



Press Release

Digital Summer Initiative Targeting GCC Youth

Unique Public and Private Partnership Advocating a good cause

Dubai, UAE, (11 July 2012): Marking its 11th years success in spreading digital skills among the youth, ICDL GCC Foundation today announced its Summer Camp program for 2012. The initiative represents a unique and sizable partnership between a number of ministries, educational authorities and private organizations across the region aimed at bridging the digital for thousands youth in the GCC. Since the inception of the ICDL Summer Camp program, over 50,000 young people have gained the ICDL certification enabling them to become more resourceful, motivated and independent learners.

Jamil Ezzo, Director General of ICDL GCC Foundation, said: “The ICDL Summer Camp is a unique initiative that offers young people up to the age of 18 across the GCC an opportunity to improve their digital competency in a socially interactive environment. Not only will they gain new skills and have fun, they will also be able to obtain an internationally recognized certification, acknowledged by a large number of academic institutions.”

ICDL Summer Camp is a core part of the Foundation’s plan to increase digital awareness and adoption to empower the younger generation to broaden their computer competency, gain new social skills through interaction and become better rounded individuals. It is very much complementary and closely linked to the regional objectives of addressing digital shortfalls and enhancing youth development.

“The Summer Camp’s continued success over the past years is the culmination of close collaboration between governments, educational institutions and a growing number of private sector organizations that wish to give back to the community. We encourage parents in each GCC country to inquire at their local education ministry to benefit their kids from this community development initiative, which may be fully or partly funded by the government in certain cases.” added Ezzo.

Endorsed by educational authorities and supported by a growing number of industry leaders from the IT, media, leisure and various other sectors, the ICDL Summer Camp will be delivered through a regional coordinated effort between ICDL GCC Foundation and academic institutions including: University of Sharjah; Kuwait University; Sultan Qaboos University in Oman; University of Duhok in Iraq and Effat University in KSA. Additional training providers will be through Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC) and include: the branches of HCT (higher Colleges of Technology), Abu Dhabi University and UAE university in Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and the

Western region. A number of accredited ICDL training centers across the region will also be running the initiative throughout the summer period.

The International Computer Driving License (ICDL) concept is a global computer literacy initiative developed to raise the level of knowledge about Information Technology (IT) and increase the level of competence in using personal computers and common computer applications for all the citizens of the world. The ICDL GCC foundation is the sole body to implement and disseminate the program across the GCC States and Iraq with the support of leading educational institutions and accredited bodies. The ICDL GCC Foundation mission is to enable proficient use of Information and Communications Technology that empowers individuals, organizations and society, through the development, promotion and delivery of quality certification programmes throughout the world.

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Addendum

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