

University
of Applied
Sciences

SAXION

Connect



Matching international
graduates with employers

Step up to Saxion

saxion.edu/connect

Employer: Colfax Fluid Handling Oil & Gas Corporation
Hans van der A

HR Manager at Colfax Fluid Handling Oil & Gas Corporation, Hengelo

"We find the level of Connect candidates very high. They are eager to learn, and have an entrepreneurial and proactive attitude, which is highly appreciated. In Milana's case, it is very convenient that she speaks Russian, since our company does a lot of business with Russia. That Connect facilitates Dutch language classes is important, and it's good to know that the Connect team is available in case problems should arise. So far, that has not been the case. On the contrary, we are most content with Milana."

Graduate
Milana Korotka (Ukraine)

MSc European Studies, University of Twente

"My responsibilities in the Sales and Support Department are rather diverse; from collecting documentation to handling customers correspondence and communicating with the foreign representative office in the sales process. The best thing about my work is that I am gaining valuable experience while being involved in a strong and successful business. I have learned how to react quickly in challenging situations and to take initiative in problem solving. This traineeship is the perfect opportunity to employ skills obtained and to shape the ideas for my future career growth."



Employer: Pentair
Mark Teggeler

Senior Pilot Engineer Pentair, Enschede

"Rizza has actively engaged with her tasks and responsibilities from the start and communicates well with clients in various countries. She is involved in executing a project in Israel. She definitely adds value by being fluent in English, this makes the communication with our clients a lot easier."

Graduate
Rizza Ardiyanti (Indonesia)

BA Environmental Technology at Saxion

"From the workshops Saxion Connect offered, I found the one on multicultural skills especially useful. It taught me how to communicate with people from different cultural backgrounds. Most of our projects at Pentair take place abroad so I can confidently say that I can easily relate to clients from different cultures."



Employer: Randstad Holding
Nuno Almeida

Head of M&A at Randstad Holding, Diemen

"Doris' market analysis has become a valuable input for Randstad Holding controllers. This is a great achievement for a person who knew nothing about our industry four months ago. We found Doris to be an asset, consistently undertaking all assignments with enthusiasm. She makes sure that the result of her analysis is correct and does not have mistakes."

Graduate
Doris Wei (China)

BA Accounting & Finance at Saxion

"I learned how to work in a stable and efficient way, how to solve problems in a limited time and how to create a friendly and harmonious working environment."



For Employers

For employers who are looking for highly skilled workers, the international students and graduates at Saxion and University of Twente can be an interesting option. Characteristics of these talents are that they are ambitious, entrepreneurial and have an international mindset. They are keen to start their career in the Netherlands and are planning a long term stay here.

International students at Saxion and University of Twente come from all over the world to study their Bachelor or Master programme. All candidates speak fluent English and although their knowledge of Dutch varies from person to person, they are all learning Dutch. The programmes they studied vary from technical to commercial and from environmental technology to marketing (Bachelor and Master). Most candidates have graduated; others are in the final phase of their studies. For an overview of current candidates, please have a look at: www.saxion.edu/connect/candidates.

Why work with Connect?

- A strict selection procedure and thorough preparation by Connect guarantees a high quality of candidates; and saves employers a long and expensive selection procedure.
- Employers see the advantages of the international mindset of Connect candidates.
- The specific knowledge an international graduate has of their own language, country and culture, can be most valuable for companies trading with or having an office or a plant in this country, as well as doing market research, communicating with suppliers or clients, etc
- Since Connect candidates have recently graduated or are finishing their studies, they possess the most updated knowledge in their field of work.
- Work and residence permits are taken care of, and Connect offers advice when both parties want to extend the contract and a change in residence permit is needed.
- Connect offers flexibility: depending on the wishes of the employer, we propose the most apt format: internship, traineeship, direct match, scholarship. The Connect team will gladly inform you about the options, and the advantages of the different formats for hiring an international high potential.
- Companies find the Connect format a financially attractive way of finding out whether a candidate is a good match for the employer.
- Also, companies highly value the involvement of both Saxion and University of Twente before and during the first contract period and the advice they receive regarding residence- and work permits.

For Students and Graduates

Connect offers students and graduates at Saxion and University of Twente an excellent opportunity to expand their work experience and professional skills, and to enhance their chances in the Dutch and international job market.

Through career advice, skills training, workshops and language classes, young professionals and students in the final phase of their studies are being prepared for their job search and professional career. For high potentials, Connect offers a service matching graduates with employers. Both Saxion and University of Twente use their extensive network of companies and organizations in order to find the perfect match that responds to the education and ambitions of the candidate. Employers have international ambitions and are interested in hiring Connect candidates because of their knowledge of, and experience in, specific cultures, languages and countries. Graduates can be hired not only as technical staff, but also to work in management, logistics, sales and marketing positions.

Connect offers

- Training sessions focused on the professional skills needed for a successful job search and professional career, both in the Netherlands and abroad.
- Dutch language classes.
- Information on residence- and work permits for highly skilled workers and other regulations.
- Individual career advice and coaching on the job search and first work experience.
- Access to a broad network of potential employers.
- For high potentials: individual service matching graduates with employers.

Companies that have hired our graduates





Employer: Argentum/De Lage Landen
Wessel van Soest

Founder & Partner Argentum BV, Wageningen

"In the Netherlands we sometimes tend to discuss issues until we find a compromise, which can delay the process. With his different cultural background, Sameer helps us to be more proactive. Both within De Lage Landen and Argentum he is regarded as a genuine and valued professional, not just a trainee."

Graduate
Sameer Ahmed (India)

MSc Facility Management at Saxion

"It is extremely difficult to find a job in The Netherlands due to the fact that most international students do not speak the language. Connect has given me the opportunity to connect with organisations by using its extensive network. The Connect training sessions conditioned me towards the 'Dutch mindset' in a professional working environment. Moreover, the Dutch language course enabled me to overcome the language barrier in the workplace."

Employer: Aircrete Europe BV

Jop W. van Boggelen

Managing Partner at Aircrete Europe BV, Oldenzaal

"We had a first meeting with Javier at the Connect speeddate, and within two weeks he was working for us as a process engineer. Connect delivers highly capable professionals, and works efficiently. Our turnkey projects have a significant local scope, and it means a huge step forward when the process engineer understands both the Dutch and the local culture and language. We handle a tremendous information flow between our office in the Netherlands and our Partners in Latin America, and Javier is able to play an intermediate role, building bridges between the two cultures. He takes initiative, manages projects independently and is highly motivated."

Graduate

Javier Morán Morales (Mexico)

MSc Sustainable Energy Technology University of Twente

"I really like working for Aircrete, I learn a lot and can also put into practice the knowledge acquired during the Master. I like the flat organization, without any hierarchy. Connect meant, for me, the entrance to the Dutch labour market. The skills training sessions gave me tips and prepared me for competing in the Dutch labour market, especially on how to present myself to potential employers and how to show my aptitudes. They also helped in handling the cultural differences while working with the Dutch."



Employer: Siemens Nederland

Leo Kleinheerenbrink

Head of Finance and Accounting Siemens Nederland, Hengelo

"I would definitely repeat the experience, the level of trainees is very high and they are easily employable."

Graduate

Anna Eliseeva (Russia)

MBA at Saxion

"The Connect training sessions helped me to cope with cultural differences and improve my communication skills within a Dutch working environment. The traineeship is a perfect opportunity to see if the trainee and company match, both ways."



Connect:

Matching international graduates with employers

Through Connect, Saxion University of Applied Sciences and University of Twente offer unique opportunities for both international graduates and companies. Employers can easily access high potentials and get the chance to hire them under the most attractive conditions. The programme helps students and graduates to find their way into the Dutch job market; it is a way to kick-start their career. The additional training the programme provides proves to be most useful when looking for a job and starting work in the Netherlands.

Employer: Shimano

Heidi van Essen

Manager European Business Support at Shimano, Nunspeet

“We hired Marzieh because her previous work experience, combined with her education at Saxion, matched with what we were looking for. She assisted in setting up the procurement structure and procedures. She did this very successfully, she is a quick learner. Marzieh shows initiative and says what she thinks, although that is not normal in her culture. She adapted very well to the Dutch work culture, while the Iranian culture is most different.”

Graduate

Marzieh Malekynezhad (Iran)

MBA at Saxion

“During my traineeship I worked as a sourcing advisor. It was good to be able to put into practice the things learned during my MBA, you get the chance to show what you are worth. At the same time I learned what it is like to work in a different culture. My contract at Shimano was extended, and now I work there as a compliance officer, making sure the company applies all the rules of the Japanese head office concerning financial administration.



“She adapted very well to the Dutch work culture.”

Employer: Rocon
Danail Rosnev

Consultant International Trade at Rocon, Enschede

Rocon organizes international matchmaking events and trade missions. It would be impossible for us to do this without professionals who know the language and culture of the country it concerns. We are most content with Anastasiia. She is a good writer and is also creative. She can organise well, and knows how to convince people. She has significant potential which can be of use for Rocon."

Graduate

Anastasiia Skyba (Ukraine)

MA in Management at Saxion, trainee at Rocon

"Directly after finishing my dissertation I started working as a trainee at Rocon, a business development consultancy. My job was to arrange two large international trade missions between the Netherlands and Ukraine. Both projects were successful.

The Connect team helped me with legal questions, labour law and arranging working agreements. Also the training sessions are very useful because they prepare you practically to enter the Dutch labour market. There are things that you do not know and do not notice until someone points them out."



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Information

For more information have a look on our website www.saxion.edu/connect or contact us:

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