IAT Animal Technologist Exchange Programme

Developed by an idea from the IAT Branch Innovation and Networking group (BING). The Animal Technologist Exchange Programme is open to Animal Technologists, Apprentices, and Named Animal Care and Welfare Officers (NACWO). The Animal Technologist Exchange Programme is an opportunity for upgrading skills and aids further development and networking opportunities.

Aims of the programme are:

1. To exchange best practice in the care and welfare of Animals used in Science.
2. To develop a network of animal technologists for all sectors of the industry.
3. To identify designated trainers in skills that are not widely available.
4. Provide an opportunity to network.
5. To provide Continual Professional Development (CPD) opportunities.

Responsibilities:

Host Establishment:

1. To ensure that the visitor has a Health & Safety induction.
2. Ensures the visitor is accompanied at all times.
3. Provide a 'Technologist Liaison' as the point of contact regarding the programme.
4. Provide feedback to the IAT on an annual basis on the progress of the programme.
5. Keep records on who has visited the institution and what areas were visited.

Visitor:

1. Comply with the host institutions Health & Safety instructions at all time.
2. Write a report for publication in Institute of Animal Technology (IAT) media within one month of visiting the host institution.
3. Provide feedback to the IAT on the experience.
4. Comply with the relevant quarantine policy before and after the visit.
5. Use the programme to gain further insights skills and information.

IAT:

1. Provide an annual update to the membership on the progress of the programme
2. Have overall responsibility for the running of the programme.

3. Retain a list of all 'Technologist Liaison' officers.

4. Deal with any complaints in a timely manner.

Continual Professional Development:

- CPD credit hours should be calculated based upon the number of hours of learning eg actively visiting/discussing the technologist's role and responsibilities. CPD hours should not be claimed for travel.

Visits need to be scheduled to allow for biosecurity restrictions and maintaining adequate cover. A visit could be for a day or part of a day depending on location/time available. Flexible pro-forma will be provided to help structure a visit and to standardise reports.

Reports:
A report will be written by the visiting technologist and circulated to the host institute for review/comment prior to being forwarded to other interested parties (IAT, NACWOs, NTCO, AWERB) this will occur, only after written agreement with the host institute.

Disseminating information:
Time for extensive discussion and sharing of views and ideas should be allowed for during a visit
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Visit checklist

Item	Responsible person	Completed
Travel	Host to send map and directions	
Lunch	Arrangements dependent on length of visit	
Security checks	Host to inform visitor of any security requirements	
Barrier and PPE	Host to inform visitor of barrier restrictions and PPE requirements	
Time of arrival	Both to agree	
Contact number	Both to offer contact numbers & email address	
Report	Visitor to write the report	

How it works
The programme is run by the IAT Animal Welfare Group and any establishment interested in sending or hosting animal technologists, apprentices, and Named Animal Care and Welfare Officers should visit https://www.iat.org.uk/techexchange or contact: techexchange@iat.org.uk