

# Our Siemens Project

## **When ? Where? What?**

On Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2013 our Business-English course and our teacher Mrs. Batteux went to the Siemens Academy. We had met at 7.45am in front of the company before we got our visitor ID card. After that we met the students we were going to work with the next three days. With this engineer class we did a simulation game in order to gain knowledge of a company's cash flow. The teachers were Mrs. Weißleder and Mr. Classen.



## **The simulation game**

Try to imagine that you are part of the new management team of a factory which has been successful in the past. But now, competition has become increasingly more difficult, causing a decline in economic results and prices have reached a historical low. It was our aim to turn the factory into a successful company within three years. By doing so, we have learned how to create and evaluate a company's balance sheet which shows you in a specific moment in time if you are in a positive range or not. We did a good job if we were able to increase the company's revenue (all the money a company generates).

## Evaluation

Our second project with Siemens was not as successful as the first one, measuring worth by quality of learning and quantity of new knowledge.

We were content with the students and the atmosphere, as before. Alas, the teachers did not do their job as well as before. They talked too much in German and brought doubts about the sense of ours staying there.

Nevertheless, they taught us some very interesting and helpful things and helped understanding the way a company works better once again.

So, although the English had been neglected, our stay was necessary for understanding basic business terms better. To be more specific, me ourselves, feel more sure while talking about business terms than before.



## Our impression

There are a lot of things that we liked about these two days, but there are also a couple of things we did not like at all. Let us start with the positive aspects.

Both teachers were very helpful and it was obvious that they had a huge knowledge about business and about this simulation since they have done it already many times. Furthermore, the students were quite friendly and some of them were even younger than us. Some students of our Business English course really enjoyed delicious pizzas in the Siemens cafeteria. Nevertheless, there are also a few things that we did not like.

The breaks were way too long and we would have preferred that they had been shorter, so that we could have gone home earlier.

There were also a few students who were distracting the others because they were not interested in our topic.

All in all, we can say that we had three great days where we learned a lot and we can recommend this simulation to the future generation.