Questions to Pierrick Francois, Team Leader of Car solutions, and Vincent Rigal, Team Leader of Maritime & Insurance Solutions within **Amadeus** Company (Sophia Antipolis)

Pierrick Francois and Vincent Rigal graduated from Telecom ParisTech/EURECOM (2006) and joined **Amadeus** in September 2006, a worldwide company, leader in IT solutions for the Travel and Tourism industry and located in Sophia Antipolis.

Let's ask them about their work experience within **Amadeus**.

How would you sum up Amadeus' Core Business?

Amadeus is an IT provider and transaction processor for the travel and tourism industry.

Acting as a worldwide network, **Amadeus** provides search, pricing, booking, ticketing and other travel services in real time to travel providers and travel agencies all around the earth. You are using **Amadeus** transaction processing power and technology solutions, most of the time you book a flight!

Moreover, through its IT state-of-the-art solutions, **Amadeus** offers software systems to travel companies which automate processes such as reservation, inventory management, accounting and departure control.

In 2011, **Amadeus** processed more than 439 million passengers from airlines! 95% of the world's scheduled network airline seats are bookable using **Amadeus**! **Amadeus** operates over 195 markets around the world - that's more than the United Nations!

Amadeus' Business Core is wide, and new ideas are explored every year!

Your job in a nutshell?

Pierrick:

I joined **Amadeus** within the Travel Service Leisure division in the Car Rental distribution business. Being a Car software development engineer within **Amadeus** means working daily on a rich application which involves a range of technologies such as C++, Java, Apache, Jboss, Multimedia, XML… Imagine the variety in your job if you start in the morning with a new server activation, continue with a Java architecture design, and finish your day with the analysis of capacity issues.

Today, I lead the CAR development team; I am responsible for a complex and highly-used application dealing with a wide range of services and optimized software, processing millions of transactions per day.

Just an interesting figure, if you join together one year of messages exchanged between **Amadeus** and the car providers you could do two round trips to the moon!

Vincent:

During my first years of software development, I participated in many projects on the core of the **Amadeus** reservation system for Airlines. It is very interesting and challenging to work on highly critical C++ production applications, where everything has to be well optimized in order to deliver the best solutions to our worldwide customers.

Today, I am about to take over the responsibility of a team of 15 people working on the development of all applications related to the Cruise and Insurance businesses. It is amazing to think that more than 10 countries are represented in this team (Great Britain, Romania, Spain, Italy, Morocco, India, Lebanon, Latvia, Russia, France …).

Some interesting figures, at peak time **Amadeus** processes more than 84 000 (internal and external message) transactions per second of s! Over 2 billion transactions are managed daily. That is a huge amount of traffic!

Amadeus' data center stores 8 petabytes of data which is the equivalent of over 100 years of high definition video!

Major project?

One of the major projects we both worked on is the TPF decommissioning (TPF is a legacy IBM mainframe operating system inherited from the 60s). We are moving all historical Amadeus applications from a monolithic architecture on a proprietary system to an open Linux distributed system. Thanks to this effort, we will be able to develop richer functionalities for our customers while keeping our development and operational costs under control. As a technological IT provider, we want to offer our customers state-of–the-art technology suiting their daily business needs.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Many aspects could be discussed, but let's mention two:

Innovation, **Amadeus** invested 364 million Euros in R&D in 2011 and was recognized as the first company in Europe investing in R&D in the category of IT computing by the last "Industrial R&D Investment Scorecard".

It is very exciting to think about the future of Amadeus. How will the airports of the future be? Which kind of features could we implement in our applications to keep suiting our customer needs? …

And **Challenge**, working on world mission critical applications that need to be 100% available and reliable, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, makes our job one of a kind.

What are the other jobs offered by Amadeus?

Amadeus offers a much diversified portfolio of Jobs in Marketing and Development areas, such as, Product Manager, Pre-sales Engineer, Implementation Engineer, Product Definition Analyst, Software Development Engineer…

For more information, please consult: http://jobs.amadeus.com

About Amadeus Career opportunities?

Amadeus strongly encourages people to take an active role in their career thanks to a very active Human Resources team.

More than **400 internal job opportunities**, on all continents, are posted each year. You will never get bored and will always find new, exciting challenges in your daily job.

And After Work?

Amadeus staff enjoy a very good work life balance. We have an active Employee Committee serving more than 4500 people (staff and contractors), with a wide range of cultural, social and sports activities. The quality of life is amazing in Sophia Antipolis, for instance, you can jog at lunch time in the forest surrounding **Amadeus**, go to the beach after work or even better, in winter, hit the ski slopes which are only an hour's drive away.

How did Telecom ParisTech and EURECOM education help you for your job?

The education provided by Telecom ParisTech/Eurecom really suits what is needed to succeed in an IT company such as **Amadeus**. We really appreciated studying state-of-the-art technology courses on information technology, network, security, science computing …

Eurecom enabled us to study in an international and multicultural environment with all courses in English: a great introduction to the daily work in **Amadeus**.

Many engineers who have graduated from Eurecom and/or Telecom ParisTech are represented within **Amadeus Sophia Antipolis**. The first one was hired at the very beginning in 1989 and the last one this month! In our department, Eurecom and Telecom ParisTech are well represented: out of 44 engineers, 5 come from Eurecom and Telecom ParisTech!

Which skills have been the most useful for you?

Vincent: I would say curiosity, team spirit, high interest in business and new technologies, commitment and innovation.

Pierrick: I would say open-mindedness, excellence, capacity to adapt, a taste for challenge and innovation.

Any advice for someone looking to join Amadeus?

If you are interested in new technologies, working in a worldwide and multicultural environment, if you like challenges, this is a great place to be: on the front line where the future of travel solutions is being built. Just send your CV and your cover letter to sophiarecruit@amadeus.com.