

Lebanon's IBL Bank validates Alliance Access skills with SWIFT certification

First Alliance Access Administrator certification in Lebanon (and Middle East) confirms IBL Bank s.a.l Lebanon has extensive expertise in configuring and maintaining a system critical to its daily operations.

SWIFT Training's Using SWIFT – Certification Programme enables financial institutions to obtain formal proof of the high standard of their employees' SWIFT expertise in certain key areas. The Alliance Access Administrator certification has been designed to validate the knowledge of staff responsible for configuring and maintaining their institutions' Alliance Access servers. To be awarded the certification, candidates must pass an examination on Alliance Access administration and configuration tasks.

Johnny S. El Hadchity, IT System Administrator at IBL Bank s.a.l Lebanon, a candidate in Lebanon, has recently become the first in this country to be awarded the Alliance Access Administrator certification.

Given the opportunity as part of his career development to attend the SWIFT Training on Managing SWIFT Alliance Access in Dubai, and to try for the certification, Hadchity says he was particularly interested in the course content because it covered not just technical but also administration aspects. "This was important to strengthen my contribution to my company, IBL Bank", he says.

The course content was relevant, he continues, with the highly experienced instructor able to communicate the required information in an understandable way, regardless of prior knowledge levels. The examination to secure the certification was "not only a measure of skills, but a comprehensive standard for skills", Hadchity adds, "combining information about skill proficiency and skill use".

The benefit for IBL Bank of the training and certification include creating consistent skill levels and having a recognised standard for skills aligned with organisational frameworks, adds Elie Hlayel, Head of the IT department, IBL Bank. Specialised training is an important element of the IBL Bank HR policy, as it helps to reduce staff turnover and encourages knowledge to be retained.

IBL's strong belief in the importance of human capital is translated into continuous training, as an efficient means to enhance productivity: because certified people are typically more productive.

At a personal level, Hadchity believes the certification has brought him a number of benefits: "Thanks to IBL Bank's training opportunities, my skills are enhanced and recognised in my bank and I can perform better in my job. I also gain better recognition and responsibility in my organisation."

The Using SWIFT – Certification Programme also covers other functions: SWIFTNet Security Officer, Alliance Access/Entry Operator and SWIFT for Corporates Specialist. Based on his experience so far, Hadchity is interested in pursuing additional certifications, he says. "Being the first certified SWIFT Alliance Access Administrator in Lebanon and the Middle East encourages me to continue learning and spreading my experience in SWIFT. I am particularly interested in the SWIFT for Corporates Specialist certification," he concludes

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