

Subject: Lars-Eric Heimbürger

To whom it may concern

La Seyne-sur-Mer, 17th August 2009

I know Lars-Eric Heimbürger since he applied for a PhD grant in my group at the end of 2006. We selected him among twelve candidates whom curriculum fitted with the requirements of the position (Master in geosciences, marine and trace contaminants analysis experiences).

Lars-Eric started his doctoral studies in February 2007, and I expect him to defend at the beginning of 2010. The goals and main achievements of his research are presented in another documents; herein, I will only comment on his extraordinary professional and personal qualities.

First Lars-Eric is totally enthusiastic with his research; he is curious, well organized and very rigorous in his way of thinking. In other words, he has the skills required and a real “vocation” for research.

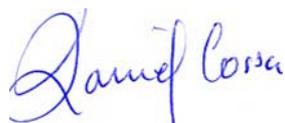
His academic formation in chemistry and environmental sciences is sound. He perfected it in chemical oceanography during his PhD courses. I can attest that his multidisciplinary knowledge is well integrated (thus he possesses the knowledge and the know how).

He has a real talent for oral communications (fluent in English, German and French, strong emotional control, etc.) and posters as well (nicely organized, illustrated, etc.). He easily writes in English and is developing his scientific writing skills (one paper is submitted and two others are in preparation).

In addition to these intellectual merits, Lars-Eric has other qualities: A large and deep experience of the analytical techniques used in the marine environment, especially those concerning trace contaminants analysis. Notably, he, possesses the very different analytical skills in trace metal and trace organic determinations in various matrices (water, aerosols, particles, sediments). He also masters the procedures for collecting trace-clean samples in air, water and sediment, and the ability to repair instrumentation. More generally, he can face and solve difficulties at the drop of a hat during sensitive periods (cruises for example).

Finally, I would also like to stress that he is autonomous and easily takes initiatives. He perfectly integrated in our work group and his colleagues appreciate him as a real “team player” with driving and motivating ideas.

Lars-Eric Heimbürger is among the best three students on the twenty I had the pleasure to supervise.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel Cossa".

Daniel Cossa

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