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Programme attracted young talents of 51 nationalities

SONAE WELCOMES 100 YOUNG CANDIDATES TO CONTACTO PROGRAMME

- **The 2017 edition of the Contacto Programme attracted the interest of 1,500 young talents of 51 nationalities**
- **One hundred young talents with different profiles regarding their academic background and life experiences were invited for the Assessment Day**
- **The Contacto Programme will open dozens of internships to high-potential young talents at one of Sonae Companies**

Sonae welcomed one hundred young candidates to internships for the Contacto Programme, a pioneer initiative in Portugal to recruit young people with high potential. The participants were selected among the more than 1,500 applications to the 2017 edition of the Contacto Programme, representing 51 different nationalities.

The high level of interest demonstrated by young national and international candidates in the internship programme offered by Sonae Companies translates the work developed by Sonae as a global talent multiplier. Sonae is recognised by several institutions as the best school of leaders in Portugal and was recently considered by AMBA as the best company in the world for young MBA finalists to develop their careers.

For the Assessment Day, which took place at the Sonae Learning Center, in Maia, 100 high-potential young talents were selected. Among the most represented courses were Management, Economics, Finance, Engineering, Information Technologies, Marketing, Law or Sciences. Regarding the represented schools, it is worth mentioning Católica Lisbon, Católica Porto, FEP, FEUP, FBAUL, *Universidade Nova de Lisboa*, *Universidade de Coimbra*, *Instituto Superior Técnico*, ISCTE, *Universidade de Aveiro*, and the foreign

universities and business schools of Alexandria University, Warsaw School of Economics, University of Deusto, among others.

During the Assessment Day, the selected candidates had the chance to demonstrate their competencies and to get to know Sonae Companies and their leaders, participating in various challenges and dynamics.

Sonae Companies are looking for "Game Changers": young adults who question the way things are done, who build and use a learning network to change their course and of those around them, in a positive and constructive manner. Throughout the internships, they will have the opportunity to come into contact with Sonae leaders and work in a strategic project within Sonae Companies.

Contacto Programme has already recruited hundreds of talents for Sonae companies

Created in 1986, the mission of the Contacto Programme is to attract and integrate young talents in Sonae Companies, of different nationalities and academic training, who aspire to work with renowned leaders and to develop ambidextrous competencies, while also cultivating an extended business network. The Programme also intends to consolidate the long and strategic partnership Sonae has established with Universities, thus contributing to an effective relation between the academic world and the labour market. The Contacto Programme seeks young and diverse talents in their academic backgrounds, nationalities, extracurricular and life experiences, who prove to be dynamic, creative, and collaborative, with a tremendous desire to learn.

Since its creation by Sonae, the Contacto Programme has already received more than 40 thousand applications, which led to the selection and participation of over 4,500 young people from different fields of expertise and nationalities in the Contacto Day, of whom hundreds eventually joined Sonae Companies' teams.

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