Faculty of process and systems engineering
Field of study:	Chemical and Energy Engineering
Home university:	Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg
Nationality:	Indian
Duration of traineeship (<i>from ...to...</i>):	01/06/2019 to 30/04/2020

TRAINEESHIP INSTITUTION

Country:	Netherlands
Name of traineeship institution:	TNO
Web page:	https://www.tno.nl/en/focus-areas/energy-transition/expertise/sustainable-process-energy-systems/
Address:	Leeghwaterstraat 44, NL-2628 CA, Delft,
Contact person:	Dr. Anca Anastasopol
Telephone / E-Mail:	anca.anastasopol@tno.nl

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

1) Traineeship institution

Please give a brief description of your host traineeship institution.

SPES (sustainable process and energy systems) TNO, Delft is one of the esteemed research institutes of not only Netherlands but whole world. It focuses mainly of energy storage and conversion process technologies. It works on innovation, upscaling and commercializing technologies.

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 this traineeship while searching for internship online, they had posted several open position on their career page for students. Out of these positions, one was related to my field of study and past working experience. TNO career link: <https://www.tno.nl/en/career/vacancies/>

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?

My working language there was English in which I am already fluent, hence, I did not prepare myself for any language prior my traineeship. However, I had to prepare myself for the topic of my traineeship, for that I educated myself by reading the scientific research paper related to topic.

4) Accommodation

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

I found accommodation by searching online on facebook student accommodation pages. I had tried several accommodation websites such as Kamernet, but it did not work for me as there is less supply than demand. So, I recommended finding accommodation on facebook page of local university student unions.

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?

My topic was to develop proof of principle for integrating CO₂ capture and electrochemical CO₂ conversion at lab scale. I started with literature survey of both technologies, then I screened different materials for their compatibility and later studied influence of varying operational conditions on promoting material.

I really had pleasant experience during my tenure. My colleagues and supervisor were really friendly and supportive. I was allowed to work individually and given necessary freedom to work on my own.

6) Acquired qualifications

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

I have learnt about new technologies of CO₂ capture and basics of electrochemistry. I also gained laboratory working experience. I also developed presentation skills as I had to present my work biweekly to whole team.

7) Country-specific features

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?

Not to my knowledge.

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

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

I needed Dutch visa and working permit to carry out my traineeship. HR department of my receiving organization had applied on my behalf for that. It took almost one month to finish all the process, hence, I would recommend to apply as early as possible.

9) Other

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

I would like to inform students that a lot of administration process is involved in abroad traineeship, especially, when a student is a non-EU citizen, thus, promptness and patience are two main keys. Moreover while

searching accommodation, one should be cautious and never trust anybody as there are lots of scammers online. To not fall prey to this, students should ask to HR or their contact person of host company to help.

10) Conclusion

What is the conclusion drawn after your traineeship experience abroad?

I have really enjoyed my traineeship period in Netherland as I got to learn a lot from my colleagues, technical projects, group discussions and cultural gatherings. I did not only gain technical knowledge but I experienced a whole new Dutch culture and life style. I am glad that I chose to pursue an internship abroad as it has helped me to know about new culture, country and make new friends.

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