



Summary

On May 28, 2024, a group of 25 third-year data engineering students, guided by their lecturer Dr. Aryati Binti Bakri, visited PPG Coating (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. in Subang. This industry visit provided a comprehensive overview of PPG's operations, particularly focusing on the implementation and practical applications of SAP within the company. Students were introduced to PPG's role in the industry, both locally and globally, as well as the company's commitment to using SAP to enhance its enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems. The visit included presentations by several PPG employees, including Miss Sheryl, Mr. CK, Mr. Chevalier, Mr. Patel, and three former SAP department interns who are now full-time employees.

Technologies and Issues Discussed in the Visit

During the visit, the primary technology discussed was SAP, which PPG is in the process of implementing across its global operations. **Key topics included:**



**SAP Implementation:** The steps and challenges involved in integrating SAP into PPG's various business arms, with a long-term vision of creating a unified ERP ecosystem.

**ERP Systems:** The importance of ERP systems in facilitating business operations and decision-making processes.

**Global Operations:** Insights into PPG's global reach, with 80% of clients coming from around the world, including offices in Mexico City, Barcelona, Warsaw, and China.

**Practical Applications:** Demonstrations of how SAP is used in real-world scenarios to meet PPG's ERP requirements, presented by former interns who have transitioned to full-time roles in the SAP department.

Reflections from the Visit

Wan Amirul Hafiq Bin Wan Huzaini

"The visit to PPG Coatings was an eye-opener regarding the importance of ERP systems like SAP in large-scale industrial operations. Seeing the practical application of SAP firsthand solidified my understanding of its value in streamlining processes and enhancing decision-making. I am motivated to further explore SAP and its capabilities, recognizing the rising demand for skills in this area."

Muhammad Hasan Bin Che Abdullah

"This visit highlighted the critical role of technology in the paint industry and beyond. Learning about PPG's commitment to a unified ERP ecosystem using SAP was particularly interesting. The dedication and vision of the PPG team, aiming for a complete integration over the next 10-15 years, were inspiring. This experience has fueled my interest in ERP systems and their potential to transform business operations."

Muhammad Izzuddin Bin Shabrin

"I was particularly impressed by the global reach of PPG and how they manage to maintain consistency and efficiency across different regions using SAP. The insights shared by the former interns were inspiring, demonstrating the opportunities for growth and learning within the field of ERP systems. This visit has strengthened my resolve to pursue a career in this domain."

Nur Khuzairie Zakwan Bin Mohd Zamri

"The detailed presentations and live demonstrations of SAP workflows provided a practical perspective that we often miss in theoretical learning. Understanding the challenges and strategies involved in implementing such a comprehensive system was incredibly valuable. I now appreciate the complexity and significance of ERP systems in global business operations."

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