

< Summer School Programme >

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The Air Liquide Summer School 2013 is really a very rare and enriching experience for interns like us. Through our 5 days experience at the Paris Headquarters, we have been exposed to many valuable insights that were never before made known to us. We received many detailed and beneficial presentations from many of the WBL management committee. Each sector of the Air Liquide Group such as the Engineering & Construction, Electronics, Healthcare, Large Industries & Industrial Merchant have also each sent representatives to give the interns a brief insight about their respective sector.

Highlights of Summer School Programme

Besides having the presentations, we were also being brought around the different Air Liquide sites such as the Blanc Mesnil site and the CRCO research centre which opened our eyes to things that Air Liquide has been and will continue to do. The tour around the Shareholder's Room also teaches us how Air Liquide attracts the public to invest in Air Liquide and be part of its current size of 400000 stakeholders worldwide.

One other highlight of the Summer School was the introduction of the Business case project whereby the 20 interns from 15 different nations were being divided into 4 different groups to work on 2 different type of business case. The aim is for us to utilise our knowledge of our own nations and the understanding of Air Liquide's expertise to help brainstorm and come up with solutions or innovative ideas for the current problems that Air Liquide is facing.

The Business Case

The first case is a technical project known as “Frugal Innovation”. What this project encompasses is for us to come up with innovative ideas through frugal means and discover a whole new market where Air Liquide can venture into. By using Air Liquide’s expertise and the innovative idea that we have come up with, try to solve a real world problem that one of our home nation is currently facing. For the second case, it is a business case known as “The Digital Workplace”. The problem faced here is that despite the use of Social Media being rampant in the modern society, Air Liquide is still unable to achieve the desired beneficial effects that it had targeted to. Thus, our goal is to try to think of feasible ideas to aid Air Liquide in developing its presence on public social media.



So for my group, I was lucky to be able to work with a girl from Poland, a girl from Turkey, a guy from Taiwan and Wilson who is also from Singapore and our project was on the “Frugal Innovation”. For the next 4 days at Air Liquide Headquarters, we gathered and brainstormed for ideas before working together for our project. Finally, we manage to come up with our presentation which was showcased on the final day at the headquarters and thanks to our relentless efforts in trying to perfect our project, the presentation rendered good feedbacks.



The Summer School was then ended with evaluations and feedbacks on our projects by the judges and also guest speeches by 3 successful Air Liquide Personnel whom shared with us their experiences of working in Air Liquide. This is very beneficial to us as everyone is interested to know the interesting experiences and difficulties that were faced by each of the speakers. Last but not least, a farewell buffet lunch was also arranged for us and we enjoyed the delicious feast alongside the speakers who were always ready to answer any doubts that we have.

Personal Thoughts



Personally, I am very thankful to SOXAL for bestowing me this opportunity to travel to Paris and have a visit at Air Liquide's Headquarters. It is truly and eye opener to get to see and know the different kind of businesses that Air Liquide is currently in and will be heading towards next. The tour around the research centre was also very exclusive and beneficial which allow us to see things that we will not otherwise get to see. Through this summer school program, we were also able to interact and work with people from other nations, thereby understanding more about their culture. The friendships made and the knowledge gained through this program is something that we will be taking with us through the rest of our lives.



I hope that this program can be continued to the next few batches of interns and also look forward to seeing what new markets Air Liquide and SOXAL will be venturing into. I hereby thank you once again for this great opportunity.

