**My job profile – Malte Bodenbach**

Hi, I am Malte Bodenbach, currently an apprentice in training to become an application developer at a small company called IFEN GmbH, based in Poing near Munich. Our company is a renowned developer of satellite navigation products such as signal generators and receivers. We often collaborate with large partner companies such as Airbus and the European Space Agency (ESA).

In our company, my work mainly involves coding, although occasionally I do build PCs or bring online components of our internal network. More specifically I write Python 3 code which is used for test automation purposes. As an example, I would like to accentuate that I created a script to send an HTTP-request to a web-interface used for switching certain power outlets on or off, which is useful for power cycling specific devices. Currently I am working on porting an existing library, written by a colleague several years ago, from Python 2 to Python 3. This represents a fantastic opportunity to gain insight into how different releases of the same language can have impact on not only the syntax the language requires, but also on the fundamental structure that the code is written in.

Python is a great language for tasks such as this since it is easy to read and write and it has extensive libraries and community support for just about anything you want to do with the language. It offers very intuitive implementation of various libraries and functions to send messages through an internal LAN and the fact that Python is an interpreted language makes it amazingly easy to find issues and debug my scripts.

In the future I am supposed to start developing in C++ as this is the language my company uses for most of all other applications. One reason for that is that C# simply did not exist at the time my company started developing the base of our receiver software. The main reason is though that said software is designed to run on Linux, and C++ is a great language for Linux-based systems since it is well suited for system-level-programming (meaning that it works well for any application that interacts closely with the underlying operating system).

Working at my company gives me the opportunity to experience what it is like to work in a well-coordinated team, together with international business partners, and I am incredibly grateful for that chance. Not only do I get to work with insanely talented people who teach me a lot of new skills and expand my toolset, but also does my position allow me in the company to connect with foreign contacts who work on similar projects.

Thank you for reading!