



The Association of
Accountants and
Financial Professionals
in Business

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IMA Middle East Focus

INDIA SPECIAL EDITION

IMA participated in the Chief Learning Officer Summit, which took place at the Four Seasons Hotel, Worli, on September 10, 2015. The goal of the summit was to promote individual and organizational learning and development. Many corporations, training institutes, and universities participated in this event with 150 delegates.

Ahmad Mkhallati, IMA director of regional partners relations, represented IMA at the power session "Learning for an Agile Workforce."

The chair and speakers in the power session were:

- Raghavendra K, Infosys, Session Chair
- Anup Lewis, Schneider Electric India
- Sriram Raghunandhan, D.E. Shaw

Ahmad Mkhallati, IMA



Here is a brief on Mkhallati's session:

The global demand for training and certification has substantially increased and continues to increase as a result of arising complex financial and accounting (general, management, and cost accounting) practices and concepts globally and because there exists a skills gap at all levels, including business analytical levels. Furthermore, there is a challenge identifying “advanced” or high-potential finance and accounting staff with the right skills. That’s where IMA steps in, empowering accountants and financial professionals in business to become trusted business advisors, playing a driving role in their organizations’ business success. Also, its certification, the CMA[®] (Certified Management Accountant) credential, demonstrates a mastery of management accounting knowledge and skills, and it assures employers of on-the-job competency to improve organizational performance.

IMA's India Tour with Wiley

Ahmad Mkhallati, IMA director of regional partners relations, and Aziz Tayyebi, director of market development at Wiley Efficient Learning, visited some of the training partners in Bangalore, Chennai, Cochin, Delhi, and Mumbai and also met with the most prominent universities, including Christ University, Bangalore, and Loyola College, Chennai. The CMA program is in a phase of rapid growth in India. Through partnerships, course providers, and a commitment to serve the community, IMA has positioned the CMA credential to be the “go-to” credential for those in the profession. As global marketplaces get

of the key differentiators in ensuring job readiness and career advancement.

Christ University Event

Organized by Miles Professional Education at Christ University, around 200 students attended the event on September 14, 2015. Ahmad Mkhallati, IMA director of regional partners relations; Aziz Tayyebi, director of market development at Wiley Efficient Learning; and Varun Jain, CMA, CPA, Miles Professional Education, answered students' questions about IMA membership, the CMA program, study resources available, and the training and delivery method. IMA also had the opportunity to meet with the head of the commerce department, Theresa Nithila Vincent, and discuss IMA's Higher Education Endorsement Program.



IMA's Higher Education Endorsement Program recognizes undergraduate and graduate accounting programs that meet the educational standards that enable students to pursue the CMA. Higher education programs seeking endorsement by IMA must substantially cover the content of the CMA exam in their curriculum, have adequate faculty resources, be accredited by a recognized accreditation organization, and have a faculty member designated as an IMA Campus Advocate. The Campus Advocate Program helps professors demonstrate their commitment to the future of the accounting profession by mentoring students and encouraging CMA certification.

Logic School of Management

Logic School of Management, one of the approved partners of IMA and Wiley, organized a seminar for its students at Bangalore and Cochin. About 250 students in Cochin and 150 students in Bangalore attended the event. Ahmad Mkhallati, IMA director of regional partners relations, spoke about the value of IMA membership, benefits, and the CMA program. Aziz Tayyebi, director of market development at Wiley

options, and the relationship with IMA.

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Trophies were awarded to members who had passed both exam parts. Both the events ended with an interactive session with the students. To read more about Logic, please visit www.logiccpacma.com.

Miles Professional Education

Miles Professional Education, the platinum partner of IMA and Wiley India, organized events at Bangalore, Chennai, and Delhi. About 150 delegates attended the event. Thought leaders and practitioners from leading corporations and academic institutions participated in the event across all three cities to discuss key issues and challenges in harnessing global career opportunities in the accounting and finance domain and how the CMA can help these individuals in fulfilling the skills gap.



Ahmad Mkhallati, IMA director of regional partners relations, spoke about IMA's student and academic programs. Varun Jain, CMA, CPA, Miles Professional Education, spoke about skill sets required for career progression in accounting and finance, career opportunities, and corporate recognition for students. To know more about Miles, please visit www.milescma.com.

Chapter Activities

IMA chapters are dedicated to keeping members updated with essential business knowledge, improving skills through professional education events, and building awareness of the CMA program. You can be a part of this momentum.

By participating in a local IMA chapter, you can:

- Obtain accounting and financial management education at modest cost without having to travel to distant programs or take time away from your job.
- Meet face-to-face with other members and CMA candidates to network with, engage in, and expand your contacts.
- Develop administrative and leadership skills through hands-on management of the chapter.

If you want to join a local chapter in India, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, or United Arab Emirates, please contact our Middle East office at imamiddleeast@imanet.org or call +971 800 IMA MEA (462 632).

*Note: An IMA member can be associated with only one chapter

Dubai Chapter

So far, Excel remains one of the most used tools by finance professionals, and it's important to be aware of all the new features and great potential of this program.

Thus, the September IMA Dubai-UAE Chapter event was on Advanced Excel, pivot and power pivot tables, dashboards, and popular Excel add-in functions. The session was led by Muhammad Atif Ayub, a senior executive in the management accounting department of the Dubai Airport Free Zone and Excel guru.



This workshop helped all the participants gain more knowledge and expertise in running their regular finance reports more efficiently and facilitate the month-end closure process and business analysis. The presentation was very well anticipated as more than 80 participants attended the event at the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce on September 26, 2015.



The speaker introduced the new features of Excel 2013 and showed the audience practical examples about how to use power pivots, their benefits and adaptability to the ERPs, and the accounting software's tools. Unfortunately, two hours weren't enough to complete the whole presentation with more than 80 participants in attendance, but the chapter posted the study materials on [LinkUp](#).

CMA Raffle

Congratulations to the winner of this month's CMA surprise drawing: Bhushan Harshad Mehta, CMA, from Bahrain. Please contact us at imamiddleeast@imanet.org or +971 4 429 6017 to claim your prize.

Job Pick of the Month

Visit <http://careers.imamiddleeast.org> to apply for these popular positions by entering the job reference number:

- Senior Auditor/ External Auditor – PKF Bourseli & Co. Kuwait Ref. JB3325873
- Assistant Finance Manager – Confidential Employer Ref. JB3323529
- Accountant – Arab Monetary Fund Ref. JB1688601

CV Writing Service by Bayt.com for IMA members. Avail 20 per cent discount on Bayt.com's CV writing Services. Visit www.bayt.com/en/cv-writing and enter this voucher code: wgb4OSbo to qualify for the discount.

