ICDL GCC

Press Release

ICDL summer camps rolled out across GCC to stimulate our youth with IT skills and Entertainment.

The activities receive remarkable support from policy makers, parents, government and private sectors.

July 14, 2010

ICDL GCC Foundation, the governing body and the certification authority of the International Computer Driving License program in the Gulf States and Iraq, has announced the participation of more than 10,000 male and female students from different GCC countries in the ICDL Summer Camps 2010, an initiative being held for the eighth consecutive year to promulgate digital literacy in the region.

ICDL Summer Camps 2010 participants aged 18 and below will undergo an intensive training program that lasts between four to eight weeks, focusing on computer skills in accordance with the internationally recognized ICDL standards. 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. The summer camps are being supported by the government, educational authorities, in addition to a number of private sector organizations.

ICDL summer camps in the UAE have received even greater support from government authorities including H.H. the Ruler's Office, Sharjah; Ministry of Education; Abu Dhabi Education Council; the educational zones of Sharjah, Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, Al Gharbiyah; Abu Dhabi Police, Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The summer camp in Sharjah has been highly endorsed under the auspices of H.H. Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qassimi, Ruler of Sharjah and Supreme President of the University of Sharjah, as the University is offering a free opportunity for male and female citizens to sign up for the ICDL summer camps. ICDL GCC Foundation has expressed its gratitude to His Highness for his continuous support to the Foundation's ongoing efforts in raising IT awareness across the Gulf, and specifically thanked H.H. for the patronage extended to ICDL Summer Camp 2010 in Sharjah.

The camps are being organized in UAE in cooperation with Abu Dhabi University, UAE University, UAE Academy, Sharjah University and Higher Colleges of Technology (Center of Excellence for Applied Research and Training - CERT), while in Kuwait the camps are being organized in cooperation with Kuwait University and a

selection of approved centers. In Qatar the camps are being held in coordination with selected approved centers and various independent schools.

As part of the Corporate Social Responsibility from the Private Sector; the summer camp initiative has been sponsored by, HP, ACER, Canon, Etihad Airlines, Atlantis The Palm hotel in Dubai, and Dream Land Water Park in Umm Al Qaiwain, ITP Publishing group as the regional media partner. They have provided giveaways, graduation gifts, and packages of exclusive tickets that offer free entrance and/or reduced fees to enter and use a variety of tourist attractions including cinemas and water and entertainment parks. Further, the Abu Dhabi Systems & Information Center (ADSIC) is offering the opportunity to obtain free program licenses of use for all participating male and female students.

"ICDL summer camps are one of the most exciting activities that attract major participation from female and male students in the Gulf region. We are pleased with the immense success we have attained this year through the support of the government and the contribution from those who have helped with funding and organising this initiative. Looking ahead, we aim to develop more initiatives in the near future to expand the scope of IT literacy by covering school and college students, teachers, government employees, jobseekers, women, retirees, the elderly and people with special needs," said Jamil Ezzo, Director General of ICDL GCC Foundation.

The ICDL Summer Camps will wrap up their activities by honoring outstanding students during a concluding ceremony through giving out prizes from the official camp sponsors, such as PCs from Acer and HP, Canon digital cameras and printers, Brother Printers, and air tickets from Etihad Airlines to encourage the youth in taking part in overcoming digital illiteracy in the region.

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