

“What’S uP” - Newsletter Winter 2014

December 2014

Dear former interns,

It is once again time for the Winter 2014 edition of the **Schlegel und Partner Interns** Newsletter “**What’S uP**”. We have a variety of topics in this issue, which will particularly focus on **new developments** in the business world and, of course, on what is happening at **SuP**.

First of all, we will explain how the **new [SuP-Webpage](#)** has changed. We will then give you a quick insight on your status as a **SuP ambassador**.

Thereafter, a former intern shares his experiences about a new job as a sustainability manager and how he is able to apply all he has **learned from SuP** right now.

The following article is on **food safety** explaining the current state that Europe is in regarding safe food and **what you have to watch out** for when you prepare your food.

We also conducted an Interview with a **new SuP employee** who gave brief feedback on her first months at SuP.

We conclude with an article about our current Christmas fundraiser for the organization “Doctors without Borders”.

A big thank you to Jessica, Veronika, Sven, Philip, Marc and Aldrin who contributed to this newsletter.

We hope you enjoy reading it.

Schlegel und Partner wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Yours sincerely

The Schlegel und Partner Team

Our Website has been redesigned

We are proud to present our new website www.schlegelundpartner.com and hope that you all like it as much as we do. The contents have been simplified, information has been condensed and the pages have been given a clearer structure. Furthermore, the website has a responsive design thus automatically adapting its look to mobile devices as smartphones and tablet computers.

Another new feature is that the newsletter will be made available on the website from now on. That means that you will now be able to access and re-read previous newsletter editions whenever you would like!



International Ambassadors

We are giving previous interns a new special status – the Ambassador status!

Why? Because you know the core business of SuP. You know the daily tasks and challenges. You are a part of SuP history and know both the written and unwritten rules of the company. Now you may ask: what does being a “SuP Ambassador” mean in concrete terms?

As SuP Ambassadors, we look forward to you recommending us to potential interns. Every successful recommendation which leads to a new intern for us will be acknowledged with a thank you gift (an Amazon gift card for your studies).

Share your experience on campus and with your friends and be a part of the decision making process on who would be a good fit for us.

The [current job adverts](#) for interns are posted on our website.



Beyond the Internship

Contribution from a previous intern

An internship can always be a door opener – not only to the company that offers it. I was an intern at SuP for five months before transitioning into a permanent position in the renewable fuels industry. Although this required getting established in a new environment with new tasks and jargon, I found myself surprisingly well prepared. It is a truism that being able to learn on the job is of equal importance to being able to make use of one's actual academic formation, but it was the little things that I learned at SuP that contributed significantly to a quick and streamlined start in my new position.

There is, of course, the exchange of information by calling literally anywhere in the world - we may chuckle thinking that this is “everyday stuff” at SuP, but I received positive feedback for having called an agency in the US on my second day of work. Furthermore, having experience with Outlook, a server environment and multi-dimensional Excel spreadsheets turned out to be a huge help.

Finally, getting accustomed to the switch between vastly diverse topics while building up both broad understanding and in-depth knowledge in a short amount of time, as well as getting a feel for global market dynamics with numerous and intertwined influential factors, made the transition into the industry a much easier task.

I sincerely wish the current and future interns all the best on their career paths that will naturally not always be straight forward. Doing an internship at SuP is certainly another step in the right direction and I hope that it will also be a door opener for you.

Previous Intern T.N.
Sustainability Manager

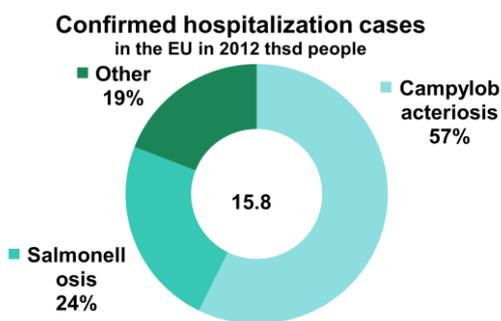
The importance of food safety

A short discussion about state-of-the-art food-safety

In this part of our newsletter, we would like to discuss a topic which concerns each of you!

SuP is currently **dealing with the subject food safety**, something we should all be aware of in order to keep ourselves and our environment sound and healthy. Additionally, safe preparation of food is vital for good nutrition, which provides us with the energy we all need to get along through the day.

First of all, it is alarming that in 2012 **approx. 15,800 people** were hospitalized as a result of food-borne diseases in Europe. Moreover, the subject of food-security concerns the **shelf-life of food**, which influences our food disposal behavior and ultimately the creation of waste.



Source: EFSA report of the European Union

Approximately 100 Mt (= million tons) of food were thrown away in Europe in 2014. In industrialized countries, over 40% of this food waste is from retailers and consumers. The rest is thrown away in the processing.

Many food processors and scholars complain that consumers do not pay enough attention to what they eat and the consumption process. Therefore, consumers should begin taking notice of and adopting a few simple, but important methods to avoid bacterial contamination in private use:

Use different cutting boards for different types of food in order to avoid cross-contamination. Interestingly, it is safer to use wood cutting boards than plastic ones for the chopping of meat, because it is easier to clean away residue. **Carefully wash your food.** It might be worth the extra investment of time to make sure your food is carefully washed even when the producers claim that the content has been pre-washed.

Interview with a new Schlegel

Dr. Nina D. has been supporting the engineering team since August 2014. She is a chemist and already has work experience in the chemical industry. At Schlegel und Partner, she is now learning about market research from bottom up and gave us feedback on her first months at SuP in the following interview:

Why was this position interesting for you?

I was previously working as a product manager and then in research and development at Reckitt Benckiser. What especially appeals to me about the job is the versatility of the projects at SuP. It was also very important for me that the tasks here are much more result-oriented and much closer to the market than what I did before.

You were already working for another company. How is your current job different than your previous one?

The work I did at my previous job was quite a bit different than the work I do here at SuP. Overall, the work here is a lot more fun. The only small downer is that I am no longer releasing any new products. In the past, I could simply walk through the stores and be able to say “I made that”.

Did you intentionally decide for a smaller company? And if so, why?

SuP’s smaller size did play a role. Everything is more familiar here and a person is not only one of many. Instead of dispositions being sent down from some abstract place, we are able to discuss directly with decision-makers and follow the decision making process. That was especially important for me.

What differentiates SuP from other companies and consultancies from your point of view?

This is my first experience in the world of consulting, but what I value here is that we all work together in one location – not like other consultancies that often “body lease” consultants to their clients.

How did the application process go?

The first contact I had was with Mrs. Mikulic. We discussed some organizational things and primary questions on the telephone. It was a little bit like a comparison of interests. The next step was a personal interview at which my future department manager and Dr. Flascha were present in addition to Mrs. Mikulic. In a second interview that was more thorough, there were more questions dealing with technical specifics – a little bit like an employment test.

How did the entry process at SuP go?

The best way to describe my beginning at SuP is 'very structured'. There was a very concrete initial training plan, internal training modules, the monthly Schlegel Academy and material for independent study. My access to my computer, the server and the email system was available right away which is not always the case in many companies. That was quite pleasant and definitely helped for a quick integration.

How would you describe your typical tasks at the moment?

I am currently working on a project for our internal knowledge collection and besides that I am involved in several other small client projects. Along with an experienced colleague, I will soon take on my first responsibility for a forthcoming project.

What is the most fun thing for you about your work?

I think the most important thing for me is the versatility – regarding the products, clients, segments, regions and markets.

Do you think that a person would have a better chance at employment as a consultant after already concluded a successful internship?

An internship is generally always a good opportunity to get to know an employer. After an internship, an intern is no longer an unknown person and the employer already knows who they are dealing with.

In your opinion, what traits should a person applying to SuP as a consultant have?

Openness, communication skills, and an analytical approach are quite good fits. I also think that curiosity is an important trait.

International Business meets international People

Schlegel und Partner is looking for dedicated Consultants

Internationality is our strength: We now have over 2,000 projects under our belt with 90% of these projects having an international scope. Out of those international projects, 30% are based out of North and South America, 30% out of Europe and 35% out of Asia and elsewhere. With over 40 employees from over 20 different nations we know firsthand what “global market” means as everyone knows the background of their home market best. Furthermore, we have maintained long-lasting partnerships and co-operations with over 80% of our clients... and we continue to grow!

Would you like to be a part of our team? Great! Then [send us your application!](#) As previous interns and “market insiders”, you most certainly have good chances.

In case you have not already done so and would like to do so, please write a short ranking on:
<http://www.kununu.com/de/bw/weinheim/bc/schlegel-und-partner>
 about your internship at SuP.



SuP donates over 8,000 Euros to “Médecins sans Frontières / Doctors without Borders”



Social Responsibility for Healthy Growth

Being a “Schlegel” also means carrying social and economic responsibility for global development. After SuP management decided to match any donation given to “Médecins sans Frontières (MSF)” this year, employees pitched in with donations supporting the company’s culture and values exclusion from healthcare

Andrea Friedrichs, SuP Office Manager described the donation, saying “I am impressed with the sustainability of Médecins sans Frontières (MSF) work, especially because we receive concrete feedback regarding which initiatives our donation has been given. It makes it tangible and not as abstract.” We are delighted to have gathered an overall sum of over 8,000 Euro. Thank you!

Médecins Sans Frontières is an international, independent, medical humanitarian organization that delivers emergency aid to people affected by armed conflict, epidemics and natural disasters.

<http://www.msf.org/>

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We wish you all and your families – wherever you are in the world - a Merry Christmas and a healthy, successful New Year.

Did you like our new website? Is there anything missing? Let us know what you think!

Follow us and stay informed about the fresh trends and developments in the industries of your choice. And feel free to share SuP articles via your Social Networks.

Homepage: www.schlegelundpartner.com

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