

# NEWS LETTER

التقوان  
ITQAN  
INSTITUTE معهد



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المعهد الوطني لتقنية الفحص وضمان الجودة  
Inspection Technology & Quality Assurance National Institute

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## 2020 ITQAN CONTRACTORS GATHERING



## Insights from ITP Key Personnel Management



**Scott Upton**, General Manager, Lincoln College International Lincoln College Group (LCG) has been in existence for over 130 years and is one of the largest public College Groups in the United Kingdom. Our mission is at the heart of everything we do, which is to be “Employer-led; producing a highly skilled and productive local workforce”. In terms of international experience, we have the largest and most successful portfolio of any vocational College Group in the UK. We operate here in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) and in China, Eastern Caribbean, Romania, and Norway. We have operated in KSA since 2014. During this time, we have taught 15,033 full-time students across 19 different education programmes.

In terms of the quality of programmes and adaptability to meet national needs our immediate priority will be to transform the ITQAN into a national and international training provider of high repute. The institute will be highly regarded for the level of education offered, graduate outcomes and best practice in terms of learning, teaching and assessment. We will use our wide experience of programme review and redesign to reshape the ITQAN approach, such as our successful transformation of the Technical Training College into the AEC. Working closely with the ITQAN management team and stakeholders, LCI and our partners will undertake an extensive programme review based on established best practices.

The review will test work-based learning outcomes throughout the provision, identify areas of learning, teaching and assessment that need enhancement and ensure graduate learning outcomes meet international benchmark statements.



**Frank Hughes**, Deputy General Manager, Lincoln College International

Three months in and I am loving being at the ITQAN. Both Lincoln and ITQAN teams have bonded well and have been working together since the off in the best interests of the ITQAN. We are meeting on a daily basis and driving forward our combined vision to be employer led and being the leading training institution in the area of inspection disciplines.

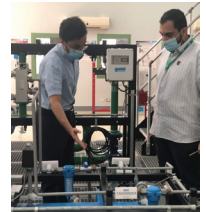
Due to COVID-19 restrictions our Academic programme is being delivered online. We have welcomed Job Skills trainees back to college adopting a blended learning model where the practical parts of the course are carried out on campus and the theory parts online. Both sets of students are performing well.

We have had several visits already to test the quality of college operations including Aramco COVID-19 Audit and Colleges of Excellence Education Advisor. These have been positively received and tell us we are all moving in the right direction with the needs of trainees at the heart of what we do.

Going forward I can only see good for the ITQAN as we engage with more sponsors, enroll more trainees and fulfill our part of delivering on Vision 2030 for the Kingdom.

## My Life at ITQAN Institute: “A Faculty & Trainees Voice”

**Sajjad AlAmer**, Job Skills Trainer, I spent the first half of 2020 working in the UK at Lincoln College, where I was professionally trained and enhanced by learning and teaching capabilities. I joined the ITQAN in September 2020, and I have started to apply my new learning and teaching skills to benefit the trainees. Being able to share my experiences has helped my trainees. Allowing them to focus on developing their subject knowledge and skills they will need when they work for national and international companies. Currently, I am delivering many of my classes online, which is challenging but forcing me to develop new learning and teaching skills. I am excited to start teaching in the fantastic ITQAN workshops and using my practical Mechatronics knowledge to further develop our trainees.



**Hashem Alshubbar**, Welding Inspector Trainee, In my time being a trainee at ITQAN, I have had the privilege of being trained by some of the country's best inspection trainers. The 2020 pandemic has impacted our training severely. However, thanks to the administration and the trainees' cooperation, we are slowly getting back on our feet and returning to college for practical lessons with the proper safety measures in place to protect us from the ongoing pandemic, COVID-19. I really enjoying the practical classes and learning about Welding and how we inspect good or bad welds.



## Success Stories



I am **Mustafa Abdurab Al Nabi** from the Eastern Region, who was given the opportunity to join the Saudi Aramco Career Grading Program in 2017 and was directed by Aramco to the Inspection Technology and Quality Assurance National Institute. I joined the Institute in 2017 as an Electrical Inspector, and a month after the beginning of the training and the introduction of the program and specialization, I felt a kind of challenge and a high desire in this special discipline especially the importance of scientific and process information that we used to gain daily at the Institute.

In November 2019, I graduated, and it was the beginning of my working life at Aramco in Dhahran under Inspection Department. On this day, I can still remember how grateful I am to ITQAN for the scientific knowledge and as a result, I started the first step of my professional career as Inspector. As well known, the work is largely based on a special study in our specialty. After a year of work, I became the Safety Coordinator in the department, a task assigned to me by my Manager after a year of work. My personal life now and after a year and a half of work, I wanted to complete my bachelor's degree and I have received admission acceptance.

By 2021, I will begin my study for further development at work. As it was said, the 1,000-mile journey begins with a step, and my first step was my studies at ITQAN Institute, which I am thankful for their untiring support during my training period, and what they are offering now to community and to the younger generation.



I am **Khaled Majrashi** from Southern Region joined the Institute in 2016 as a Welding Inspector. A month after the start of the training and introducing the program and specialization, I felt a kind of challenge and a great desire in this specialty. I was happy to have a job before I started the training and was guaranteed to join the company that adopted my training qualification after graduating from the institute and obtaining the diploma. I have not only benefited from the scientific aspect at ITQAN, but also refined my social personality and developed my communication skills through volunteerism and recreational activities.

In January 2018, I graduated and started my career at The International Engineering Company Naizak that belongs to Abdulkarim Holding Company. I was assigned in Ras Tanura under Project Management of the Inspection Department. On this day, I can still remember how grateful I am to ITQAN for the scientific knowledge which result in starting my first step towards my professional career as Inspector. As it is known that the work is largely based on special studies in our field, after two years of work I became the Coordinator of the Inspection Department, a task assigned by my Managers. I got a lot of training courses to take to

enhance my work and experience. My personal life now, two years after my graduation from ITQAN, I got married, thanks God.

Finally, I would like to thank the Institute's management and teachers who had the virtue of after God for what I became now.

## Marketing and Public Relations

### ORIENTATION FOR NEW TRAINEES

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020, ITQAN's New International Training Provider (Lincoln College) held a face-to-face orientation session for a total of 70 new trainees from the Sep 2020 intake at ITQAN Multi-Purpose Building. The session started with a welcoming message by ITQAN Managing Director, followed by the Deputy General Manager of Lincoln College, and the Head of the Student Affairs and Student Counseling. It is worth mentioning that safety measures



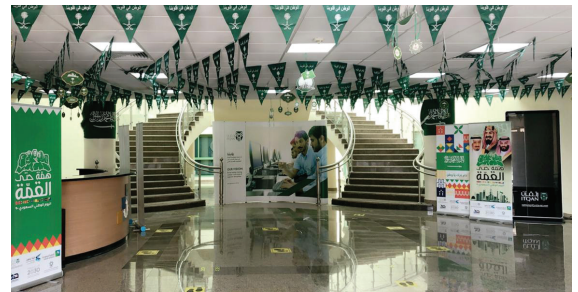
for COVID-19 such as wearing of facemasks, physical distancing, and

availability of hand sanitizers have been applied during the event.

### SAUDI 90<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

On the week of September 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020, considering COVID-19 safety measures, ITQAN participated in the celebration of the 90th Anniversary of the Kingdom's National Day. As a result of the unfortunate COVID-19, the celebration was also held virtually. Proceedings of the event included display and rolling of congratulatory

messages reflecting the festivities activated on ITQAN's website and social media accounts. In addition, a congratulations SMS from ITQAN Managing Director has been shared with all staff & trainees. Banners and flags were installed in ITQAN facilities as part of this commemorative event.



### SAUDI ARAMCO RAS TANURA INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTER (ITC) VISIT



On October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020, ITQAN MD has arranged with Saudi Aramco Ras Tanura ITC Superintendent a visit by Lincoln and ITQAN teams as part of exchange knowledge & benchmarking best practice. The objectives of the visit are as follows:

- COVID-19 Measures Implementation
- Workshop Technical Training Implementation (under COVID-19)
- Academic Distance Learning Experience
- Student Services Management
- Facility

### COLLABORATION MEETING WITH GCC ELECTRICAL TESTING LABORATORY

On October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020, a collaboration meeting with GCC Electrical Testing Laboratory (GCC-ETL) was held in Dammam. The objective was to explore potential partnership in adding more sponsors and satisfying the need of Inspection training. Proceedings of the meeting included overview presentations of ITQAN & GCC-ETL, and the services being offered. It was agreed upon to sign the necessary Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to officially start the business collaboration between all parties. As a result, MOU has been signed on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at ITQAN Institute in Ju'aymah.



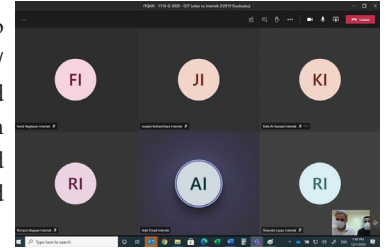
### SAUDI ARAMCO PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM (PMT) SITE VISIT AT ITQAN

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020, a team comprising Saudi Aramco PMT visited ITQAN and met with ITQAN team. The objective of the visit was to learn more about the Institute and improve Saudization percentage. PMT Task Force presented initiative overview and intent, and the challenges encountered with contractors. The visiting team were provided with an overview of the institute and the services being offered, as well as a tour of workshops and classrooms. It is worth mentioning that this initiative will add value to the development of the local workforce in realization of the Kingdom's 2030 vision.

## VOCATIONAL

### ON THE JOB TRAINING (OJT) INTERVIEW FOR 5<sup>TH</sup> TO 8<sup>TH</sup> COHORT GRADUATES

At the start-up of Nov 2020, ITQAN technical team started to conduct On the Job Training (OJT) follow-up with sponsors who have active graduates from 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Cohorts. The meetings were attended by mentors/supervisors of TUV Nord Fahss, CAT Group, Gulf Engineering House, among others and it was held virtually due to the current circumstances. Sponsor mentors and supervisors were given orientation on job task standards in addition to duties and responsibilities of concerned parties. The meeting addressed challenges and mitigations. Sponsoring companies agreed to start the implementation of the OJT and complete Job Task Standards (JTSs) by Q2 2021.



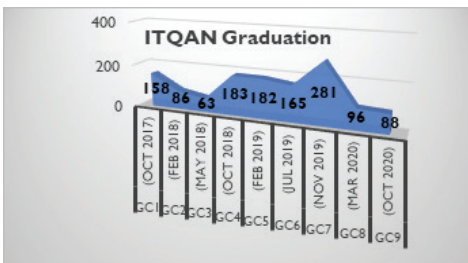
### RESUMPTION OF ON-CAMPUS PRACTICAL CLASSES (WORKSHOP-BASED)



On October 25<sup>th</sup> & November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020, a total of two hundred thirty-seven (237) ITQAN trainees returned to the facility to resume the on-campus practical classes (workshop-based). Guided Learning Hours (GLH) of the Job skills year (hands on) have been affected as a result of the unfortunate COVID-19 situation. The necessary safety measures have been taken to ensure the health and safety instructions in the workplace are adhered to as per Ministry of Health (MoH)

standards. It is expected that these (237) inspectors will graduate and added to the local workforce of the inspection industry by February and April 2021.

### ITQAN GRADUATION COHORT 9 (OCTOBER 2020)



On November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020, a total of eighty-eight (88) trainees from fourteen (14) different sponsors have successfully passed all the required examinations and have completed the two-year Inspection diploma program at ITQAN. The list of sponsors included such as SATORP, Velosi, CAT Group, Gulf Engineering House, and others. It is worth mentioning that these graduates will start the On-The-Job Training (OJT) program to complete their Job Tasks Standards (JTS). This graduation brings the total number of graduates from the institute to one thousand three hundred and one (1305) trainees.



On December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020, ITQAN hosted its Contractors Gathering in Ju'aymah. The objective is to leverage support from Construction & Inspection Contractors in the form of trainee sponsorship and help increase Saudi workforce in the Inspection industry. Proceedings of the event included presentations by ITQAN, and In-Kingdom Total Value Add (IKTVA). Top management of potential contractor companies attended the event. It is expected that this event will make an impact in preparation for the upcoming Feb & Aug 2021 intakes.

“The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet”

Aristotle

#### CONTACT US:

The ITQAN Newsletter is a publication for The Inspection Technology & Quality Assurance National Institute (ITQAN) community of Ju'aymah, Ras Tanura. Should you have any comments and suggestions, proposed articles, photographs, to enhance our newsletter, please email them at [newsletter@itqaninstitute.edu.sa](mailto:newsletter@itqaninstitute.edu.sa) or you may reach us at 013-510-7670 Ext. 1012.

