



Reinhardt Abraham Memorial Foundation

Newsletter 2012

Edition Nr. 15



Dear Friends and Colleagues of the Reinhardt Abraham Memorial Foundation,

Nature and man made catastrophes hit hard the global society in 2011. At times they drew almost all of our attention, resulting in significant challenges we needed to cope with and manage in different ways.

Those are times where priorities need to be re-addressed and I am glad that continuing the support of RASf remained one of them for both Boeing and Lufthansa.

During the last CoT meeting TU Berlin officials ranked RASf as one of the most attractive and successful academic student program at TU Berlin. I am more than happy to pass this compliment over to all of you, your permanent contribution and support is recognized and pays off.

Last November our Boeing friends Michael Garrett and Stephan Eelman as well as Savenia Budinic of Lufthansa Technik again conducted seventeen interviews with students desiring to enter the program. They were challenged to identify four candidates out of more equally qualified students.

The lucky four will start their internship in spring and fall with Boeing in Seattle and will join the group of nearly 70 TU Berlin students who already experienced the RASf program. According to Boeing not a single dropout had to be dealt with in all the years confirming the high degree of quality of the program.

On behalf of the staff and management of RASf and Deutsche Lufthansa Berlin - Foundation I would like to thank you for your support and commitment you generously continued to provide this year. We look very much forward cooperating and closely working with you in 2012.

We all wish you and your families a peaceful Holiday Season and a good start into a successful and healthy New Year 2012!

Bernhard Conrad

Chairman of the Board

Deutsche Lufthansa Berlin-Foundation



We are glad that once again the Lufthansa Technik Talent Relationship Program ‚Technik Talents‘ brought out an excellent junior staff – Mr. Alexander Kaus- who is now working for Lufthansa Bombardier Aviation Services GmbH at the airport of Berlin in Schönefeld.

He and Matthias Beck supported the Foundation excellently in writing a leaflet with all important information for the students to go to Seattle.

This year again a lot of very qualified candidates applied for the positions in 2012. We are lucky to see that there is an increasing interest to do an internship at Boeing. So it was not easy to decide who are the lucky one's to go to Boeing the next year.

Kind regards

Savenia Budinic
Lufthansa Technik AG
Talent Relationship Management &
University Contacts

Boeing Trainee Program 2011
Sep. 2011 to March 2012



**My experiences as a Boeing Trainee from
September 2011 to March 2012
and
What's life about in Seattle!**

After long weeks of excitement being selected for the Boeing Trainee Program as well as preparing months to get the paperwork for the visa done finally **Seattle welcomed us** with the sunniest weather ever. There were no clouds, the Boeing bus driver who picked me and Carlos, the other intern from Germany, up from the airport proudly highlighted: 81° Fahrenheit, while turning on the fast lane of the interstate. These were the first two, maybe three surprises we encountered while arriving in Emerald City, our home for the next six months: *First* of all...81°F, how much is that exactly in Celsius? *Second*, what is a fast lane and the *third*, why is the sky free off clouds when everyone, even the officer in the American embassy in Frankfurt, emphasized that an umbrella might be a necessity.

Spending now almost three months here I can say that it is truly raining more than in many parts of Germany but that the experiences I made and for sure will make in the following months are more valuable than ever imagined.

The **first weeks** kept me busy with the organization of buying a car, moving into the

apartment we took over from the past interns Hendrik and Miguel and applying for a social security number, a Washington state drivers license, internet, electricity and others.

Buying a car was not as easy as expected. Thanks to the internship handbook past interns provided us with I knew where to start looking for but it seemed as if prices went up and affordable but good cars are rare. Fortunately, after a four day intense search, I bought a well running car I am still happy with. Having a car here is definitely a must-have as it simplifies coming to work and getting to know the area while living in the cities suburbs.

As our internship started one week after our arrival there was some time left to explore the city and its surroundings. This was pretty easy as Boeing provided us with a hotel room located close to the famous Space needle from where most of Seattle's touristic attractions were accessible within walking distance. We even had time to go on a boat cruise and explore Seattle's beautiful islands and waterfront besides **getting introduced to the Boeing Company** in a half day orientation lesson every new employee needs to attend before being able to start working.



We had our lesson together with more than 300 new employees getting instructions about what to pay attention to while working at Boeing as well as general information about the daily work life. The part that sounded funny for all of us but as I now know is by all means true was that they showed a map explaining where to park when arriving at certain times. As a student I was not used to get up as early but now voluntarily I am at work at six in the morning in order to find parking without having a too long walk to the building.

I am working in the group of **Foreign Certification**, the same team in which Johannes and Hendrik have absolved their internship before. The team gets involved to coordinate the foreign type acceptance as well as to ensure that foreign requirements are met. I felt very welcomed by Boeing and the group I am working in. My team consists of three employees but is integrated in a much larger group. People here are very friendly and more outgoing than in Germany. That makes a new start much easier. If you are interested in someone's work or have questions you can just walk over for a chat. Also working in a cubicle is very convenient as I pretty fast got to know all the people working in it.

As a student of Industrial Engineering I consider the coordination and communication between different Boeing disciplines, the airplane customers and the Aviation Authorities as very interesting. Right from the beginning of my internship I got involved in a huge project to validate the 747-8F Type Certificate with the Russian Aviation Register. In preparation of that two week meeting I helped with the coordination of the different disciplines within Boeing who were needed to support this meeting as well as arranged the meeting settings.

The preliminary and conference weeks were a very intense time where I got to know many people working in all different areas within

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Boeing due to the fact that certification activities involves the whole aircraft. I pretty much appreciated working closely together with them and felt part of a huge Boeing team. In addition to the daily work I was able to attend the celebration for the first 787 delivery (see photo). Also there are some training opportunities offered for new employees so that I am able to attend workshops in different topics of interest.

I am looking forward to the tasks given to me, projects I will attend, experiences I will make and people I will meet during the next following month.

Seattle and the whole Washington State area offer a lot of outdoor activities for spending **time off** on its beaches, lakes, forests, mountains, volcanoes and glaciers. Canada is not far, so that Vancouver, Vancouver Island or Whistler are definitely worth a visit. Also a bonfire at one of Seattle's beaches, a hike at Mount Rainier or on Whitbey Island as well as a visit of the Discovery and Gasworks park cannot be missed. In addition to that Seattle's many cafés (as Starbucks was founded here in 1971 Seattle is famous for its coffee culture), the Pike Place market or its shopping malls are perfect for rainy days. As the city also has a vibrant night life in its very different neighborhoods you never get bored.

Due to the fact that I made new friends here at Boeing, share an apartment with Carlos and his girlfriend/baby and got to know the two German exchange students (studying here at the university for the same period we are here) better there is always someone you can spend time with. Still, there is so much I want to see, the months are passing by much too fast...

Last, but definitely not least, I would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to the Boeing Company, the Deutsche Lufthansa Reinhardt Abraham



Memorial Foundation, Lufthansa Technik and the Berlin Institute of Technology for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this program. You provide students with the chance of gaining valuable work experiences abroad, building up a network and working in an unforgettable environment. Also I would like to thank the former interns who helped a lot with providing guidance during the preparation time and first weeks in Seattle.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a successful and healthy start into the year 2012!

November 2011

Boeing Trainee Program 2011 March to Sept. 2011

Prologue

A Dutchman, an Indian guy, an American girl and a German are sitting together...well, if you are expecting a joke with a rather mediocre punch line now, I've got to disappoint you. This was my regular day at Boeing. Not a joke but certainly just as much fun.

But let's step back a few days in time. In May 2010, applying for the Boeing Global Trainee Program hadn't even crossed my mind. I was working on my thesis, had my studies almost completed and it was about time to take the next step...or a giant leap if you want so; away from the cosy and friendly atmosphere our beloved University has provided us through all the years, on to whatever exciting path a career in the aviation industry may lead us.

Anyway, so one of these days I was talking to my co-worker and friend Martin Otzik, whose exciting adventures with the Boeing Company you may read in one of the rather ancient RASf newsletters. He was telling me about his experience and suggested applying. "Hendrik", I thought by myself, "Why not? After all you have put a lot of effort into your studies; six months with the Boeing Company would be the cherry on the cake." This was when I decided it would be a good idea indeed.

Well, that was one week before the deadline ended. So without further ado, I filled out the application form, handed in my CV, a list of exam results, a statement of purpose and so on and made an appointment for the TOEFL.

Time was passing and suddenly I sat in a room with two Gentlemen from Boeing and a very friendly Lady from Lufthansa Technik... actually the Boeing guys were friendly as well. Then everything happened very fast. The interview was over in less than half an hour. Was I nervous? Hell, yeah! Did they notice? Presumably! Was I certain I wanted the job and I could get it? Absolutely! A couple of

Hours later I got the phone call. I was actually going to Seattle.



Finding your spot

On the evening of my first day at Boeing I was sitting together with the other trainee from TU Berlin. We were talking about our assignments and the tasks we would do. I was assigned to the Manufacturing Engineering department for 787 model airplanes. I would have to work with lots of engineering software. Nothing of that was really related to my field of studies but I would probably manage to cope somehow.

The other trainee was assigned to the Foreign Validation Team. A group Johannes Sellack had been working in previously. Obviously he did quite a good job, so they decided to hire another trainee from TU Berlin. So, we were talking about the different tasks and our backgrounds and we decided that each of us would actually be better off in the exact opposite department. After all, aviation law, regulations and different civil aviation agencies are absolutely my cup of tea.

The next day we talked to our managers and within the first week we swapped positions. To make a long story short: Best decision ever!

What does this little anecdote tell us? The answer is one important thing. It is your job to make the best out of the opportunity Boeing and Lufthansa Technik have given you. Nothing is set in stone, not even an assignment within the Boeing Company. If you are interested in a particular field, just ask. From my own experience I have to say everybody will be eager to support you as much as he or she can.



The Boeing Experience

I am not going to talk a lot about my assignment, at least not in detail. After all Johannes already described the groups responsibilities. And brevity is the soul of wit, so let's say the Foreign Validation Team's main responsibility is to apply for and obtain any kind of Type Certificate for 747, 767 and 777 model airplanes across the world, excluding EASA countries. I was involved in quite a few interesting certification projects like 777-300 in Russia or 747-8F in Korea and Hong Kong. I enjoyed the meetings with Foreign Civil Aviation Agencies and customer airlines just as much as dealing with Boeing system engineers. I will never forget when an interiors engineer and I were lost in the factory building when we were looking for another guy's office. If you have ever played the board game 'Labyrinth' you can imagine how we felt. There were walls where we expected a bridge and vice versa. Rumour has it that people got lost in the tunnels beneath the factory never to be seen again.

But what is it that makes working with Boeing a unique experience? I guess that to decide is up to everybody himself or herself. Clearly, for me it's the Boeing spirit and the extreme cultural diverse environment.

The open and friendly working climate is amazing. As long as you do your job and your superiors can rely on you they will give you a lot of freedom to pursue whatever interests you may have within the company. I could meet with people from different departments to chat and take a look at new airplanes. It was great to get a 787 tour just weeks before the airplane was on display on the Paris air show in Le Bourget. On another occasion some very nice chaps from a major Hong Kong based airline took me on a customer first flight of a brand new 777-300ER. During a customer first flight,

a so called C1 flight, you can experience all the fun stuff you never want to happen when you are on a revenue flight like steep climbs and dives, high bank angles, touch and go, rejected take off etc.

And last but not least and as mentioned before Boeing has an extreme diverse culture. If you take the team I was working in you will find four people from four different countries. If you take a look at the entire group you will find people from India, the Netherlands, England, China, Lebanon, Mexico, Scotland and not very surprisingly the United States and many many more.

Overall, working with delegations from foreign agencies as well as working with customers and Boeing employees from all over the world gave me the opportunity not only to get to know the United States but so many more countries and cultures.

The Seattle Experience

Of course a Trainee Program with the Boeing Company is about work experience. There should be no doubt about that. However, life cannot solely consist of work and it most definitely should not. Living abroad is just as much about getting to know a country or a particular region of a country as it is to get professional skills. What you can do in the Puget Sound area really depends on what you want to do. For outdoorsy people the area is fantastic. You can go camping, hiking, rafting, climbing and so on...

I decided to take a look from a different perspective and signed up for the Boeing Employee Flying Association. It was fairly easy to get an FAA validation for my German Private Pilot Licence. No tests were needed; all I had to do was to talk to an examiner about an irrelevant subject. I think we talked about the weather and a comparison between the 747-8 and the A380. I asked whether I would have to do an English proficiency exam. His response was something like "We are talking, aren't we? And obviously we can communicate". I couldn't argue with that.



this report. I would just like to mention here: It is absolutely worth it.

Whether you already have a licence or not, I can highly recommend to go flying in the Puget Sound area. The landscape is magnificent. You've got mountains, lakes, the Puget Sound itself, islands, lots of airports and of course the Seattle skyline as seen above.

Apart from that there are some very beautiful cities in the vicinity of Seattle. Well, vicinity is a bit optimistic. Anyway, I took the ferry to Victoria B.C., a picturesque town on Vancouver Island which is quite British with high tea at five and a lot of old buildings.

Also Vancouver is not far. By car you can get there within 2-3 hours depending on traffic. Heading south of Portland can be reached within the same timeframe.

In general there is plenty fun stuff to do and especially during the summer, when all the US interns are working, Boeing offers quite a few activities and socialising events such as picnics, tours, skydiving etc.

Epilogue

Time flies and the six months with the Boeing Company went by in the blink of an eye. I met fantastic people and got an insight into one of the most exciting companies worldwide. My special thanks go to Frank, Rebecca and Dhanji with whom I have worked together in the Foreign Validation Team. They have provided guidance and support whenever needed and made a huge contribution to making my stay enjoyable and memorable.

Before I went back to Berlin I spent two weeks travelling along the US west coast but this adventure would go far beyond the scope of

**Boeing Trainee Program 2011
September 2011 – to date**



Boeing 787 first delivery ceremony

Preparation

First of all I would like to sincerely thank the Deutsche Lufthansa Berlin-Stiftung, the TUB, and The Boeing Company for giving me this wonderful opportunity to grow both professionally and personally.

It all started in late 2009. I had just started my master's degree at the TUB. A colorful and striking flyer all over the Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics gained my attention. Despite all the tedious paperwork that had to be done, I knew immediately, that this was a program I wanted to join. After gathering all the required documentation I applied for the program knowing that all the effort was worth it. In November 2010 high-qualified applicants were interviewed with the

same expectations and motivations as me willing to obtain this scholarship. Two days after an amazing interview, I couldn't believe my eyes when I read the email saying I was nominated. The preparations started at this time but still I had until September 2011 to begin my trainee.

Although I was warned of all I had to do before leaving Germany, I could had never imagined or guessed how extensive it was going to be. The most annoying part of it was to obtain the American working visa. After finally getting my passport with the visa five days prior departure, Anna, the other trainee, and I flew on September 2nd in a pleasant but very long flight to this extraordinary adventure.

Working experience at Boeing

Having the opportunity to work at the biggest company in commercial aviation is a rewarding experience for any future aerospace engineer or for any other person interested in general aviation.

There are two things that any international person should know before coming to the United States to work in a big enterprise. First, you will spend weeks, if not months, trying to get access and permissions. Secondly, the USA has a very strong export control regulation, so that you won't be able to get access to everything you would like to. I landed, as well as former trainee Jan Eller, to the 787 Program Manufacturing Engineering Core in the city of Everett. Our job is to audit,

manage and improve the manufacturing processes of the Dreamliner. As designed, as planned, and as built should all match in the different documentations and programs within the product lifecycle management. It is our responsibility to make this happen.

I normally start working at 6:00 AM. Normally it is up to you to decide coming between 6 and 8 but it is highly recommended coming early to get a decent parking spot. This also has its advantages like going earlier home and spending your afternoon in other activities. Depending on your team and manager you can be asked to work overtime. I personally do around one or two extra hours daily, which is reflected in my 2-weeks paychecks.



Anna, Nane and I at Mount Rainer

Living in Washington State

Before coming to the Puget Sound area, I was told to take an umbrella and forget that the sun exists. However, after we arrived to Seattle we Seattle and Everett. It is a 20-minutes drive to both cities. Getting groceries is very expensive in the USA comparing to Germany. On the other hand, going to a nice restaurant is more affordable than in Berlin.

To end this writing, I would like to encourage every student to apply to this unique opportunity and to take advantage of it. I would like to thank again people like Peter Marock and Olaf Reupke from the TUB International Office, Savenia Budinic from the Deutsche Lufthansa Berlin-Stiftung, Michael Garrett and April Stempniak from The Boeing Company, and older trainees who have helped us in our

had a great late summer. Later it got darker and rainier than but never as cold as in Berlin. The nature in the Northwest Pacific is just wonderful. To the west you have the coast and the most imposing ocean of the journey to settle down in the Puget Sound. Handbooks and newsletters are very helpful for this matter.

I have no more to write than to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy and successful 2012.

Carlos Castro Marquez

November 2011

Nané Galustanian

**Student Exchange Program
Sep. 2011 to March 2012**



The journey to my upcoming life as an exchange student in Seattle began mid September 2011. I and Christian, the other RASF scholar, took the same very long flight from Frankfurt to Seattle. The Boeing interns Carlos and Anna had already arrived one to two weeks before.

As we arrived in Seattle, sunny and hot weather was waiting for us. The Seattle summer lasted a whole month which made it possible even to go swimming in Lake Washington and to take part in a boat cruise in Union Bay and around the beautiful San Juan Islands.

The first week I got to stay with an American host family. I enjoyed living with them especially because my host mother helped me a lot in getting everything at the UW organized and finally finding a place to stay which was

really challenging. I recommend coming to Seattle at the beginning of September, because most shared houses and apartments are already full from September on. After ten days of looking for a cozy room with an acceptable rent I found a place in the university district within walking distance from the UW. Right now I live together with seven other people in a big house. My roommates are all graduate students or PhDs from Italy, Russia, Japan and of course the States. Christian also lives in the house. I love living together with so many students from different countries. It is such a great experience.

Classes didn't start until the end of September, therefore we had enough time to explore Seattle and its surroundings with its beautiful nature. In these two weeks I often took part in the *Foundation for International Understanding through Students (FIUTS)* program. There, all international students can meet together and get important information about the University and their study program. Beside this, the facilitators organized a camping weekend, a scavenger hunt through Seattle, a Pub quiz and a barbeque in the famous Gasworks Park. Almost every night we all get together in a pub. During these first weeks I made a lot of good friends.



The first time I passed the University of Washington campus I was completely astonished. From the huge fountain at the center of the campus and Guggenheim Hall (the Aeronautics Building at the UW) you have a beautiful view of the Mount Rainier .. provided it is a clear day.

Choosing classes is not always easy at the UW. If you are registered as a graduate

student in the Aeronautics Department, there are not as many options as in Berlin at the TUB, but the adviser for graduate students helped me a lot to figure it out. This quarter I am taking classes in aero acoustics and Finite Element Methods. Studying at the UW is different from the way I used to study in Berlin. During the quarter you have a big workload. Almost always there is homework due within the next few days, which can be challenging when the professor's policy is to not answer questions. A great experience is to have classes with only seven to ten other students. The University is really well and modernly equipped, but still the students have to buy their own books every quarter, which can be quite expensive.



located in Downtown and spent three sunny and warm days and nights exploring Pier 39, Chinatown, Haight-Ashbury and its hippies, Mission Street, good restaurants in Downtown and of course the Golden Gate Bridge and the park with its beautiful beach at the end. After swimming in the freezing Pacific Ocean I enjoyed the stunning sunset at Ocean Beach.



In the end I want to thank all the people involved in this program, who made it possible for me to study aeronautics at one of the best public universities in the US and to live this amazing and unique experience. Special thanks to RASf, TUB and UW.

After living in Seattle for almost three months I enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday very much. I went snowboarding with friends on Crystal Mountain, a first-class ski resort close to Mount Rainier. On our way up to the mountains we had to deal with heavy snowfall, a huge deer which appeared out of nowhere and ran across the street in front of us, and a steep hill where we got stuck in the snow with our rented car. After arriving we were really happy to find a nice cabin with a heated outdoor pool two minutes from the slopes. Over the next few days we had amazing sunny weather, powder snow and almost empty ski-trails.

So far I have also travelled to San Francisco for a long weekend. This city is amazing! I was with around ten international students. We stayed in a (for San Fran...) cheap hostel

**Student Exchange Program
Sep. 2011 to March 2012**

I arrived in Seattle in early September 2011, three weeks before classes started. My first impression was, "wow, it's not raining". After hearing that Seattle is one of the rainiest places you could go to, I was surprised by the sunshine and the summerlike temperatures which lasted for another few weeks after my arrival. However, on a usual Seattle day the sky is overcast.

During the first week I stayed with Betty and Tim, my FIUTS homestay hosts. Both of them were very helpful during my first days in Seattle. The most important thing in the beginning was finding a place to stay. After a couple of appointments I found a place in the University district which is located north of the University of Washington campus. I am living there with Nané, the other exchange student from the TU Berlin, and other students in a house on 17th Avenue, the so called Greek Row, where most of the fraternities and sororities are (it can be pretty noisy on the streets, especially on "Thirsty Thursdays").

The first two weeks were also filled with a lot of activities organized by the Foundation for International Understanding through Students (FIUTS) of the University of Washington through which I could meet a lot of other international exchange students and get to know the University of Washington and Seattle.

By the end of September classes started. Since I am enrolled as a graduate student I am mostly taking graduate courses. This quarter I am also taking an undergraduate course and, although I was told differently, this course is much more demanding than the graduate courses. In addition, due to almost weekly homework assignments the course loads can be pretty challenging. For every course there will be a midterm and a final exam and there could be additional quizzes. All of that occurs within eleven weeks, the length of one quarter term.

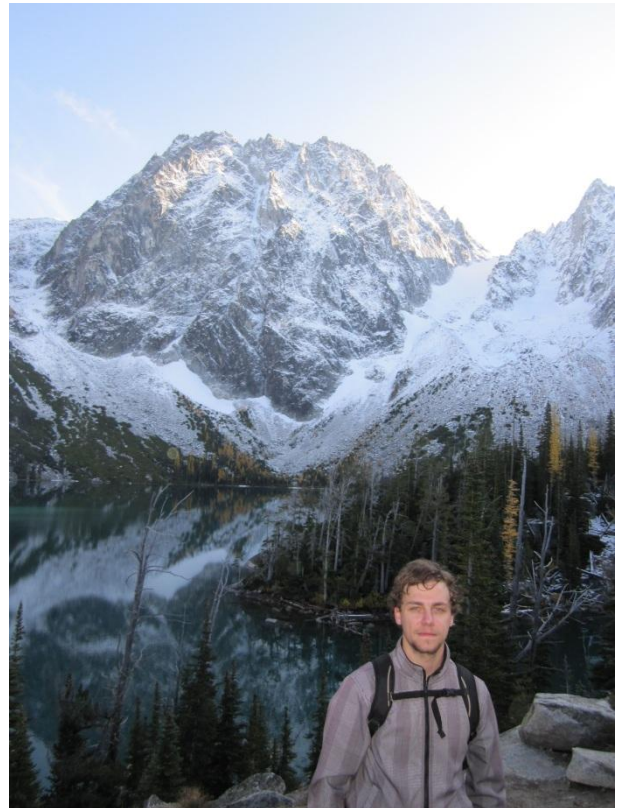
Before it became too cold in Washington I went on a hiking trip with a few friends in the Alpine Lake Wilderness, a region in the Cascade Mountain Range. We started from the little city of Leavenworth which is supposed to look like a Bavarian village. We hiked the Colchuck trail and the Snow Lake trail, both of which lead to beautiful lakes up in the mountains. This is a really amazing thing about Seattle: within a two-hour drive in almost any direction you are surrounded by stunning nature.

A few weeks ago, Nané, some other students, and I spent a long weekend in San Francisco. Since the weather was brilliant we decided to do a bicycle tour. We cycled the Golden Gate Bridge where we watched the sunset by the Pacific Ocean. We even spent some time on the beach by the ocean.

Last weekend I ran the Seattle Half Marathon which takes you 13 miles from the Seattle Center with the Space Needle through Downtown to the Lakeside of Lake Washington and through the Washington Park Arboretum back to the Space Needle. Although it was raining the whole time I enjoyed this run a lot.

The time I have been here so far has gone by really fast and my first quarter at the University of Washington in Seattle is soon coming to an end. I am pretty busy doing the last homework assignments and preparing for the final exams. During the holidays I will fly to Switzerland to visit my girlfriend. I've already chosen the courses for my second quarter at the UW and I am excited to come back in January.

At this point I would like to thank the Reinhardt Abraham Memorial Foundation, the Deutsche Lufthansa Berlin-Stiftung, Lufthansa Technik, the Technical University of Berlin and the University of Washington for giving me the opportunity to be here in Seattle and to have this great experience!



A Merry and Peaceful Christmas Time
To All of You and
A Happy and Successful New Year



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