

## **Application for the participation to the USA Indianapolis exchange program**

### **I. Planned stay in the USA:**

Beginning of January 2010 – Middle of March 2010

### **II. Personal Information:**

Name:	Jonas Traphöner
Street:	P6, 6
Place of Residence:	Mannheim
Specialization:	Bachelor of Engineering, Electrotechnics
E-Mail:	<a href="mailto:jonastraphoener@gmx.de">jonastraphoener@gmx.de</a>
Date of Birth:	23.05.1988
Place of Birth:	Detmold
Nationality:	Deutsch
Apprenticeship company:	MVV Energie AG
English skills:	fluent
Other languages:	Spanish(fluent), French(basic)

### **III. Work experience:**

Before I started studying towards a Bachelor of Engineering with specialization in electrotechnics, I already knew the working environment of smaller businesses. I worked as a waiter in a café, sold vegetables in a market and worked for a structural and civil engineering company.

At the MVV Energie AG I had numerous training courses that gave me a basic knowledge of welding, drilling, milling, turning, technical drawing, SPS (Speicherprogrammierbare Steuerung) and Auto-CAD.

In the department TS.P1 my task was to develop an instruction manual for the solar plant "Möhlstrasse". This plant was planned by MVV Energie AG as a pilot project in 2003; construction was finished in November 2004. This followed several years of monitoring and documentation to see if the plant met the expectations that were made during the planning- and construction- phase, which it did. With a capacity of 112 kW<sub>p</sub> it is the biggest thin layer solar plant of the region.

In the waste- power plant and biomass- power plant of MVV Energie AG I became familiar with the power supply of power plants. I know how important it is that these run uninterrupted, despite breakdowns. I studied the functionality and setup of rectifiers, inverters and transformer stations.

At this moment I work for the department TS.A2, which is responsible for the high pressure gas grid of Mannheim and its surroundings. Here, I do cauldron-maintenances of the preheating gas systems with a colleague, take gas samples and do pipe controls.

#### **IV. Travel experience:**

- 1 year student exchange with the organization AFS in Maine, USA (2004/05): I lived for one year in a host family in Enfield, Maine and went to the Penobscot Valley high school in Howland. I graduated from high school and got a high school diploma.
- 1 year civil service in Bolivia (2007/08): Instead of doing my civil service in Germany I did it for an entire year in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. I worked as an educator in a project with street children where we tried to reintegrate the children back into society. I learned Spanish in Bolivia.
- 2 week student exchange to France in ninth grade.

## **V. Reasons for applying:**

My stays in the USA and Bolivia have broadened my horizon. I had experiences I never would have dreamt of. It is an incredible adventure to go abroad, you get to know yourself better, you become more mature and responsible. You just become more independent. Getting to know new people and another culture is something wonderful and you even make friends for life. I want to have an experience like that again by doing an internship abroad.

Furthermore I hope to be able to use the knowledge I gained from the Duale Hochschule Baden Württemberg and gain as much experience as I can. I want to develop myself and strengthen my academic expertise.

Because of my international experience in the USA as a student I have already gotten to know the American way of life and have enjoyed it very much. Therefore I am sure to be able to integrate fast and without any complications. Beyond that I am looking forward to getting to know the American culture from another perspective.

## **VI. Preferred branch of work during the internship:**

Because of my studies in electrotechnics I of course would like to work with electrotechnics in the USA as well. I am very interested in it, and there is still a big market in the USA in the sector of renewable energy. I would appreciate working in this sector. This is a very interesting and current topic in particular. I would like to assist in projects that have their main focus in that direction.

VII. **Personal interests:**

- Everything that has to do with sports
- Motorbike **riding**?
- Skiing
- Meet friends



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