

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION BECOMES ECDL ACCREDITED TEST CENTRE

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Staff at the European Commission's DG Research and Innovation are benefiting from ECDL certification under a new initiative to boost digital skills and improve workplace productivity. As a newly accredited Test Centre, over 200 staff in the European Commission will be trained and certified using ECDL, the international standard in digital skills certification.

The collaboration between ECDL Foundation and DG Research and Innovation will help staff to enhance and build on their existing skills and knowledge, and better serve European citizens. ECDL is recognised around the world as a standard for digital skills; it offers staff a valuable opportunity to develop professionally, and to acquire skills that will help them throughout their careers.

Chief Executive of ECDL Foundation, Damien O'Sullivan, said, "At a time when employees need to be able to deliver more with fewer resources, digital competence has never been more important. DG Research and Innovation recognises the need to upskill and certify their staff to ECDL's internationally recognised standard. ECDL Foundation is proud to welcome the European Commission to our network of test centres."

The European Computer Driving Licence was started in 1997 with funding from the European Union's ESPRIT research programme. Since then, ECDL has grown to be delivered in more than 100 countries and in 40 languages worldwide. It is recognised in the qualifications systems of many countries, including the UK, Ireland, France, Romania and Italy, and used by a large number of government ministries and agencies.

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*ECDL Foundation presents DG Research & Innovation with their Accredited Test Centre Certificate*

## **About ECDL**

ECDL Foundation is an international organisation dedicated to raising digital competence standards in the workforce, education and society. Our certification programmes, delivered through an active network in more than 100 countries, enable individuals and organisations to assess, build and certify their competence in the use of computers and digital tools to the globally-recognised ECDL standard, known as ICDL worldwide.

As a nonprofit social enterprise ECDL Foundation (ICDL Foundation) benefits from the unique support of experts from national computer societies and partners worldwide to develop vendor-independent standards which define the skills and knowledge required to use digital technology effectively. We work with education and training partners, local and regional authorities, national governments, international development organisations as well as public and private sector employers in all sectors, in the delivery of our programmes.

The quality and reputation of ICDL is built on almost twenty years of experience in delivering our certification programmes to over 14 million people and in more than 40 languages worldwide, with more than 2.5 million ICDL tests taken annually. Our success is maintained by our ongoing innovation in certification programme development, our commitment to rigorous test design methodologies, and consistent adherence to our quality assurance standards.

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