

TANMIA incorporates the ICDL program in its training of UAE Nationals in preparation for employment

A growing number of organizations in the government and private sectors are endorsing the ICDL program in the UAE

January 27, 2004

The International Computer Driving Licence (ICDL), the internationally recognized computer proficiency standard, owned by the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) and sponsored by the UNESCO's Cairo Office (UCO) for the Arab States, has further enhanced its legitimacy in the UAE, with the endorsement of its program by the National Human Resource Development and Employment Authority (TANMIA).

TANMIA aims to train the national workforce in order for them to increase their employment opportunities. It coordinates between national job seekers and employers in the private and government sectors, to promote the entry of nationals into the labour market. TANMIA provides career counseling and guidance to nationals, as well as follow-up and evaluation of employment of nationals and developing training programs that equip nationals with essential skills. TANMIA has incorporated ICDL in its various training programs that train UAE nationals who are either in full time employment but need further skills development, or those who are seeking employment and require IT skills to enhance their job prospects.

"TANMIA aims to provide the highest quality education and training to UAE national job seekers. The ICDL computer literacy program ensures that Nationals are equipped with essential computer skills before entering the job market. Nowadays, it is imperative that UAE nationals seeking positions in all sectors of the labour market have the skills and confidence to use a computer and its office applications in the workplace. The quality and content of the ICDL program meet our requirements and we have already realized a notable advancement in the nationals that have completed the course to date," said Ayesh Al Barghouthi, Director, Employment and Skills Development Center, TANMIA.

TANMIA is currently offering the ICDL program and almost 190 nationals are undergoing the training in five centers across the Emirates. Zayed University in Abu Dhabi, Higher Colleges of Technology in Fujairah and Ras Al Khaimah, the Special Programs and Continuing Education Center at UAE University and CompuBase in Sharjah, are all ICDL Accredited training and Test Centers that offer this internationally recognized program.

"The ICDL computer training program empowers UAE nationals with the computer skills they need to gain the job placement they are seeking. Each individual who successfully completes the ICDL foundation course receives a certificate that is recognized internationally with employers and educational institutions around the world. Locally, ICDL certification is recognized by employers in the government and corporate sectors," said Rich MacLaren, Program Director, ICDL UAE. "We are overseeing the training program and monitoring the testing to ensure that the quality standards of the ECDL Foundation and UNESCO are met."

ICDL aims to raise the level of IT knowledge and increase the level of PC competence and common computer applications for every individual worldwide. The ICDL training that nationals are receiving from this collaboration demonstrates to potential employers that the candidate is competent in using computer applications.

ICDL UAE has expanded over the past year and now provides its programs in all seven Emirates and across the Middle East. The ICDL program has been endorsed by the governments of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Egypt and Jordan, while individual ministries or departments in the UAE, Kuwait, Oman and Saudi Arabia have recommended it to their employees and teachers.

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

In the news

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 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.

For further information contact:

Orient Planet PR and Marketing Communications
P O Box 23345, Dubai, UAE.
Tel: 00 971 4 3988901; Fax: 00 971 4 3988941
Email: info@orientplanet.com
Website: www.orientplanet.com