

UAE Air Force Air Defense to adopt ICDL training to enhance computer skills of its personnel

UAE Air Force starts program in IT skill enhancement for its personnel, adopts world renowned ICDL training

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The UAE Air Force Air Defence (AFAD) has announced plans to adopt the International Computer Driving Licence (ICDL) program, in an effort to bring basic IT proficiency to all its personnel. ICDL-GCC Foundation and UAE AFAD will jointly administer the program in a dedicated state-of-the-art training and testing centre to be opened at the AFAD.

ICDL is an internationally recognised computer proficiency standard, governed by the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL), the not-for-profit global regulatory body of the ICDL member countries, and administered by the ICDL GCC Foundation the regional governing body of the ICDL GCC member countries. The ICDL programme has been recognised by international organisations worldwide such as UNESCO and the World Bank, and has achieved remarkable success in the Middle East, with several education ministries, academic institutions, government, and private organizations adopting it as a benchmark for their personnel skills in an IT environment.

Announcing the strategic tie-up, Major General Khalid Bin Abdullah Al Bu Ainnain, UAE AFAD General Commander, said, "The UAE AFAD has reached a crucial stage in the modernisation of our forces. With IT becoming part of every activity, it has become imperative for our young men and women to acquire computer skills not only for advancing their knowledge, but also for doing any routine administrative function. After studying ICDL's global success stories in training all categories of people in basic IT proficiency, we are pleased to announce this alliance with ICDL-GCC Foundation."

"We are going through an era of qualitative change. At UAE AFAD, we are constantly engaged in building an elite fighting force which can defend our country and work for its future. With ICDL certification, we arm our personnel with the essential tools to tackle the field of IT, which forms the part and parcel of the battlefield of the future," added Major General Khalid Bin Abdullah Al Bu Ainnain, UAE AFAD General Commander. As a result of the new partnership, the ICDL certification program will be made mandatory for all new recruits and existing personnel of UAE AFAD.

"We welcome the decision of UAE AFAD to adopt ICDL certification for its personnel. This has once again demonstrated the quality of the ICDL program as the most practical way of learning, testing and certifying basic computer skills required in the everyday professional and personal use of computers," said Jamil Ezzo, Director General, ICDL-GCC Foundation. "We are pleased to partner with the responsible people at UAE AFAD to assure that the delivering of the ICDL certification program to the elite personnel of the UAE AFAD is as per the stringent international quality standards set by ECDL Foundation"

The ICDL-UAE program covers the key concepts of computing, its practical applications and its use in workplace and society. The program will expose candidates to basic concepts of IT, computer hardware and software management and give in depth training in word processing, spreadsheets, databases and presentation packages.

About ICDL

International Computer Driving License (ICDL), is an internationally recognized computer proficiency standard that is owned by the European Computer Driving License (ECDL) and introduced by the UNESCO's Cairo Office (UCO) for Arab states in 2001. ICDL is gaining increasing acceptance in the Middle East, with several governments adopting as a requirement to their employees. The ICDL program exists in over 132 countries, and is offered in 32 languages, including Arabic. The programs offered are all based on one standard syllabus and question set. There are more than 15,000 centres worldwide, and over 10 million exams have been taken globally since the launch of the program.

About ICDL GCC Foundation

ICDL GCC Foundation was created by the ECDL Foundation, the not-for-profit global governing body of the ECDL and ICDL

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member countries dedicated to helping raise the general level of computer skills in societies and providing access for all to the information society, to serve the to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) States with their implementation of ICDL and for providing them with localised support to ensure quality of ICDL programs. The ICDL-GCC Foundation is the sole ICDL licensee and accreditation body that is responsible to support ICDL accredited training and testing centres in the GCC. It also acts as the reviewing and approving body for the local adaptation of ICDL programs, including authorizing the sale of Arabic ICDL content and testing material in the region.

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