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About ECDL Foundation

ECDL Foundation Newsletter - January 2015

News

New ECDL Foundation Position Paper: 'The Fallacy of the 'Digital Native': Why Young People Need to Develop their Digital Skills'

Young people can't build their digital skills without support through training and education. That's the main point in the new position paper from ECDL Foundation, 'The Fallacy of the 'Digital Native': Why Young People Need to Develop their Digital Skills', which was published this month.

Using the findings of extensive academic research, the paper tackles the fallacy of 'digital natives' who can intuitively learn computer skills simply by picking up a tablet or laptop. The position paper can be downloaded from ecdl.org/digitalnativemyth, and a blog post on the issue is also available on our [website](#). [Read More](#)

More and More People Online, But Still Work to Do

Just 18% of people in Europe have never used the Internet, according to the latest data published by Eurostat, the EU's statistics office. This marks a sharp decrease in the number of people who've never been online, from 43% in 2006. Across Europe, numbers vary for the number of people without experience of using the Internet: from 39% of people in Romania to only 3% in Denmark. The figures also showed that one in five people in Europe had used online file storage services. [Read More](#)

ECDL / ICDL in Action Around the World

2014 Ends on a High for Computer Society of Zimbabwe with 'Top ICT Educator of the Year' Award

The Computer Society of Zimbabwe (CSZ) ended 2014 on a high as it was awarded the 'Top ICT Educator of the Year' runner-up award by the Ministry of ICT, Courier and Postal Services in recognition of the ICDL programme, e-Learner (ECDL-endorsed) programme and its contribution to the education sector in Zimbabwe. [Read More](#)

ECDL Switzerland Partnership with UNHCR Brings ICDL Training and Certification to Staff in Central African Republic & Refugees in Burundi

Eleven UNHCR employees in Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic, were trained and ICDL certified by the Budapest UNHCR office in December 2014. The UNHCR's Global Learning Centre in Budapest has been working with ECDL Switzerland, the Swiss National Operator, since 2006. More than 600 refugees and returnees in Muyinga, Burundi have also been helped to attain ICDL certificates by the UNHCR, in collaboration with ECDL Switzerland, since 2008.

'Diskobolos for Teachers' Rewards Best IT Teachers

'Diskobolos for Teachers' is a new award established to highlight the importance of computer education in secondary schools, particularly because of the crucial impact of ICT on the economic efficiency, administration and further development of Serbia. The award has been created by the IT Association of Serbia, JISA, in cooperation with UPIS, the Serbian Association of Computer Science Professors and PDIS, the Serbian Pedagogical Society of Informatics. [Read More](#)

Serbian Ministry of Defence Received Award for use of ECDL

The Serbian Ministry of Defence received a special plaque for their IT training activities using ECDL. Explaining the jury's decision, the President of JISA, Mr Dukić, said, "The JISA jury wanted to point out the good practice in the Military based on the recent donation by the British Embassy and Prism project." Mr Sava Savić, Assistant Minister for Information Society at the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications, presented the plaque to General Simović. [Read More](#)

ICDL Iran Unveils Fresh Skills Card Design & Online Skills Card Sales

With the launch of ICDL Profile, ICDL Iran has started selling ICDL Profile Skills Cards online in electronic format. Skills cards for other projects, such as e-citizen and e-kids were also redesigned, but will not be offered electronically. [Read More](#)

New Accredited Test Centres for the New Year in Iran

The New Year has seen four new Accredited Test Centres join ICDL Iran. All four Centres are in cities that are considered as less developed regions. The addition of the new Centres means that ICDL Iran has managed to reach 34 Centres in the current Iranian calendar year. Hopefully with these new members, the availability of training and education in ICT will move forward at a faster speed in Iran. [Read More](#)

For Discussion



Blog Post: 'Digital Natives' and Digital Literacy

It might be a buzzword with a big following, but the 'digital native' is no more real than a 'typewriter native' in the days when the cutting edge of office technology was an IBM Selectric. We keep hearing the fallacy of the 'digital native'. Even though the modern workplace requires that everyone be able to produce their own documents, handle their own communications, and often, collaborate with colleagues in other offices or other countries, there is an assumption that bright young things will take to it like a duck to water. Read more on the ECDL Foundation Blog. [Read More](#)

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