

## **MY THOUGHTS ON TURKEY**

### **ORIENTATION PROGRAM**

Very interesting part of our internship (I would say touristic part). We walked a lot around Ankara and met a lot of nice people (Turkish people are extremely friendly). We also saw many historical places in Ankara (the best one was Atatürk's mausoleum). We met every important person in KGM Headquarters (.....)who were very friendly and who were extremely happy to see us.

The part of orientation program was also visiting 13th Division (Antalya). Very warm and nice city with historical surroundings.

I have to mention that on our orientation program we had a very good guide (Mr Ilyas) who was very helpful and who had a lot of patience for all our wishes.

I think that is an excellent idea to have an orientation program to introduce your country to foreigners.

### **PRACTICAL TRAINING ON SITES**

#### **1st WEEK**

We were with "Kolin" company in 6th Division (Kayseri) near city Niğde. Very nice people. We had a lot of fun with them (especially with Mr Ümit-very good singer). They (especially Mr Barış) also showed us a lot of laboratory tests (separation of aggregate for concrete, slump test, Marshall test for bitumen, compression test of concrete cube sample) and field test (soil compaction test).

#### **2nd WEEK**

We were also in 6th Division (Kayseri) near willage Eminlik with "NCKY" collaboration. They ( Mr Merçan and Mr Caner) explained us procedure of protecting the rocks from crushing down (shotcrete-very ugly), phases of building tool both and also some laboratory tests ( eg. modified bitumen test).

#### **3rd & 4th WEEK**

The best part of practical training. We were in 5th Division (Mersin) near city Pozantı with "Tekfen" company. Why the best part? Because we had a combination of theoretical (lectures) and practical part (visiting the site). We had lectures on precast and prestressed concrete beams (Mr Sezai), organisation of company (Mr Hakan) and electrical works on site (Mr Sırrı). Especially good was Mr Ferhat with his tunneling lecture. He made a lot of effort to explain us methods and procedures for tunneling.

It was a very nice experience form me and if you ask me what mark would I give (from 1 to 5) for this internship, I would say 5+.

Goran

My name is Anita and I am from Poland. I am very happy that I could have an opportunity to participate in IAESTE programm in Turkey. I have spent in Turkey 6 weeks( from 21 June to 1st August). In this 6 week programme I have spent 2 weeks in the training centre and 4 weeks on sites. In Turkey I have visited a lot of beautiful places such as Antalya, Alanya, Mersin, Cappadocia, Nigde, Ankara. What is more I have had very interesting lectures about highways and motorways which included tunnels and viaducts.

I have had a marvelous time here in Turkey. I will never forget people who I met and with whom I was working. Each company was very well organised. They were so open and helpful. Also the food is very delicious especially fishes and kebabs.

This international working experience has not only widened my knowledge. Thanks to this program I have practiced my language skills and I have learnt useful technical experience which will be useful in my future.

I would like to thank you for accepting me and I will have got a good memorise of working there. Nice to meet you.

Anita

## **TCK Internship 2010**

### **Orientation**

During our first two weeks in Turkey we saw many interesting things, both technical and touristic all of which we really enjoyed. The learning experience was fantastic and the experience of making new friends, both Turkish and from other countries was even better.

We visited the TCK Headquarters in Ankara and met with many important people including the General Director (M. Cahit Tmran) the Deputy General Director, ( Mehmet Peker) and a General Manager (Hran Kauasiphin). They were very friendly towards us and were happy to answer our questions about the TCK and Turkey.

The TCK Headquarters was also home to a very extensive laboratory with a large range of equipment. I was very interested in the use of American Standards in the testing and usage of bitumen., particularly the use of the SuperPave Machines and other equipment.

Still in Ankara, we went to see the Ankara Middle East Technical University campus. We met with PHD students and talked with them about their research. They spoke very good English and seemed to enjoy having foreign students for company.

We made a trip to the 13th Division in Antalya and had a great time seeing the ruins of Perge and Aspendos both of which were enjoyable from a tourists point of view. We went to swim in the Mediterranean in Fethiye which was an amazing experience.

Our orientation was made possible by the presence of Mr Kambali, who was friendly and had a lot of patience with us. We enjoyed his company very much, as well as his kebabs.

### **Training**

During our four weeks of practical training we worked with three different contracting engineering companies, all of which were working on a section of the Ankara-Adanna Highway. All the people were very friendly and helpful and always happy to answer any questions we had.

With Kolin construction we observed the construction of bridges and culverts with precast concrete slabs and saw very complicated steel reinforced concrete structures. We had a enjoyable time with Kolin, which ended with a BBQ dinner and Turkish Raki!

With NCKY collaboration we observed the construction of a steel space frame as part of the Automatic Toll collection for the Highway as well as steel and concrete construction for the drainage of water from the road base.

During our time with Tekfen we received lectures every day on a different topic of their project, after which we would be taken to site to see what we had learned about. Our topics included precast and post tensioned reinforced concrete, tunnel construction and electro mechanical works, road foundation and surfacing works and road drainage. It was clear to see that a large amount of

work was put into the programme with Tekfen and I enjoyed my time with Mr Coral and Mr Sezai very much.

Overall the TCK programme was very well prepared and I think that Turkey is an extremely good place to come for practical training and experience.

For me this was a fantastic experience and was very valuable from an engineering point of view. I have enjoyed living and working in Turkey and for the TCK and would not hesitate to recommend Turkey, especially the TCK as a place to come for practical experience.

Alastair Hume

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Innsbruck 4<sup>th</sup> August 2010

My name is Florian Unterlechner and I am studying Civil Engineering at the University in Innsbruck (Austria). I was one of the seven Students who were accepted to take part in an IAESTE (International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience) traineeship in summer 2010. The intention of the following report is to give a brief summary concerning my impression and experiences during my stay in Turkey. For the whole traineeship in general three different institutions were responsible, therefore the report consists out of three parts, as following:

- I.) General Directorate Of Highways Ministry Of Transportation Republic Of Turkey (KGM) Ankara 4th Division (21.6.-23.6 and 29.6-4.7)
- II.) KGM Antalya 13th Division (24.6-28.6)
- III.) Contractors: Kolin, NCKY, Tekfen (5.7-28.7)

### Ad I.)

During the first week we received morning's lessons concerning cultural Subjects, like Turkish Lesson or information about the modern Turkish Republic and Atatürk and his Reforms. This information was very interesting and helpful to refresh our knowledge about Turkey and its development. In the afternoons we were invited to get introduced to the executive staff of KGM. It was a pleasure to meet all these persons and answer their questions. Of course one morning was reserved to visit the very impressive and interesting Mausoleum of Atatürk.

In the second week we had the possibility to visit the well known Museum of Anatolian Civilisation and the castle of Ankara, in my opinion this was one of the cultural highlights. But not less interesting was the visit of the Middle East University of Ankara. What I have seen there has given me an impression about the technical state of the art in Turkey.

During the next days we got the knowledge and information which prepared us well for the practical training. We also got an idea about the different kinds of responsibility of the Departments. It was interesting to talk about the different technical standards (EUROCODE-TSE) and their similarities. Furthermore it was helpful to get practical experience out of the first hand.

However, during this week we were at any time fully supported by Mr. Kampaly. Therefore I would like to say especially thank you. He helped us wherever it was needed and answered all our countless questions. So we had a great time in Ankara.

### Ad II.)

During our Trip in the surrounding of the city of Antalya we had the pleasure to see the historical and cultural beauties Turkey is famous for. The journey was excellently organised by the

13<sup>th</sup> Division of KGM. During this day we were allowed to see a wide range of different natural and cultural worldwide known places, like Asoendos, Myra or St. Nicholas. Of course we also enjoyed our time at the beautiful beaches. My favourite was Fethiye. KGM guided us also to very nice restaurants they give us an idea of the typical Turkish cuisine. Full with unforgettable impressions we went home to Ankara. Special thanks go to our great Guide from Ankara.

Ad III.)

During the period from the 6<sup>th</sup> of July until the 11<sup>th</sup> of July we stayed in Nigde. Our technical training was under the auspices of Kolin. We saw enormous construction sides and all the laboratories concerning this 26 km long contract section. They gave us a good overview about the different steps of the road construction, the reinforced concrete beams and the necessary test methods like Marshal Test or Proctor compaction Test. At the 11<sup>th</sup> of July we went to Cappadokia to see the famous rock houses and the Fairy chimneys.

During the period from the 12<sup>th</sup> of July until the 17<sup>th</sup> of July we stayed in Eminlik in Portalkabin at the site under the responsibility of NCKY. This gave us the possibility to have conversations after the workday about different topics concerning Turkey. Generally our investigations were focused on the very important culverts. We also had a day in the Laboratory to see the different test methods like the penetration test or the Los Angeles Test. In the village of Eminlik we met very open minded and interested people.

During the period from the 19<sup>th</sup> of July until the 29<sup>th</sup> of July we stayed in Mersin. The construction site was in Pozanti. The Company which took care of us was Tekfen. At the mornings we often received lections about different technical topics like asphalt pavement and drainage, tunnel excavation and construction, reinforced concrete beams or site management. In the afternoon we were able to see the practical construction. At the weekend we had a great and good organised trip to Kizkalesi.

At the 30<sup>th</sup> of July we went back to Ankara to say goodbye and thank you to KGM for the great time in Turkey. Through my stay in Turkey in general I profited in two different fields.

First I learned a lot about the road construction and management. But not less important for me is the circumstance that I received my own proofed image about Turkey. And there fore I would like to say thank you to all the ambitious people I met during my unforgettable stay in Turkey.

Florian

The first two weeks was great. During this short time a can see how looks Turkey and I knew culture of country. I think that Turkey is wonderful country if you try find place to rest. You have beautiful coast, good food and nice accommodation. People, who I met, were very nice and receptive. Lectures was prepared good and gave me possibility learn something new.

Second part my practice also was great. I worked in tree companies during this time and have got new knowledge about building system in Turkey, which is different in my country. I saw interesting thing connect with tunnel, highway. After this weeks I think that Turkey is developing country and is going in good direction.

Bestregards.  
Ana