

Students of the year

2003

CERTIFICATE STUDENT OF THE YEAR



Sammy Likhali

The Certificate in Operations Management award goes to the student who is considered to have achieved the most by completing the programme. Their course tutors nominate students and the Institute's Qualifications and Awards Committee select the winner.

The 2003 award has been made to Sammy Likhali, who was nominated by Robert Irwin the manager of the ROME Virtual Centre. Sammy completed the course, following the ROME distance learning programme, being truly distant – based in Kenya. Assignments were sent by email and the exam was sat in Nairobi under the invigilation of British Council staff.

Sammy explains why he took the course and how it has benefited him and his company.

"I joined my present employer De La Rue Kenya, (wholly owned by De La Rue PLC, one of the largest security print companies in the world focusing on banknotes, cheques and identity solutions),

I was employed as an internal consultant to work on engineering process improvements. After studying the ROME course, we went further in our implementation of 5 S work disciplines in the factory. The implementation of these systems really improved safety performance and the morale of our people - there was obvious people involvement. More people now feel able to come forward and report any minor safety incidents in their work place.

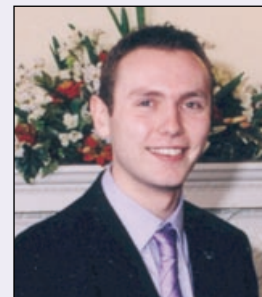
I was then appointed as Operations Manager within my department. Much of the work completed to date has had to do with setting up the processes, with not much work on improvements as yet. But one aspect of the ROME curriculum that has helped me is in setting up a Materials Requirement Planning system. We began with a Microsoft Excel sheet and are now progressing into the Syspro system.

I am also encouraging my colleagues to study for the Certificate via ROME. Initially I had prepared a presentation to give to the company management on the benefits of this. This was a Power Point presentation describing the IOM, its study programmes, the benefits of studying by distance learning, the contents of ROME and the potential benefits to the company. Unfortunately, our leadership has since changed and now we are having to start this from scratch again.

The ROME programme was ideal for me and I was really helped by Bob Irwin who managed it, he kept me informed of developments especially regarding doing the exam at the local British Council office. He also sent me some past questions to help me prepare. He always acknowledged receiving my email and gave prompt replies".

Sammy Likhali
De La Rue Kenya

DIPLOMA STUDENT OF THE YEAR



Simon Middlebrough

This year's Diploma in Production and Inventory Management Student of the Year is awarded to Simon Middlebrough, who achieved the maximum possible six distinctions. Simon demonstrates clearly the benefits of using the Institute's qualifications within a company's continuing professional development programme.

"I joined Rolls-Royce in September 2000 as a Logistics Graduate Trainee after gaining

a 1st in Physics from the University of Warwick. The IOM Certificate and Diploma were an integral part of the Rolls-Royce training scheme, studied over a 2 year period for half a day per week whilst undertaking 3-6 month placements in various Logistics and Operational Management roles. With a background that had not involved logistics or operations management, I appreciated the breadth and grounding that the Diploma gave, whilst the assignments gave me the opportunity to pursue operations management topics in more depth both within Rolls-Royce and through case studies of other industries.

My roles since completing my IOM studies have been in areas where I have been able to put theory into practice; as a MRP Controller working with the external supply chain and e-procurement initiatives, as the specialist MRP and Capacity Owner Super user working in an ERP manufacturing environment, and most recently through managing a team of 10 MRP / Parts Controllers within a £40m plant in the Combustion Business.

Consequently, the content of the Diploma related to ERP, MRP and Shop Control has been the most immediately relevant and widely used set of skills. However, the Diploma has certainly given me the confidence and understanding to apply all the underlying operations management principles within a manufacturing and supply chain context. This is a foundation upon which I hope to build in subsequent roles."

Simon Middlebrough
Rolls-Royce

IOM CERTIFICATE BY DISTANCE LEARNING

ROADS TO AND FROM ROME



Following the end of a number of funding streams through ESF, administration of the ROME programme has been moved to the Institute's Headquarters.

The Institute is extremely grateful for the invaluable work provided by all those contributors to the success of the ROME project to date – in particular the work of Robert Irwin. We wish you good fortune for the future Bob.

All new students will be directed to one of our 'conventional' Centres who are accredited to deliver the Certificate by distance learning.

Please contact HQ for details. Funding from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) for distance learning programmes continues to be amended annually. It is now known in funding methodology parlance as a part of 'distributed and electronic learning (DEL)'. However, LSC also talk about 'blended learning', which is a mixture of DEL and conventional learning. In practice many distance learning programmes are of this type, with centres providing face-to-face workshops to support the distance learning. A large proportion of our ROME students have had this type of support. Students that can study programmes completely remotely, as in the case of Sammy Likhali are unusual. As a species we do like a shared experience!

In the light of this companies are continuing to use the programme as a professional development package for groups of their employees. For example following the success of Kathy Taylor at Ordnance Survey, a further 7 members of staff have now enrolled on the programme. Other stalwart supporters of the programme include Boots Contract Manufacturing, Astra Zeneca and Marshalls.

● For more information on ROME and a demonstration CD contact rome@iomnet.org.uk

National events

Report on Sales and Operations Planning (S&OP) Seminar

(co-sponsored by The Institution of Electrical Engineers)

On the 25th March 2004 an audience of over 35 attendees joined the IOM at the Hilton Hotel, Warwick for a seminar on Sales & Operations Planning, given by US industry guru, Jane Lee of Supply Chain

Consultants Inc. of Wilmington Delaware, who used the subject of Sales & Operations Planning to deliver an excellent workshop under the sub-title of 'A Practical Framework for Supply Chain

Improvement and Integration'.

Supply Chain Consultants Inc. is a leading US supply chain software and consulting firm and Jane Lee, an expert practitioner in the field, has given this workshop many times to