Press Release



ICDL Arabia warns fake certificate holders in Egypt could face legal trouble and job dismissal

Ministries, universities and employers are provided online access to instantly verify ICDL certificates

Cairo, June, 2015 - ICDL Arabia, the governing body and certification authority of the ICDL program in Egypt is launching an all-out campaign to conquer the outbreak of fake ICDL certificates in Egypt. ICDL Arabia issued an advisory to all Egyptian ministries, universities and employers in the public and private sectors about fake ICDL certificates illegally being promoted and sold through fraudulent websites and Facebook pages, targeting individuals wanting the certificate without having to sit for the ICDL official tests.

ICDL Arabia has called on the concerned local authorities to take stiff actions against the owners of those fraudulent websites and Facebook pages. The organization has also addressed the issue with Internet Domain Providers as well as Facebook, the most popular social media platform in Egypt, to close down those deceitful websites and pages. ICDL has also warned the public of becoming victims of their own actions by being lured into buying a fake ICDL certificate as they could find themselves facing legal trouble or job dismissal for perjury, if such fake credential is presented for the purpose of academic enrolment, employment or job advancement.

Jamil Ezzo, Director General of ICDL Arabia, said, "Last year, we made a solemn commitment to curb the widespread of fake certificates, to protect the ICDL brand and the integrity of our certificate. We made great progress on every front but we realize that a lot more must be done. We have redesigned our certificate to include the candidate's national ID number so that a certificate can always be traced back to the holder; we embedded specialized enhanced security features on our newly designed certificate that cannot be duplicated; and we alerted all ministries and universities on the newly designed certificate and provided them with direct access to instantly verify the authenticity of any awarded certificate".

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Universities as well as employers in the public and private sectors now recognize the new design of the ICDL certificates and in many cases requiring attestation from ICDL Arabia for the previous ICDL certificates. Access to an online verification system <u>www.icdlarabia.org/verify</u> has been made public for anyone to verify the authenticity of an ICDL certificate, old or new, by either entering the Skills Card number shown on the certificate or by simply scanning the Quick Reader (QR) Code personalized to each certificate holder on the newly designed certificate. Although the previous ICDL certificate is still recognized worldwide, ICDL certificate holders wishing to transfer their ICDL credentials from the previous certificate design on to the new are able to do so by contacting ICDL Arabia via 0233024235 or email at <u>info.egypt@icdlarabia.org</u>.

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