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Internship and Training Programs for German Participants in the U.S. Information for Prospective U.S. Host Companies

About the Programs:

CDS International, Inc (CDS) and InWEnt gGmbH (pronounced “invent”) are international exchange organizations that work together to offer internship and training programs in the United States. These programs provide German students and young professionals up to the age of 35 with a chance to broaden their professional and life experience. They are administered under a designation from the U.S. Department of State and in compliance with the corresponding governmental regulations.

The internship and training programs are designed as 2-18-month on-the-job learning and training opportunities in a variety of fields, including- but not limited to- business, finance, computer science, engineering, communications, arts and culture, architecture, and design. Participants are eager to further their personal development and their professional career through international practical experience with a U.S. company. They are pre-screened by InWEnt, bi- or multilingual and well qualified in their professional fields. The visa and program sponsor in the United States is CDS.

About CDS International / InWEnt:

CDS International, founded in New York in 1968, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to the advancement of international practical training opportunities for young professionals, students, educators, as well as labor, business and government representatives. Today, CDS serves over 2,700 individuals annually from over 80 countries worldwide in a variety of work/study, internship, fellowship and study tour programs.

CDS' program partner in Germany is InWEnt, located in Bonn. Established in 2002 as a merger between the Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft (CDG) and the German Foundation for International Development (DSE), InWEnt receives governmental and private sector support to foster international exchange, training and development programs with almost 100 countries around the world.

Visa Regulations / Training Plan:

Participants are admitted to the U.S. under the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program and are provided with a **J-1 Intern** or **J-1 Trainee** visa. Enrolled or recently graduated students may complete internships in their field of study for up to 12 months in length with the J-1 Intern visa; young professionals with a degree and at least one year of non-U.S.-based work experience may complete training programs of up to 18 months in length as J-1 Trainees. **All participants have health and accident insurance coverage and are not subject to Social Security, Medicare, and FUTA tax contributions.**

CDS is authorized by the U.S. Department of State to issue the proper documentation for U.S. J-1 visa applications. This allows participants to produce documentary evidence of their authorization to intern or train in the United States. To comply with U.S. government regulations, CDS is required to ask host companies to **submit a completed Intern/Trainee Placement Plan** outlining the scope and content of the participant's proposed program. CDS will provide this document to host companies with instructions; it is also available for download at www.cdsintl.org/tousa/training.htm.

Contact Information:

For additional information and questions regarding hosting a trainee, please contact CDS International in New York to speak with Annika Rigole at (212) 497-3511. Further information can also be found at www.cdsintl.org/host/. You may also contact InWEnt at the above address.