



Press Release

**ICDL Computer Summer Camps launch for the 10th
consecutive year targeting the GCC youth**

*The camps run across the GCC with the support of education
authorities and sponsors*

June 12, 2011

ICDL GCC Foundation, the governing body and the certification authority of the International Computer Driving License program in the Gulf States and Iraq, has recently launched the ICDL Computer Summer Camps 2011, which will be attended by thousands of students from all over the GCC region. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the computer summer camps, an initiative that aims at spreading digital awareness and empowering the young generation with the skills and competencies that will make them confident in the use of computers and socially well rounded.

Endorsed by the Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC), and with the support of Education Ministries in the GCC states, the ICDL Computer Summer Camps will run

in cooperation with Abu Dhabi University, UAE University, Sharjah University, Higher Colleges of Technology (Center of Excellence for Applied Research and Training – CERT) in the UAE, Kuwait University in Kuwait, Sultan Qaboos University in Oman, in addition to various ICDL approved centers and independent schools in these states and in Qatar. The camps start in June and extend throughout the summer period, providing an exclusive opportunity for students to enhance their IT competency in accordance with the world-renowned ICDL standards.

Jamil Ezzo, Director General of ICDL GCC Foundation, said: “The ICDL Summer Camps offer a truly unique, entertaining and effective way of cultivating the IT competency of the youth in the UAE and in the rest of the GCC. Moreover, the continuing success of the summer camps for the past 10 years will certainly add momentum to ICDL’s long-term campaign to further boost the region’s digital awareness.”

ICDL Summer Camps 2011 participants aged 18 and below will undergo an intensive training program in a creative and fun environment that lasts between four to five weeks and will allow them to achieve the ICDL "Start" certification. The camps aim to complement the educational reform to eliminate digital illiteracy within educational systems in schools and universities, and create a motivating, self learning environment for students.

“Over the years, the ICDL Summer Camps have attracted tens of thousands of female and male students in the region, underscoring the success of our collaboration with key government institutions such as the Abu Dhabi Education Council, and private sector organizations in reaching out to a much broader cross-section of the region’s youth. The visionary leadership of the heads of state in the GCC and the proactive efforts of the education ministries that continue to support, endorse and believe in ICDL’s mission, have likewise been crucial in ensuring the continuing success of the summer camps and other initiatives of ICDL in the GCC,” added Ezzo.

As part of their corporate social responsibility initiatives, a number of public and private sector organizations are offering their support to this year's summer camps including Abu Dhabi Systems & Information Centre (ADSIC), ITP Publishing Group,

industry leaders such as HP, 3M, CompTIA, Nokia, Canon, Brother and Microsoft, in addition to entertainment entities like Seawings, Dreamland Water Park, Dubai Dolphinarium, Wild Wadi and Wendy's.. Thanks to these sponsors, all candidates across the region will receive a bag-full of giveaways including stationary and vouchers while great achievers will walk away with valuable gift items.

ICDL is an integrated digital literacy program recognized worldwide. The program empowers individuals with the essential skills and knowledge of computer and practical use of common desktop applications. ICDL is based on a recognized global standard, acknowledged through testing, and proves that the certificate holder has fundamental skills in IT, using the computer and managing files, word processing, spreadsheet, database, presentation, and information and communication (internet and e-mail). Available in more than 40 languages, the program is endorsed by education ministries, universities and government organizations and is accredited by more than 168 countries.

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