

Press release

Hardis, partner in the first specialized masters course in Big Data

Offered by Grenoble School of Management and Grenoble INP - Ensimag, the Specialist Masters in Big Data will start training its first data scientists on October 6 next. Hardis is a partner in this Masters (Bac+6) course, the only one of its kind in France, together with 18 other companies.

Grenoble, July 10, 2014 – Hardis, a digital services company and business software publisher, announces its partnership with the specialist Masters course in Big Data offered jointly by Grenoble School of Management and Grenoble INP - Ensimag. The first course will welcome some twenty students and professionals to a full-time course in Grenoble.

Specialist Masters in Big Data: a first in France

Recently certified by the *Conférence des Grandes Ecoles*, the new masters degree course designed by Grenoble School of Management and Grenoble INP is the first of its kind in France: its aim is to train specialists in Big Data, notably data scientists. Its program features both theoretical training and assignments to companies. It covers the whole field of Big Data: collection, analysis (statistical and algorithmic) and visualization of data, legal aspects (confidentiality and data protection), business exploitation of data, corporate governance and ethics.

Spread over 15 months (from October to February) and composed of 13 course modules, the master's course is aimed at students but also at professionals in continuous training: upon completion, graduates are awarded a "Bac+6" degree.

A program supported by a consortium of some twenty companies

At this stage, 19 companies are supporting the program, by taking part in the consideration of target skills and by involving themselves in the teaching (presentations, lectures, case histories, receiving interns, etc.): Antidot, AXA Technology Services, Euro Disney, Cegid Education, CIGREF, Data Publica, Hardis, HP, IBM, INRIA, Itris Automation Square/ Minalogic PME, Laser-Cofinoga, Michelin, Oracle, Orange, La Poste, SAS, Schneider Electric, and SIA Partners.

"As well as its commitment as a partner in the Big Data masters course, Hardis Group brings us its unique expertise in creating value around data in sectors such as retail and insurance, and in the strategic areas associated with connected objects and predictive analysis. Our students will benefit from this expertise throughout their training via presentations, lectures or cases with common themes, real Big Data projects to be carried out on a group basis," declares François Trouillet, Director of EMSI Grenoble.

Hardis, a partner committed to specifics

In the framework of this partnership, Hardis will deliver instruction by means of specific cases corresponding to companies' real and emerging requirements. *"To businesses, Big Data can sometimes seem complex, or **too** big. The idea is to train people to be able to master and valorize data so that they can derive a tangible source of business opportunities and value creation,"* explains Nicolas Odet, Deputy Manager of Hardis Group.

"In the framework of this new masters course, engineers and marketing and sales people will be called upon to invent tomorrow's business lines together," he continues. This is the reason why, in parallel with the instruction, Hardis will offer students of the masters course internships during which they will work on real Big Data projects, with the objective of bringing to market new service offerings, or even "to help us design the future digital showroom of our innovation lab dedicated to smart data. Additionally, there may well be specific opportunities for creating jobs linked to the new offerings," Nicolas Odet concludes.

To find out more about the specialist Masters course in Big Data:

<http://www.grenoble-em.com/2322-mastere-specialise-big-data--analyse-management-et-valorisation-responsable-1.aspx>

Recruitment is under way, with the objective of welcoming some twenty or so students for this first year's intake.

About Hardis Group

Hardis Group was created in 1984. It is both a software publisher and an IT consulting and services company. The company offers businesses overall support in carrying out their digital transformation, from defining their digital services strategy through to their IT development and integration with existing information systems.

Its offering is organized around four activities: supply chain performance, IT transformation management, digitization of services and optimization of the customer experience. It is based on Hardis' historical business lines: consultancy and project management support; development, third-party application maintenance (TPAM) and integration; facilities management and Cloud; software publisher and decision-maker. It is aimed mainly at the insurance, logistics and retail and industrial transport sectors.

For 30 years the company has based its growth on a pragmatic approach and on values of proximity and strong commitment, both with its 2,500 clients and with its 630 employees (25% of whom are shareholders). Hardis posted turnover figures of €57.2 million in 2013. The Group, whose headquarters are in Grenoble, has four other agencies in Lyon, Paris, Lille and Nantes.

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