Building professional excellence in road transport

Creating a professional industry and reliable workforce through international standards and certification.
A global network of excellence

The IRU Academy is the training arm of IRU. Through a network of over 65 Associate Training Institutes (ATI) in more than 45 countries we train thousands of drivers and transport operators every year to ensure better safety, efficiency and sustainability.

Our network of transport associations and operators, government agencies, vocational schools and universities provide the highest standards in professional training. Working with industry stakeholders we aim to achieve greater recognition for those striving to reach these standards.

“Standardising the industry makes it easier for everybody – truck manufacturers, road regulators and drivers.”

Hassan Fadil, TMC, Egypt
**Fit for the future**

A thriving road transport sector is essential for sustainable economic growth and job creation. But the industry is failing to attract new recruits and retain existing workers.

Safety regulations and targets to reduce accidents mean that transport operators need to comply with increasingly complex regulations.

At the same time the industry faces ongoing pressure to improve service quality and efficiency while continually adapting to new legislation and technological advances.

To meet these challenges road transport needs a skilled and motivated workforce at full capacity, reaching the highest possible standards. Investing in people pays great dividends. Well-trained employees have fewer accidents, are more efficient and more likely to stay in their job.

The IRU Academy equips employees with the knowledge and skills needed to do their job well, adapt to change and improve the industry’s performance. Our internationally recognised standards and certification make road transport more professional and help create a reliable workforce.

Through its global network, the IRU Academy is raising awareness of the benefits offered by jobs in road transport and boosting the image of the profession. Advances in technology and online learning allow IRU Academy training to have an ever-growing reach, particularly in developing countries.

“ECO-Driving is changing attitudes towards driving. It’s a good way to become a better and safer driver.”

*Mladen Jambrović, Ekomobilis, Croatia*
Smart growth

With a full and well-trained workforce, road transport can play a significant role in global economic growth. Skilled professional drivers help the industry become cleaner and greener, playing its part in achieving sustainable development and tackling climate change.

Safer roads

Meeting safety regulations and targets to reduce accidents are a priority for all industry stakeholders. The right training is essential to improve the safety record of a company and minimise accident costs. Having well-managed fleets and strict vehicle maintenance also helps ease congestion.

Smooth operations

The highest training standards are essential to allow supply chains and transport networks to operate efficiently, keeping pace with emerging challenges and new legislation.

Road transport must continually adapt to such change. New vehicles are being designed to strict security standards, drive and rest time rules are being enforced and new technology is being used to ensure compliance.

Meeting capacity

A growing skills shortage in the transport and logistics industry needs to be addressed. Many of those working in the sector have not had the necessary training to perform their job properly.

In several regions the trucking industry faces a shortage of professional drivers which is having a direct impact on service delivery. This is exacerbated by the rising demands of web commerce and new goods delivery methods.

“We want to be the leading example in the Arab world. The experience of other ATIs in the network will help increase the efficiency of our managers and drivers.”

Huda Qasim, Managing Director, RACJ Driver Training Centre, Jordan

The benefits of professional training

- Fewer accidents
- Compliance with regulations
- Improved road safety
- Lower maintenance costs
- Fewer damaged goods
- Reduced fuel consumption
- Less CO₂
- Motivated and dedicated staff
- Increased productivity
- and more...
“Success requires education. IRU Academy programmes create new skills giving drivers, managers and transport workers the opportunity to work safely according to international standards.”

Mikheil Khmaladze, Director LTA, Georgia
Strategic guidance
The Academy is guided by an Advisory Committee (ADC), a high-level strategic body that advises on vocational training in road transport and on key industry priorities the Academy should address.

ADC members
- International Transport Forum (ITF)
- World Bank
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- European Transport Workers’ Federation (ETF)
- European Commission (EC)
- International Association of Public Transport (UITP)

Raising the bar
With its comprehensive training programmes the IRU Academy helps differentiate workers in an increasingly competitive industry.

Developed by key industry experts, our courses are available through different channels in many regions and many languages.

The IRU Academy endorses policy efforts that focus on the industry workforce. It aims to make professional qualification a key prerequisite of any quality transport system.

A level playing field
Companies that implement effective training receive limited recognition for their efforts due to a lack of standardisation and transparency. Greater harmonisation, transparency and recognition are necessary incentives for the industry to achieve best practice.

The IRU Academy works with Associate Training Institutes and other stakeholders to create high standard, internationally recognised programmes and certification that make the industry more professional and fairer for all players.

Training courses
Our courses range from:
- Professional competency certification for managers and drivers
- Crash prevention
- Safety management
- Safe cargo loading
- Dangerous goods transport
- Driving and rest time compliance
- ECO-Driving
- and more...