

# The Graduate

<b>Name</b>	Peter Oosterbeek
<b>Date of Birth</b>	3 February 1970
<b>Study &amp; University</b>	Economics, with specializations in Logistical Management and Traffic&Transport Economics at the University of Amsterdam
<b>Graduation Date</b>	December 1999

## Thesis title:

“Information technology in the logistical sector; a means or a must?”

## Summary of Thesis:

As a trainee for LogicaCMG, I was asked to do some research for several (8) expeditors to find out what is needed according to IT in the logistics sector. Main subject was the strategy decision (is IT a must or means) for an expeditor to invest in IT to be a strategic partner in the supply chain.

## Your relationship with Aerius:

In 1998, I was a board member of Aerius. As secretary, I was mainly concerned with the internal affairs of the association. I also participated in the 1997 Aerius study trip to Florida. There, we visited, amongst others, the Miami International Airport, the Pan Am Flight Academy, American Airlines, the seaport of Miami, and, on the way to Daytona Beach, we visited Sanford Airport near Orlando. Last but not least, I helped to organize a special interest conference, in conjunction with the Haarlem Business School from the Netherlands, as part of the “Logistica” conference (now known as: Conference for Logistics and ICT). The main topic was “How should students in logistics profile themselves in the job market?”

## About your internship:

Although Stagaerius arranged a lot of internships for students at the time, I found an internship at LogicaCMG by myself, a big consultancy firm that specializes in the development and application of information technology. Here, I researched the potential role of information technology for several logistics companies. Nowadays, we know that e-tools, like ‘tracking and tracing’, are essential to survive in this business. However, at the end of the last millennium,

this was a brand new development and many companies were faced with a difficult choice.

## Current employer:

Checkpoint Meto Benelux BV. Checkpoint Systems is a multinational supplier and manufacturer of security solutions to the retail industry. It provides services and products enabling customers to track, brand and secure goods worldwide. With a wealth of expertise in engineering, bar coding, printing and labeling facilities, Checkpoint provides its customers with a holistic system to combat shrinkage (the loss of goods throughout the supply chain) in all its forms.

## Since:

October 2004

## Position:

Manager operations for the region Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, also known as the Benelux. In one month from now, I will become Manager HR & Operations in Bratislava, in Slovakia, as our new Shared Service Center will be based there.

## Job content:

I’m concerned with many strategic aspects of the company, like how to transfer the company’s activities to our new Shared Service Center. In preparation for my new job, I spent a lot of working days in Bratislava, setting up facilities and production lines. As the competition in this branch is very intense, especially from Chinese companies, we are continuously optimizing our production and sales strategies. In my current job, I’m also responsible for human resource management and the budget planning for the Shared Service Center in Bratislava.

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**Future wishes:**

I'm no career planner. I always keep my eyes and ears open for new opportunities and seize them whenever they present themselves.

**Previous employer(s):**

Before my job at Checkpoint, I worked at a company called 'Computer Service Solutions' (CSS). This company develops and installs turn-key computer systems for all kinds of purposes. I joined CSS as a management trainee, but shortly thereafter, I became manager operations. I also worked at Danzas Logistics, which is now a part of DHL. I worked as Manager Operations for the IBM site in Amsterdam.

**Your Golden Rule for application (interviews):**

Always be yourself. Of course you must show off your talents, but don't overdo it. In the long run, it's your happiness that counts and not the position. So, follow your own path and make your own choices.

**Newspaper:**

AD Utrecht, formerly known as "Utrechts Nieuwsblad"

**Magazines:**

First and foremost a Dutch magazine called "Fiets" ("Bicycle"), as I like cycling very much. Besides that, I like to read 'Elsevier' (a weekly opinion magazine) and the trade journal "Inkoop en Logistiek"

**Radio:**

I don't listen radio very often, although sometimes, when I'm driving. Then I listen to stations like "538" or "3FM".

**Television:**

The evening news and several sports programs. But, as I'm a lot of the time in Bratislava, I don't watch much television at the moment.

**Music:**

My favorite bands are 'The Stones' and the 'Golden Earring'. They play nice music and have strong lyrics.

**Last book:**

"Good to Great" by Jim Collins, as I like to read about subjects on management and leadership.

**Sport(s):**

I like cycling, football and golf (but don't ask me about my handicap)

**Food:**

Traditional Dutch dishes, like sauerkraut with meatballs. I also enjoy eating pasta and salads and vegetarian food.

**You came wake me up for:**

Nothing special.

**Cities:**

Amsterdam. I have lived there for 8 years (a part during my study). It's a very dynamic and diverse city, and easy to travel within. Also, the people of Amsterdam have a lot of character.

**Country:**

South Africa. I've been there once for 5 to 6 weeks and I've been completely taken away by it.

**Seasons:**

The summer! Then you can have a drink outside a café and do other fun things outside. I also like it when you're able to go to work and come home when it's still light, so you have the feeling the day isn't over yet.

**Holiday:**

France. Nice landscape, good cuisine and nice temperatures.

**Best flight:**

My flight to South Africa with Air France. It was my first time on a Boeing 747.

**Worst flight:**

A flight just 5 months ago with Sky Europe from Bratislava to Amsterdam. The flight was supposed to leave at 7.50am, but that time came and passed without departing, due to technical difficulties with the aircraft. So, the flight was rescheduled to 10am and after awhile it was rescheduled to 3pm even. Finally, Sky Europe came up with the idea to hopefully get us airborne at 5.30pm in a rented aircraft from a Turkish airline. However, at that time, a Turkish airline, Onur Air, was banned to fly into several European countries. When we finally boarded an aircraft, the captain announced that the flight would be rough, as he expected heavy turbulence and thunderstorms near Amsterdam. As a precautionary measure, two Slovakian firemen would come along for safety reasons. However, if some people would rather take the next flight, they would be rebooked for free. As a result more than half of the passengers opted for the next flight.