

IIHT expands in Middle East; Announces strategic partnership in Bahrain

India's largest IT education and training institute, IIHT Ltd has entered into a strategic partnership with Bahrain Institute of Technology (BIT), a training division of Bahrain Development Bank (BDB) - a govt. of Bahrain enterprise to set up a state-of-the-art training centre in Bahrain as well as explore various business opportunities. Bahrain Institute of Technology is investing about 6 million USD for this partnership and IIHT will set up its regional office for Middle East in Bahrain.

Bangalore, Karnataka, IND, 2007-06-08 18:01:07 (IndiaPRwire.com)

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After having made its mark in infrastructure management services (IMS) training in India and setting up successful operations in china, IIHT is now looking at expanding its scope by entering into other geographies like Eastern Europe, Middle East & Africa which are very conducive for IMS training.

Bahrain is the fastest growing economy in the Arab World and also it is home to numerous multinational firms with business in the Arabian Gulf. Bahrain's potential for IMS outsourcing is Large. As a sequel to IMS training, IIHT and BIT are also exploring the possibility of setting an IMS services delivery business.

IIHT partnership with BIT will help Bahrain in the emerging need of trained professional in the IMS space.

Commenting on the occasion, **Keshava Raju, CEO, IIHT** said, 'IIHT has been steadily creating a global footprint in the field of IT Training. Our foray into China has been very successful and we are confident of repeating the feat in Middle East. With its free trade agreements with the US and the West, Bahrain is an ideal partner in this endeavour and BIT is a prestigious addition to our alliances.'

Commenting on the alliance, **Mr. Adel A. Al Safar, CEO, BIT** said 'We are delighted to have a partnership with IIHT Ltd a comprehensive model where IIHT will appoint Bahrain Institute of Technology (BIT) as its exclusive franchisee in the Kingdom of Bahrain to provide the industry high-level education in IT program that varies from Degree Program to Diploma in Information Technology. This program will compliment with the existing programs available in Bahrain.

However, we believe the IIHT Partnership and introduction of this technology program will be tailor made to meet our industry requirements. The endeavor shall be to meet BIT's long term vision in establishing Bahrain as a regional IT Service Hub.'

IIHT recently launched TIME, a comprehensive program on IT IMS education and imparts it across the globe, through its GLS (Global Learning Solutions Division). The state of the art technology centre, IIHT Bahrain will provide excellent hands on IMS skills to Bahraini students which will make them future, technology ready and increase their employment prospects multifold. Globally, IMS market is valued at USD 200 billion (approximate) and has tremendous employment potential.

IIHT, Bahrain will strive to develop at least 5000 skilled IMS professionals in the next three years. The centre will actively partner with local colleges to interest and recommend students in the IMS course.

This relationship between IIHT and BIT has been forged with the help of persistent efforts of Economic Development Board (EDB) offices in India and Bahrain. The Economic Development Board (EDB) is a dynamic public agency with an overall responsibility for formulating and overseeing the economic development strategy of Bahrain, and for creating the right climate to attract direct investment into the Kingdom.

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About IIHT

Founded in the year 1992 in Bangalore by IIHT Ltd. is India's leading technology training organisation in IMS. The company has its presence in over 200 centers in India alone with and is also significantly present in countries like China, South Africa, New Zealand and Malaysia.

Ever since its inception, IIHT has recognized the potential of IMS and has concentrated its efforts on becoming a dominant education provider in that space. With over ten international partners (like: Microsoft, Sun Microsystems, Hewlett Packard, Symantec etc.) IIHT has developed an entire gamut of courses right from the basic courses in hardware & networking to high end IMS courses in Server Management, and Network Management. IIHT have in the offering courses which cater right from students who have just completed 10 + 2 students to engineering graduates to working professionals. IIHT certifications are industry oriented, conducted in the state of the art training infrastructure with certified experienced faculty.

IIHT has a portfolio of 50 courses and trains close to 60, 000 students a year. The organization is known to have trained 700,000 students in 350 million hours so far. **About BIT**

The Bahrain Institute of Technology Institute was established by the Bahrain Development Bank under the leadership of H. E. Sheikh Ebrahim Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa and was inaugurated by His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa on 16th June 2001.

Since then, Mr. Adel Al Safar, BIT's CEO, have been working closely with the major IT international companies to provide their certified programs to the Kingdom by certifying the Institute to the highest International standards. These objectives have worked very well and the Institute was awarded the Number One Institute for IT training in Bahrain.

Today, BIT is an Authorized Training Partners for Microsoft, Oracle, ProSoft, Cisco, ICDL and ExecuTrain and also the Authorized Prometric Testing Center.

Within span of five years BIT has received various awards and achievements and some are listed as follow:

- Ranked No.1 by KPMG - Year 2001
- Best MOUS Exam Sales Award from Microsoft - Year 2001

- Best Certified Technical Education Center awarded by Microsoft - Year 2003
- Awarded Grade-2 by MOLSA - Year 2004
- Best Oracle Approved Education Center - Year 2006
- Achieved Microsoft Gold Certified Partner - Year 2006

COMPANY BACKGROUNDER

IIHT Ltd is one of India's biggest hardware and networking training companies. The company has about 200 centres in India, with a significant presence in China, Nigeria, South Africa, New Zealand etc... IIHT trains about 60,000 students every year.

Founded in the year of 1992, IIHT started operation with hardware and networking training in Bangalore. Following its success in Bangalore within a year the company expanded services to Chennai, Hyderabad and soon diversified into the franchising models across India. As a part of its recognition for its quality training IIHT is now in strategic alliance with blue-chip corporates like Apple, Microsoft, HP, Oracle, IBM, Sun etc. IIHT is constantly developing new study programmes to keep in pace with the growing demands of the IT industry.

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Right from its inception IIHT recognized the potential of IMS and has ever since concentrated its efforts on becoming a dominant education provider in the space. In addition to IMS solutions IIHT also diversifies its excellence in ELS - Enterprise Learning Solution, GLS - Global Learning Solution and the latest ALS - Academic Learning Solution. IIHT offers internationally certified training programs in Hardware, Networking, Security and Telecommunications. Besides the direct course IIHT also offers e-learning, distance education and online assessment programmes that enable students from diversified field to avail the study programmes.

Students are provided world class facilities and well trained faculty. The faculty is put through rigorous start-up training, relevant vendor certifications, continuing refresher education and are required to interact with industry experts to keep themselves abreast with the latest technical concepts and training methodologies.

Global Alliance:

IIHT is the only Indian company to strategically have alliances with most of the global technology companies. So globally it can also be known as Hewlett Packard Education Partner, Oracle Workforce Development Partner, and Microsoft Certified Partners for Learning Solution, Sun Authorised Education Partner, Red Hat Training Partner, Novell/Suse Education Partner, Thomson Prometric and Pearson VUE in the field of technology as well as in education services and solutions.

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You can also visit www.prpundit.com for more information.