

Work experience at the Sydney Airport Corporation Limited (SACL)



Image 1: View over Sydney Skyline

My work experience at the Sydney Airport Corporation Limited (SACL) and my stay in Australia has been in every aspect the best experience in my life so far.

During my internship I gained a lot of experience in sophisticated airport planning, including the participation in a strongly important phase of the Sydney Airport Master Plan development process. The Master Plan is a high-level, strategic document that

sets out land use planning concepts for the next 20 years. The concepts show, how the airport will look like in 20 years time. It is required by the law. The airport manager has to address the needs of airport users, an assessment of environmental issues and consultation within the community.

I contributed to the project, by assisting my supervisor in representing the commercial interests in particular property, retail and car parking businesses. The first weeks of my internship consisted of administrative work, which included the analysis, review and filing of past and contemporary planning sites. Although a little bit boring, it was the best and most practical way to get into the new job. After the first weeks, my daily business contained the participation in meetings and consultation of the airport stakeholders and business partners.



Image 2: My work station

Furthermore I developed different design options for various development sites, like the International Terminal Precinct, which considered the operational and planning requirements. In connection with the development of a home-base crew facility for the Qantas international crew, which had emerged from the Master Plan project, I analysed the current check-in process of the crew and prepared process diagrams for the

future check-in process.

The second project I was involved in, was the Taxiway deviation study. The project emerged as a result of the introduction of an Airbus A330 aircraft by Qantas airlines for its operation. Unfortunately, the clearances, which are recommended by the ICAO are not available between two Taxiways, which lead from the Qantas Terminal to the runway. The approval for the operation with reduced clearance was granted subject to a speed restriction on the Taxiway and a monitoring program, which measures the aircraft speed and deviation. My task in this project was to prepare a database and to write an application with VBA, which facilitates the generation and consolidation of the data. The preliminary results show that the deviation doesn't exceed the maximum admissible limit.

The atmosphere and the teamwork with my colleagues during the internship were excellent. From the first day on, I was an active, fully accepted and equally treated employee. My fully equipped work station was set up for me from the beginning. The tasks I was entrusted with were appropriate to my level of skills. I have recognized my internship as being of high value and beneficial for my professional life. My work experience didn't not contain a lot of operational and mindless work, but consisted of complicated and challenging planning tasks within a group. In meetings and through the direct contact with consultants, I could adopt some negotiating skills and could improve my English enormously.

I didn't just gained professional skills during my stay in Sydney, but also skills in organising myself and living on my own. For me it was the first time, that I was away from my parents house for such a long time. The internship didn't start with the arrival in Australia. I had started already at least 6 months before. Organising the internship, flight, accommodation and health insurance in a foreign country were things, I will definitely benefit from. But I was never afraid, that something would get wrong.



Image 3: Sunset at Cable Beach, Broome, WA

I was impressed by the optimism, pragmatism and the warm hospitality the Australian show every day. My leisure time after work or during weekends was planned at least 2-3 weeks in advance. Sydney and it's adjacent lands offer a huge variety of nature, national parks, beaches, shopping facilities, catering and nightlife, that it's never get boring. Although Sydney is a mobile and vivid city, it is very safe and green.

Even during the Australian winter it's hardly getting colder than 10 degrees, which makes the life even more comfortable.



Image 4: Bungle Bungles, WA

Australia and in particular Sydney has always been my dream country and it has always been my dream to live and work there for a longer period. After I have experienced this wonderful and unforgettable time, I am sure that I will go back for more than “just” 8 months.

Adam Symalla

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