Hiring Architectural or Drafting Techs from the Netherlands

While architecture is a regulated profession in the Netherlands, architectural technology is not. Although Dutch law protects certain relevant academic titles, no professional association or regulatory body issues professional titles or maintains occupational standards. No distinctions are made between technologists and technicians. Instead, the key distinction between the different levels relates to academic qualifications.

Drafting or drawing jobs are often done by recent graduates early in their careers, and are viewed as temporary stops on a career path. When advertising in the Netherlands to fill drafting positions, the term for the workers you are looking for is building technologists. Building technologists may have engineering degrees and work as civil or structural engineers or may be project managers at construction firms.

Similiar job titles in Netherlands
- Architectural or Drafting Technologist or Technician
- Bouwingenieur, bouwtechnoloog, or technisch tekenaar

Who to target
- Look for candidates holding a BBE (Bachelor's in the Built Environment) or B Eng or ing. Workers with a BBE typically start off as draftsmen and move into project management roles later in their careers. A B Eng means the candidate has a bachelor's degree in an engineering field from an applied science university. These workers are likely to meet most of the academic requirements for technologist certification with the Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta (ASET).
- Civil and structural engineers may also be strong candidates, as their work is similar to that of an architectural technologist.
- It is worth knowing that academic degrees are the primary credentials used in the Netherlands. Bachelor's degrees from applied science universities are typically four-year degrees, while at research universities they are three-year degrees. An associate degree is a two-year degree earned at an applied science university. Workers holding one may qualify for technician certification with ASET.
- An M Eng or M Architecture indicates a master's degree in engineering or architecture from an applied science university. All Dutch master's degrees in engineering require an additional two years of study and are offered at both types of universities.

Helpful information for recruiting in the Netherlands
- The Dutch educational system is complex and easily misunderstood. It is a good idea to consult ASET to make sure candidates have the appropriate qualifications for certification.
- Dutch engineers tend to be fluent in English. Virtually all graduate courses are taught in English.
- MBO is short for middelbaar beroepsonderwijs, or secondary school vocational education and training. MBO programs can last one to four years, beginning at about age 16. These workers may have technician competencies, but may find it difficult to get their academic credentials recognized.

Skill and knowledge gaps and other barriers
Internationally trained applicants must meet a minimum national benchmark for education, experience and professionalism to be certified by ASET. For more information, see www.aset.ab.ca.

Canadian NOC occupations and comparable Dutch job titles

Canada	The Netherlands
Architectural Technologists and Technicians	Bouwingenieur (Structural Engineer), Bouwtechnoloog (Building Technologist) Assistant Architects or Jr. Architects, Architectural Project Managers, BBE (Bachelor's in the Built Environment)
Drafting Technologists and Technicians	Tekenaar (Draftsmen), or computerondersteund ontwerp (Computer Aided Design), Gebouw laden (Building Drawers), or Technisch tekenaar (Technical Draftsman).

NOTE: Qualified workers in these occupations will generally have a bachelor's degree in building technology or the built environment, architecture, or engineering. They may use titles such as .ir, MSc, M Architecture, M Eng, ing., B Architecture or B Eng. Some qualified workers may hold the EUR ING title. Some draftsmen may have MBO training or associate degrees.

Alberta Government