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Strategic Projects Leader

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To whom it may concern,

With this letter I would like to commend the performance of Anastasios Fetinidis, student at the University of Western Macedonia, as he participated to the recent Health and Wellness Innovation Workshop, which was held January 22 – Feb 1, 2013, at MIT NEWMEDIA Medicine Lab.

On behalf of the Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research, I sponsored a team to participate to this event. The team consisted of medical doctors, designers, project managers and developers from Novartis, Brigham and Women's hospital, University of Western Macedonia, and a start-up company called AdhereTech.

The assignment for the team was to develop in 10 days, the prototype of a mobile application for patients to manage their high blood pressure. The development was to be done on MIT's CollaboRhythm environment, which was a new environment to us all. As such this was a high-paced environment, with a lot of uncertainties and unknowns (as the system requirements and the system itself were pretty much developed in parallel), with many moving parts, while we were all at the same time trying to learn with a new environment, and with each other. A rather stressful environment, yet not all that different from the most visible and business critical projects that we are regularly faced with today.

And with this letter, I commend Anastasios for his performance on that project and in that environment. Despite unclarity at times in what was being asked of him, he did not give up, he did not tell me that certain requirements were "impossible", yet he investigated, he learned, and in pretty short turnaround time he showed me what was possible.

I have been pleasantly surprised by this level of professional maturity, and the "can do attitude" that Anastasios demonstrated on our project, and I commend and congratulate him on his performance.

Sincerely,

Joris van Dam