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Letter of Recommendation for Mr. RAHUL VENKATESAN

I have great pleasure in writing this recommendation for Mr. Rahul Venkatesan, who is an applicant for the Ph. D. program of your university.

I have known Rahul since July 2016, when I joined Hindustan University as a faculty member. Rahul is already a faculty member there and established himself as a great teacher and exceptional researcher in a short time of less than one year. In the short time I have known Rahul, I found him intelligent, dedicated, hardworking, always willing to go out of way to help others. At present we are teaching a course on Wind Tunnel Techniques, an elective course for the Seventh Semester B. E. students of School of Aerospace Sciences of Hindustan University. Each of us is handling a section of about 60 students. This course is being offered after a long hiatus. Together we had developed course notes, presentation materials, and question papers, so that the students can be well prepared for the final examination which is set by an external examiner.

Rahul graduated with a B. Tech. degree in Aerospace Engineering from SRM University, one of the top level private universities in India in July 2011 with good academic credentials GPA: 7.55 (Ranking in top 5 % among 45 number of graduating students). During his B. Tech. program, he had undergone important courses, such as Computational Fluid Dynamics, Aerodynamics, Aerospace Propulsion, Helicopter Aerodynamics, Flight Dynamics, and Aerospace Structures to build basic background in Aerospace Engineering. After graduation he had joined HCL Technologies, where he had worked on product development of aircraft wheels, braking systems and brake control systems and critical evaluation of Component Maintenance Manuals for these components. He had joined The University of Manchester, UK in September 2013 and graduated with a M. Sc. degree in Aerospace Engineering in December 2014 with good credentials. During his M. Sc. program, he had undergone advanced courses, such as Advanced Computational Fluid Dynamics, Advanced Aerodynamics, Advanced Aerospace Propulsion, and Advanced Helicopter Flight to build advanced knowledge in Aerospace Engineering. Based on the project work carried out during his B. Tech. and M. Sc. programs, he had presented papers in International Conferences. He has submitted these papers for publications in reputed journals. After graduation, he joined Jet Airways as a Ground Engineering Staff where he carried out many tasks relating to handling of passengers and scheduling of flights, preflight aircraft maintenance related activities and customer related requests. In these activities he had demonstrated good interpersonal skills.

As he is interested in academic career, he joined School of Aeronautical Sciences, Hindustan University, one of the top level private universities in India as an Assistant Professor in February 2016. At Hindustan University, he had taught courses on Wind Tunnel Techniques, Engineering Mechanics, Engineering Optimization, and Aircraft Design for undergraduate students of about 60. In addition to supervising the project work of B. Tech. and M. Tech. students, he had carried out individual research work and presented many papers in reputed conferences. One of his papers had won best paper award.

On personal level, I found Rahul very pleasant and always cheerful. He had already demonstrated leadership qualities and his ability to work independently and as a team member. He had already demonstrated good oral and written presentation skills as a teacher and a paper presenter at

conferences. He had also excelled in many co-curricular and extracurricular activities developing a well rounded personality. As he is interested in a research career, he would like to pursue Ph. D. program at your university. He can work very comfortably in a research group and can complete the tasks given to him before the deadline. I recommend him without any reservation for admission to Ph. D. program of your university with financial aid. I would have taken him as a Ph. D. research scholar if I were still working at IIT Madras.

I wish him success in this and future endeavors.


(N. SITARAM)