

MARCH 2018

INTERVIEW WITH FRANCK LAFFONT

INFLIGHT UNIT MANAGER TRAINEE – SOUTH AFRICA



YOUR CAREER

- Graduated from the Engineer School of PURPAN in June 2017
- Internship at Bigard
- **I joined Newrest in South Africa at the Johannesburg unit in June 2017**

YOUR JOB AND YOUR MISSIONS

Until december 2017 I was Inflight Unit Manager Trainee in the Graduate Program. I interfered with everything linked to labor and product cost, using tools from the Group, in particular a new software :

- Purchases
- Products
- Optimization of labor force
- Product quality (tests, etc.)
- Employees's planning management

Since January 2018, I am Production Director, with 250 people to supervise and 10 000 weekly meals to provide.

I am very free in my work, trusted, with mentoring from the Unit Director.

WHY DID YOU APPLY TO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM? WHY DID YOU JOIN NEWREST?

I was very attracted to the international dimension of this company, as well as the catering. I wanted to progress rapidly onto an international job with responsibilities.

I turned to Newrest on advice from a friend, who told me the company was very trustfull towards young recruits. Additionally, it's a company from Toulouse, in my region.

WHAT CHANGES DID YOU NOTICE WHEN YOU ARRIVED IN SOUTH AFRICA?

First of all, the setting is suprising. Then, about the activity: I felt involve start away.

The work atmosphere is nice, most of the locals respect and want to involve the expats. I was also impacted by the change of rythme in the work: quick adaptation is necessary.

HOW DID YOUR COURSE IN PURPAN HELP YOU ANTICIPATE YOUR WORK? THE BUSINESS WORLD?

My course in Purpan helped me a lot through the international internships. It also gave me a specific way of thinking and most of all a strong sense of adaptation to various environments.

ACCORDING TO YOU, WHAT ARE THE PERSONALITY TRAITS NECESSARY TO JOIN NEWREST?

- Independent
- Responsible
- Pragmatism
- Leadership
- Enthusiasm

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO FUTURE GRADUATES WHO WOULD LIKE TO APPLY TO THE PROGRAM?

Do the Graduate Program!

When you're in the program, it can become a real passion, especially if you like the sense of responsibilities. For those who want to evolve abroad, do not hesitate!

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR EVOLUTION AT NEWREST?

Extremely quick. I do not have enough perspective to say if it's a good thing or not, but it has the benefit of having taught me a lot each day. From a professional point of view but also a personal one (leadership, management, perspective). I now have more responsibility over the results.

The Graduate Program is good for training because responsibilities are given to you from the start.