

- Experience of being abroad (all by yourself...)

How did your traineeship influence your personal development?

The internship influenced my personal development a lot. This includes mainly the communication skills and time management.

- Experience at Work

What was the most valuable thing you learned from a Swiss colleague at work?

It was a complete new experience to work in Switzerland. The most valuable things that I have learnt are time management and the way of work. I also gained a lot of experience that is related to my field of study and work in the future. I am currently a student doing mechanical engineering and I gained a lot of experience in dealing with engineering software while I was doing my internship at Paul Scherrer Institut.

What did your Swiss colleagues learn from you?

I feel that I have contributed good enough during my internship at PSI. I have created MATLAB scripts, Detailed designs and CFD simulations. Those tasks were assigned to me by the employer since he was working on research during the period of my internship, thus he required someone to complete those tasks as part of his research plan. It was an honor for me to complete the tasks as best as I could offer.

Did you notice any differences regarding the way work is done in Switzerland compared to your home country?

I am currently a student on my final year, thus I haven't experienced the way of work in my home country yet. But according to my knowledge, the major sector of work is the oil and gas industry. Thus, many engineers after graduation usually get employed in companies related to the oil and gas industry. The nature of work in those companies usually more technical than research, thus many engineers go to work in the fields where excavations and maintenance is required rather than office work. Of course, this is for majority of graduates in Oman, but still there are some engineers that work on research as I did in my internship in Switzerland.

What surprised you most at work in Switzerland?

The most surprising thing to me was the organization during work, the quality of the working environment and of course the great people at PSI.

- Cultural differences / shock

What was the most difficult thing to get used to?

One of the most difficult things to get used to was work. At first, it appeared to me that this kind of tasks are very difficult to accomplish, but I figured out later on that all of them can be completed as required by the employer by putting more effort and time. Currently I am proud that I have successfully completed the required tasks by the employer with his complete satisfaction in a shorter period of time.

- IAESTE

What were the advantages of doing an internship through our exchange organization?

The most gained benefits for me as trainer through the IAESTE are a lot. It has been a great experience that developed my skills a lot in many aspects. Firstly, working with people from a different culture and language has a valuable advantage. Secondly, the nature of work was completely a great new experience for me and it was of my interest. Lastly, in my opinion this exchange contributes a lot to the trainers personality especially communication skills.