

IIFA FIATA Diploma in Freight Forwarding reaches new milestone with over 100 Graduates

Friday 21st November 2014

The Irish International Freight Association recently celebrated the milestone of its 100th graduate of the FIATA Diploma in Freight Forwarding course.

15 participants successfully graduated from the 2013 – 2014 class group, at a ceremony which took place in Dublin on Wednesday 10th September 2014. The IIFA began to deliver the FIATA Diploma course in 2008 and has trained 111 FIATA Diploma holders who are employed within the Irish Freight Forwarding community and abroad.

FIATA Diploma graduates range from Managing Directors to Operational Staff, who sit side by side with the shared aim of improving their careers. The present FIATA Diploma class group consists of 29 individuals. This particular class group is characterised by a large proportion of participants under the age of 30, which reflects the industry's recognition of the FIATA Diploma as the basis of a solid foundation of learning for tomorrow's Irish Freight Forwarders.

Commenting on this milestone, IIFA CEO Colm Walsh highlighted what he saw as one of the main benefits gained from successful completion of the IIFA FIATA Diploma course, as expressed by a successful participant: confidence in dealing with Client's queries.

"It is very encouraging to know that our graduates not only have that confidence and knowledge, but also to know, that by channelling that confidence and knowledge to their clients, they are contributing to a highly professional, and positive image for our industry, which will be a great achievement for this and future generations of Irish Freight Forwarders."

What is the FIATA Diploma course?

The FIATA Diploma course is a 10 module program which covers the cornerstones of Freight Forwarding. Modules covered include transport by land, sea and air as well as vital background considerations such as Customs Clearance and Dangerous Goods. Training is delivered online with monthly online tests and assignments forming the basis of course work. Graduates of the course have complimented the IIFA on the ease of use of the learning software. The final examination takes the form of a written test and takes place in Dublin at the end of June each year.

What is FIATA?

The FIATA Diploma is an internationally recognised qualification as course material is validated by FIATA, the International Federation of Freight Forwarders' Associations, based in Switzerland. FIATA authorize national Freight Forwarding Associations around the World

to deliver the FIATA Diploma course in their name and at the present moment, there are over 10, 000 FIATA Diploma holders worldwide.

How has the course evolved since 2008?

The Irish FIATA Diploma course is widely praised within FIATA. IIFA CEO & Irish FIATA Diploma course leader, Mr. Colm Walsh, was asked to deliver a speech on the structure of Ireland's training program during the annual FIATA World Congress, which took place in Istanbul, Turkey 13th – 18th October 2014. The presentation entitled "*Finding the Right Digital Fit for Ireland's FIATA Diploma Course*" detailed how training started with monthly classroom seminars and written tests in 2008 and evolved to online webinars and tests in 2011. The benefits to online learning were instantaneous as participants praised the time saved from the need to travel. Nevertheless the IIFA continued to find ways to improve ways to delivery of its training.

The FIATA Diploma today

By continuously listening to participant feedback over the years, the IIFA has refined its online delivery and now offers training via on-demand videos, available to view 24/7. Commenting on the present structure of Ireland's FIATA Diploma programme, IIFA CEO Colm Walsh;

"The world of the Freight Forwarder has undergone a momentous transformation over the last 10-15 years. The advent of the mobile phones and e-mail, and today the marriage of the two, has created a world where business is always on the go. Forwarders today carry their office with them in their pocket and work is always with them and cannot be "switched off".

In this high pressure world "time" has become a rare and precious article for everyone. The structure of the FIATA Diploma course allows each individual to customise their learning schedule to their own requirements, fitting alongside work, travel and personal commitments.

It gave us great pleasure to know that our course delivers timely and relevant material in a way that meets the need of the modern demanding world."

For further information please see
<http://iifa.ie/fiata-diploma.html>

photographs on next page...

Photographs:



“IIFA Course Leader Colm Walsh delivering a speech on Ireland’s strategy for the IIFA FIATA Diploma in Freight Forwarding at the 2014 FIATA World Congress, Istanbul, Turkey on Friday 17th October 2014.”



“2014 – 2015 IIFA President John Dawson (Bell Transport & Logistics) delivering a speech at the 2014 IIFA FIATA Diploma Graduation Ceremony in Dublin on Wednesday 10h September 2014.”



FIATA Diploma in Freight Forwarding Graduates 2014

Wednesday 10th September 2014 Carlton Hotel, Dublin Airport



Left to Right: Matteo Vavassori, Janine Devey (DFDS Logistics), Graeme Glennon (The Leinster Group Ltd), Joe Grimes (Emerald Freight Ltd), Gavin Sherwin (The Keelings Group), Damien Prendergast (The Keelings Group), FIATA Diploma Course Leader + IIFA CEO Colm Walsh, IIFA President + FIATA Diploma Holder John Dawson (Bell Transport & Logistics Ltd), Linda Daly (Sean Moriarty Transport Ltd), Emmett McDonald (The Keelings Group), Brian Byrne, Julie Allen (The Same Day Network Ltd) & Jennifer Condon (Independent Express Cargo Ltd).

Absent on the night were Barry Kiernan (Seabridge Ireland Ltd), Adejumo Kehinde Kolawole, Robert Tumbleton (Kelly Logistics Ltd) & Wioleta Wolczynska (Syncreon Ireland Ltd).



FIATA Diploma in Freight Forwarding Graduates 2013

Thursday 29th August 2013 Carlton Hotel, Dublin Airport



Back Row: Eddie Mullin (IIFA Council), Patrick Walsh (JF Hillebrand), William Brennan, Finbarr Cleary (IIFA Council), William Cress (DMF International), Eugene Byrne (JF Hillebrand), Rafael Esperanca, Nicholas Riley (DHL Same Day), Vincent Brennan (IIFA Council & Chair of IIFA Education Committee), Colm Walsh (FIATA Diploma Course Leader + IIFA CEO) and Bob Rainsford (IIFA Council)

Front Row: Terry Sweeney (IIFA Council), Nadia Sheridan (KMR Shipping), Nan Zhao (JF Hillebrand), Stephen O'Regan (JF Hillebrand), John O'Hanrahan (IIFA President), Ruaidhri Horan (Emerald Freight), Karen Creagh (DHL Same Day), Claire Fox (The Burke Shipping Group) and Denise Watson (Nippon Express)

Absent on the night were Anna Aherne (The Burke Shipping Group), Patrick Byrne (UTi Ireland), Robert Doolin, David Hogan (JF Hillebrand), Massimo Lucibello, David Plunkett (The Burke Shipping Group), Keith Power (Schenker), Nicola Purell (CEVA Logistics) & Anna Zakutajeva

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