

Newsletter ParisTech China

News from Alumni

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Yves Poilane, President ParisTech



ParisTech is strongly involved in China where it runs several teaching programmes in partnership with leading Chinese Universities.

In Shanghai, with the Sino-French Institute of Engineering and Management at Tongji University ; the ParisTech Shanghai JiaoTong School with Shanghai Jiaotong University . In Wuhan, the ICARE Masters' Programme in Clean and Renewable Energy at Huazhong University of Science and Technology.

Besides these joint initiatives, in 2000 ParisTech launched the « 50 Chinese engineers in France » programme (better known in China as « 9+9 » programme). The programme recruits talented Chinese students in their final B.Sc. year in twelve of China's leading Universities.

In France they go on to complete a high quality training period, lasting 2 to 4 years at ParisTech's "Grandes Ecoles", including internships in firms, in order to obtain the French Engineer's diploma (Diplôme d'ingénieur), equivalent to (and even more demanding than) an M.Sc. degree.

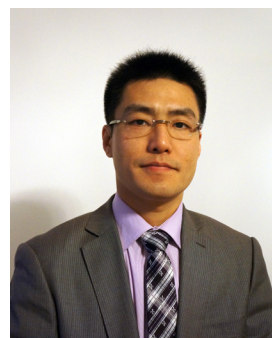
Since the programme was launched, over 800 Chinese students have been admitted at ParisTech. Some are still studying. About 600 have graduated. After that, most of them go on directly to work in companies, some of them continue as Ph.D students.

They are working in many different companies, in many countries, in many different fields.

We are proud to publish and to share with you the experiences of some of these Alumni in this Special Issue of ParisTech China Newsletter. Hope you enjoy the reading.

LIU Bo 刘波

BSc in Civil Engineering, Tongji University 1996 - 1999
Ecole des Ponts et Chaussées ParisTech 2000 - 2003
General Manager, SADE (Veolia Water Group) China



At the end of my engineering education at Ecole des Ponts ParisTech in 2003, I joined SADE for an internship in their International Department. I later joined their work center in Ile-de-France where I spent 5 years on site.

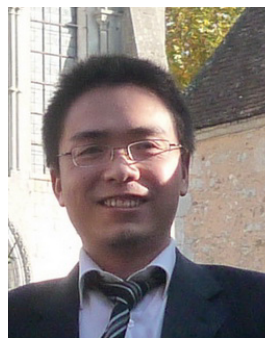
In 2008, I returned to China to become General Manager of a joint venture created by SADE with the Shanghai municipality which lays

70 to 100 km of pipelines per year in Pu-Dong. Management at the head of a joint venture was really a new challenge that requires both a flexibility to adapt to the local context and rigor to maintain the quality standards of SADE. Thanks to the efforts of our teams, our joint venture quickly integrated best practices and many innovative techniques such as the no-dig rehabilitation that enabled us to extend our business well beyond Shanghai.

Today, as General Manager SADE China, my role encompasses all the activities of SADE in China with 200 staff. It is gratifying to be able to develop my technical knowledge in China and bring our two cultures into symbiosis while achieving ambitious business targets.

LI Changyu 李长禹

BSc in Mechanical Engineering, Shanghai Jiaotong University 1998 - 2002
Arts et Métiers ParisTech 2002 - 2004
Contract Completion & Quality Manager, REDEX, France



I started to work in REDEX after graduation in 2004. REDEX is a SME with a strong staff of graduate engineers (30 among 300 people). REDEX manufactures high precision machinery for finishing operations in ferrous and non-ferrous industry. Initially I was hired to complete the follow up and commissioning of machines on Chinese territory, in the Chinese language. Very quickly my

field was extended to encompass the whole world. What is interesting in our work is that we design, manufacture, assemble, test, install and start our machines entirely by ourselves.

Two years ago I was promoted to the rank of Contract Completion and Quality Manager. I am responsible for the smooth delivery of the most suitable solutions to our ever more demanding customers in a market full of challenge and competition.

If I have to summarize my ten years of experiences in France as a piece of advice, I just want to say: Do be open-minded and be curious. You will encounter plenty of wonderful surprises from the moment you set foot in France.



YU Guoshen 俞国申

BSc in Electronic Engineering, Fudan University 1999 - 2003
Télécom ParisTech 2003 - 2005; PhD Ecole Polytechnique 2006-2009
BlueCrest Capital Management, Switzerland



The engineering education in Telecom ParisTech, a leading French school in which the word "telecommunication" was coined more than a century ago, provided me with a wide scope of knowledge in information technology, and a one year internship. I was at the time enthusiastic about the beauty and the depth of signal processing, a discipline that bridges together

engineering and applied mathematics. So I decided to continue for a PhD in applied math. I was fortunate enough to work with three of the leading scientists in the field, my supervisor Professor Stéphane Mallat at Ecole Polytechnique, Professor Jean-Michel Morel at ENS Cachan, and Professor Jean-Jacques Slotine at MIT in the U.S.A., on three different topics. I was fortunate to be awarded the ParisTech Best PhD Thesis Prize 2010, and was tied 1st in the 2010 national recruitment competition of the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), in the information sciences and technologies sector. After doing a one-year post-doc spell at the University of Minnesota, I was hired as a quantitative researcher in the systematic trading department of BlueCrest Capital Management, Geneva, in December 2010.

YANG Ming 杨铭

BSc in Agronomy and Biotechnology in China Agricultural University 1998-2002
Agro ParisTech 2003 - 2005
Senior Commercial Manager, Mars Incorporate, China



I fully enjoyed my life in France, French culture, high quality education, open-minded atmosphere, project-based studies, beautiful Cite Universitaire, all such amazing elements make me being very proud of my two years studies at Agro ParisTech (then INA-PG).

In 2006 I worked as a buyer in Biscuit division in Group DANONE, based in Paris suburban area. I was

responsible for machineries & factory spare parts purchase for European factories and some other green land projects. In 2007 I moved to Malaysia to co-lead a new DANONE biscuit factory. A helicopter view of procurement function was built up at this stage. I learned a lot, since purchasing for a new factory covers different categories in different fields. The fast business growth in Malaysia and South East Asia attracted me to go back to Asia Pacific region. In 2008, I finally chose Kraft Shanghai to pursue my career in procurement, after the accomplishment of Malaysian project.

The following fast career track proves my decision. Three months in junior manager position, two years in manager position and two years in senior manager position, I rotated almost all categories in procurement function at Kraft China. My buying activities covers raw material, media, customer promotion, logistic, capital and factory in different time slot.

Now I am working in Beijing, my hometown, for MARS, my responsibilities cover capital investment, factory, and service across China including Chocolate, Petcare, Gum and confectionary business.

YUAN Quan 袁泉

BSc in Mathematics in Nanjing University 1998 - 2002
Télécom ParisTech 2002 - 2005
State Administration of Foreign Exchange, China



I studied and worked for 8 years in France before returning to Beijing in 2010.

For me, ParisTech is the ideal place to study science and technology. Excellent professors, close academia-industry interaction and an excellent internship system are the 3 key points:

1. ParisTech covers almost all the domains in science and technology. The objective of ParisTech is to train elite engineers, who seek solutions to practical problems while satisfying requirements within the constraints in technical, social, financial or business areas, and the curriculum is tailored to meet this objective.

2. ParisTech has a close relationship with leading industrial companies who contract nearly 3000 projects by funding laboratories in schools for theoretical studies or concrete projects in all fields. Students can participate in these cutting edge studies or industrial projects on the ParisTech campus.

3. ParisTech gives its students opportunities of at least 6-months internships, generally offered from the alumni network. Students gain an experience of the working life and practice the knowledge acquired in leading industrial corporations. As the alumni of ParisTech represent a high proportion of senior management in major French companies (covering all sectors of business), the benefit of students during their internship is reflected in the opportunity of getting formal working positions in France or abroad.

Graduates from ParisTech generally begin their careers in French industrial groups, in which plentiful savoir-faire (know-how) can be acquired. The savoir-faire is valuable and applicable not only in France, but also in China. China needs the French know-how and I hope to foster it in China, I am doing it now.

LI Hong 李虹

BSc in Materials Science & Engineering, Tongji University 1999 - 2003
ESPCI ParisTech 2003 - 2006
L'Oréal, France



In 2003, I was able to continue my studies at ESPCI where I benefited from its multidisciplinary scientific education with a strong research orientation, and an openness to industrial and international experience. Besides my Engineer's Diploma from ESPCI, I also got a Research Master on Polymers at the University of Paris VI. During the three years, I did my first industrial internship at Saint-Gobain's research center in the south of France and two other internships at L'Oréal (one on quality control at a plant and the other on polymers at a research center).

I got several job offers and chose Process Engineer in the Operations Directorate at L'Oréal in Paris in 2006. My responsibility was to design, develop and improve the performance of production facilities and utilities for all the Group's factories. After nearly three years in industry, I moved to the research center and worked in the department of Make-up Applied Research at L'Oréal. My principal mission is to innovate best cosmetic products (especially foundation products) by selecting, implementing and promoting new concepts, technologies and raw materials.

I enjoy my job of designing research because the projects are interesting and technically challenging. It is also a great pleasure to apply what I learned at school to solve scientific problems in the professional world. I hope I may create some wonderful cosmetic products in the future to make our world more beautiful and happy.

LIU Dan 刘丹

BSc in Physics, Peking University 1999 - 2003
MINES ParisTech 2003- 2005
Product Manager, Eberspaecher, Germany



I joined Ecole des Mines ParisTech in 2003 after graduating from Peking University where my undergraduate major was Physics. ParisTech offered me the opportunity to obtain a systematical engineering training in one of the most prestigious Grand Ecoles in France.

After graduating from MINES in 2005, I started working in the largest French automotive component supplier as a product engineer and was based in France. As a young professional with international mindset, I was quickly assigned to take responsibility of projects in European countries outside France. Today's globalized industry needs flexible, open-minded and pragmatic individuals.

Somebody once said to me that "industry is boring", but I find a lot of interesting items along assembly lines. There are a lot of dedicated engineers, technicians and operators who are eager to share their decades of experience with you. It is even more exciting when some process optimizations are initiated and implemented by you which facilitate their daily work.

I accepted the company's proposal to relocate in Germany in 2009. I participated in the whole development phase of an instrument panel for a new vehicle platform of VW: from concept design to the start of production. I was really impressed by the detailed knowledge possessed by the professional and devoted German engineers. I have learnt a lot from them.

I am now working at Eberspaecher, a company in the South of Germany. Here I lead the design and development of automobile exhaust gas treatment systems. With the growing emphasis on environmental protection, there are great challenges ahead. I make full use of my product development expertise and industry knowledge, combined with my German, French, English and Chinese languages to collaborate with my colleagues and customers situated worldwide to provide solutions.

PAN Bofeng 潘博峰

BSc in Automobile Engineering, Tsinghua University 1999- 2003
ENSTA ParisTech 2004 - 2007
Faurecia China



After graduating from the Automotive Department of Tsinghua University, I was admitted to ENSTA ParisTech in 2004. During this period, I was particularly interested in NVH topics for land transportation system and two internships at Renault and PSA helped me broaden my vision on NVH challenges of urban vehicles. At the same time, I have encountered

the most important person in my life, my wife Zheng Yunqing who was in the same school and begun our romantic story in Paris.

In 2007 I was sponsored by Faurecia to continue my study at ENSPM and got my second engineer's diploma in 2008. After graduating, I worked for two years at Faurecia Technocenter in France as an acoustics expert for exhaust systems. My main work was engine acoustic source characterization and turbocharger modeling.

In 2010 I transferred back to Faurecia Emissions Control Technologies China Technocenter in Shanghai and led the acoustic design team until now. As the biggest exhaust system supplier both locally and worldwide, my team works for all major car manufacturers over the country and we are responsible for the design of the exhaust system in order to meet every customer's requests. It is a challenging work for such a young team yet we have overcome many difficulties and we are now fully independent, from the initial concept design phase to the final validation. I hope my technical skills learnt in France will help Faurecia to achieve its fast expansion in Asia.

YU Miao 于淼

BSc in Civil Engineering, Tongji University 2001 - 2004
Ecole Polytechnique 2004 - 2008
Saint-Gobain China



I have been working at Saint-Gobain Sekurit in Shanghai since 2009. Saint-Gobain is a multinational group of materials, and Sekurit, a business unit of Saint-Gobain, is one of the leading automotive glass makers in the world. Sekurit Shanghai works mainly with car makers in China; it designs, develops and produces automotive glass for passenger cars and industrial vehicles.

I began my career in production, it is very important for a beginner to start in a manufacturing company because it helps to know products and processes. Since then I have been working on project management for three years, mainly for Sino-French joint ventures. My job is to transform numerical design into real parts, and make preparations for production, respecting all the constraints of time, quality and costs.

Project management is a very comprehensive job; three years' experiences helped me to master project management skills and to reach a variety of fields in industry like production, quality, sales, purchasing, logistics etc. it also helps me understand how to work with a team and under pressure. I am happy to have had such an opportunity.

My education in Tongji University and in France gave me a strong technical background, foreign language skills and a quick learning ability, these capabilities help me grow up in an international, industrial working environment.

XIAO Xiao 肖肖

BSc in environmental Science Fudan University 2001 - 2005
Agro ParisTech then ENGREF 2005 - 2007
Asia Pacific Marketing Manager, Solvay China



I would probably never have spoken French, nor would have had the chance to be close to French culture if I had not studied in ParisTech.

I appreciated my stay in France not only for the eye-opening experiences, but more importantly the quality of engineering education, my colleagues and good study environment, which helped me enhance my capability of team-

working, problem-solving, self-learning, and time-controlling.

With all these advantages, I started my career with a French strategic consulting firm, then continued with Rhodia (actually Solvay group) in China.

Thanks to ParisTech, I met young talents from top Chinese universities across the country, and from top French grandes

écoles. Some of them became friends for life, after years of happiness (and some tears) together in France.

I am back working for Solvay Polyamide & Intermediates in China, as Asia Pacific Marketing Manager, based in Shanghai.

NI Yuan 倪远

BSc in Physics in Tsinghua University 2001 - 2005
Ecole Polytechnique 2005 - 2009
CGG, France



At Ecole Polytechnique I chose to major in Electronics and computer science in the third year. I took signal processing in Telecom ParisTech and theoretical computer science in Paris VI during my final year.

One of the advantages of the French engineering education is the close link with industry: for each period of study every student must pursue an internship in a research

institute or in a corporation. French companies have a well-established mechanism to accommodate the trainees. I did a summer internship in INRIA (Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et Automatique) as programmer in the Scilab (an open-source mathematical software), then later two 6 months' internships in Thales and Sagem, first as software architect and then as high performance computing architect.

After graduation, I got my first job from CGG (La Compagnie de Generale Geophysique) as a Marine geophysics researcher. I am based in Paris and in charge of innovation of offshore oil & gas exploration techniques for the company's activities all over the world and marine wildlife preservation.

CGG is a world leader in oil and gas exploration, founded in 1931 in France. But like most oil companies, its business is worldwide, its employees are worldwide, and its vision of the company is worldwide. As a foreigner in the Paris office, I found myself quickly integrated into the team without any problem.

I now lead a team conducting research on offshore seismic exploration. The research is quite demanding and I apply my physics background and signal processing knowledge. I go offshore several times a year to carry out experiments.

My vision for the future is to continue cutting-edge research within a multi-cultural context. One thing is sure: with my Chinese roots and French experience, I want to be a link between China, France and the world.

DING Shile 丁诗乐

BSc in physics Fudan University 2002 - 2006

MINES ParisTech 2006 - 2009

Project Manager, Imerys North America



After obtaining a BSc in physics at Fudan University in 2006, I was enrolled by MINES ParisTech where I majored in mechanical engineering and energy. I did a one-year internship in a big French nuclear energy group. Then Imerys, a world leader in mining industry, offered me a pre-hiring internship in USA prior to my graduation from MINES. In May 2010, I was recruited by Imerys as a

project manager in China with responsibilities for overseeing capital projects and implementing a variety of assignments regarding process improvement and new product development. I have been working as a reliability supervisor in Imerys Talc North America since February 2013.

The engineering education I had at MINES gave me a technical knowledge and enabled me to improve my leadership and teamwork capabilities. Moreover, it helped me understand that being an internationally adapted engineer, it gives one the ability to discover different cultures and exchange with them.

ZHU Siwei 朱思维

BSc in EE Shanghai Jiaotong University 2006 - 2008

Télécom ParisTech 2008 - 2011

founding partner of TasteSpirit.com, China



I am founding partner and managing editor of TasteSpirit.com, the most visited independent online wine media in the Chinese language.

I entered the world of wine by coincidence. One of the adventures at Télécom ParisTech is that there are many joint programs with other schools, for example, the Master of Management & New Technologies between Télécom and HEC which I

attended. My Database class professor happened to be one of the most famous wine critics in France, Mr. Bernard Burtschy. After following his oenology class from time to time, I deeply fell in love with wine and the rich culture behind it.

The wine business and Internet business share one thing in common: there is always so much to learn and everything is changing so rapidly. Professionally speaking, a wine critics' job is to use his or her trained taste and knowledge to eliminate

bad wines and discover good wines for customers, especially those with good value for money. Wine tasting for me is always a journey of adventure. Wine is a work of art which reflects the characteristics of its vintage, soil and the personality of the men who make it. A bottle of wine is alive and it evolves constantly like a human-being. However, wine tasting has its occupational hazards too. Sometimes I need to taste more than 100 wines in a day, so I have to spit out the wine each time otherwise I would be too drunk to do anything.

In partnership with Le Figaro, our focus on high quality content and independence is doing very well in establishing a very strong brand and readership for TasteSpirit.com.

HUANG Puye 黄谱业

BSc in Automation SouthEast University 2005 - 2009

Arts et Métiers ParisTech 2009 - 2011

Process Engineer, SAFRAN - SNECMA, China



At the beginning of my life in France, it was truly hard: the language, the professional course, and especially the homesickness! However, the alumni association of Arts et Métiers also helped and impressed me deeply. Every year, grey-haired alumni return to the Ecole to celebrate their traditional festival and give advice to fresh students. Many students find their internships with

the help of the alumni association.

Arts et Métiers taught me a lot of professional knowledge in the two years I spent there. This knowledge helps me in my professional life. However, the most valuable thing that I learned from Arts et Métiers is not the professional knowledge or the French language. It is the ability to adapt yourself and survive in a completely foreign environment. Arts et Métiers provided us with the opportunity to develop, progress and succeed in a multicultural environment, with people from different countries and with different mindsets. This is most important: this kind of ability helps me work and cooperate with colleagues with different cultural backgrounds within SNECMA.

I have now worked for more than one year in SNECMA China. I am grateful to everyone who did me a favor when I was in France. I hope to do the same to others when they are in need.