

The WINS Academy Security Certification Programme: The Route to Demonstrable Competence

Wednesday, 14 May 2014 11:00 (20 minutes)

Being demonstrably competent or professionally certified to do your job is the norm in nearly all professions, be it medicine, teaching, engineering, project management or a host of other professional endeavours. This process of developing competence through certification is the hallmark of Professionalisation and leads to an identifiable mark of quality that is attached to practitioners. In the nuclear industry, it is highly likely that many of the accountants, engineers and safety professionals belong to chartered institutes that certify their members' competence on an on-going basis. But the same is not at all common for security professionals and others with senior managerial or regulatory responsibilities relating to security.

A number of States have recognised this gap and have begun to support the need for certified professional development. This is reflected in planned statements for the 2014 Nuclear Security Summit that will encourage States to ensure that all personnel with management accountabilities for nuclear security are demonstrably competent. This new focus is of essential importance. Almost all systems, be they for nuclear security or any other field of human endeavour, rely on the effectiveness of human performance.

To help the international community meet this need for demonstrably competent personnel, WINS has launched the Academy: a programme of certified professional development designed in partnership with the world's largest professional education provider. The Academy programme is centred on a core Foundation Module that sets out security as a strategic, operational activity to be implemented across the organisation and as a fundamental aspect of risk management and corporate reputation. Implementing such a programme requires the collaboration of a number of key organisational roles and WINS is developing Modules for eight Stakeholders. All of the Modules will be available online and at over 5,000 accredited test centres in 177 countries.

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Session Classification: Session 3B - Building and Sustaining Capacity through Education and Training