

Kyle Howe
Diesel Technology
10/30/15

Denmark Exchange Trip

First of all I cannot thank Scan Design enough for the opportunity they gave my classmates and I. For two weeks I was able to experience a whole new world learning about the subject I enjoy the most, diesel technology. My trip to Denmark was unforgettable and rewarding in more ways than I could have imagined.

One of the most rewarding days was when we visited the Esvagt Company. They are focused on emergency rescue for offshore personnel. Their job is to make sure that those out on the water feel comfortable and secure. They took us on a tour of the whole company, from the dispatch center to the ships themselves. Every employee we came across was kind and seemed very suited for their job. The most interesting part of the trip was seeing how large the diesel engines were in the ships. I had never seen anything like them.

Getting to know all the different hosts was rewarding as well. We were able to accompany three of our hosts to their personal jobs several times during the trip. Their job title is "ship fitter" and they are the ones who repair and maintain the engines on the ships at the harbor. They do everything from machining to welding to general maintenance. I do not have a lot of experience with marine engines so it was a great learning opportunity to see a whole other world of the diesel field.

The most exciting place we visited was the Danish Naval Base. Not many people are allowed there but after some convincing we were allowed in. They had just finished making a repair on one of the naval vessels and we were able to go out on the test run to make sure everything was working accordingly. It was pretty neat to be in such a highly respected area learning about diesel engines and experience the sea trial.

Aside from the diesel I learned a lot about the Danish culture. There are quite a few differences between America and Denmark, and it was very eye opening. I was astonished at how green their country was, making a lot of use out of bicycles and their metro system. Every person I came across was polite and helpful. To be in a different country for the first time can be very scary, but the host family I was placed with were more than kind. They planned both weeks full of exciting things to do and see. They were very generous and happy to answer all my questions.

I will remember this once in a lifetime trip for the rest of my life. I got to see so many kinds of engines, mostly in the marine area. I'm glad that this is where a lot of the focus was because it is where I had the least amount of experience. The trip was very rewarding and it was amazing to learn more about the diesel field in a whole

new environment. Once again I cannot thank enough everyone who made this fulfilling trip possible.