

1 INTRODUCTION

Noldus Information Technology is leading developer of innovative scientific software for measurement and analysis of behavior in people and animals. We are specialists in the area of observation, vision analysis, multi-media and statistics. Our software is used in biology, psychology, pharmacology, ergonomics and movement science. Our systems are used by universities, research institutes and commercial companies in more than 75 countries. Our solutions vary from delivery of Noldus software to complete observational labs. Our headquarters is in Wageningen (the Netherlands) and we have branch offices in various European countries and the USA. Currently we have about 90 employees, and you can read more about us and our products at www.noldus.com.

Testing software and hardware is an important link in the chain of our product development. The test department is responsible for the testing of our integrated solutions to measure and improve the quality of our solutions. In addition to the daily work of the test department there is room for a number of interesting projects for students.

2 PROJECTS

A number of projects are described here, most of which can be completed in under 100 working days. It is therefore possible for students to combine more than one project.

2.1 AUTOMATION OF TEST PROCESSES

Noldus software is very complex and testing it requires good insight into how end-users use our solutions. We do not make simple database applications but measurement and analysis systems. Nevertheless we think that we can gain a lot by automating certain regression tests. In 2007 we have made a start with this and a nice project could be implementing this into a number of our products.

2.2 WINDOWS VISTA

Our main products have already been tested on Windows Vista. However all our other projects also need testing. Because detailed testing of different video formats is an important part of this project, it provides a nice opportunity to get to know both Noldus products and Windows Vista.

2.3 QUALITY OF VIDEO TRACKING

One of our main products, EthoVision, is used to track animals and detect their behavior. The data output of the program has been validated, however this can probably be done in a better way. The project will consist of further development of validation of the tracking, especially related to the accuracy of video tracking and behavioral detection.

2.4 IMPROVEMENT OF THE TEST PROCESS

In the last five years we have grown to a reasonably professional test organization. However we have the impression that there is room for further improvement and professionalization. The project would consist of investigating whether a method such as t-map could be further integrated into our test processes.

2.5 TESTING POCKET OBSERVER

One of Noldus' main products is The Observer. This product is used to manually record behavior. We have also developed a version of The Observer which runs on the Windows Mobile operating system, and this version will be made more compatible with the latest version of the PC version of The Observer. Because this is relatively small test, it gives a student the chance to experience a complete test cycle including writing a test plan, test cases, and writing a test report.

3 INTERESTED?

If you would like to carry out on the projects listed above you need good communication skills (including being able to write good English), basic knowledge of test methods, and good general computer knowledge (hardware and software). During the internship you will build up your knowledge of test methods and scientific software and learn to work in a professional test and development environment.

Are you are looking for an interesting and challenging internship or placement? Contact Andrew Spink (0317-473300) mail jobs@noldus.nl with reference number 2007SERV-01.