

JABA translations opened the door to the students of LSTI programme

On Friday 24th January, we, the students of the LSTI programme, had the pleasure to visit Jaba Translations, one of the most important translation agencies in Portugal. There, the CEO, Joaquim Alves, welcomed us to his company, JABA translations, located in Gaia.



After the CEO's welcoming speech, we were divided into two groups to make the visit more manageable. At first, we were introduced to the project management department which was located downstairs. Project managers are split into multiple groups and each of them is in charge of projects coming from different parts of the world. They are the ones responsible for the company's workflow. We were told that although it is not necessary to have a translation background to work on this position, it is definitely a big advantage.

Then, we came back to the ground floor where their administrative department and Joaquim's office are situated. The CEO told us the story behind the founding of JABA translations. He answered all the questions we had and gave us some tips on how to run a company and on how to be successful not only in our jobs but also in our lives.

Before finishing the visit we were invited to the second floor, which is dedicated to the translation department. Translators were divided into language groups: Brazilian-Portuguese, Portuguese, Spanish, German, English and French. They have a free schedule where they can choose whether or not they want to come to the office or work from home.

ABOUT THE COMPANY...

JABA translations counts with 70 workers, including freelance and in-house translators. Besides, they also ask for help from experts in different domains. However, only in-house workers receive a fixed salary per month. Some of these workers have been in the company for 15 years and most of them have entered after their internship. Nevertheless, they had to pass a text where they had to prove their written level of Portuguese.

The atmosphere was friendly and workers can catch together in the backyard where they relax and take the pause after an exhausting day of work. All doubts and problems are solved together. That is why there are no walls between workers in the agency in order to help the communication.

In conclusion, this visit helped us to get a better idea of how a translation agency works and what it takes to be a great translator.