Igniting the Spark through Infocomm Training

The NICF-Immerse, Grow, Navigate in Infocomm Technology with Elocution (NICF-IGNITE) programme has sharpened the Infocomm Technology (ICT) competencies of organisations while opening doors to infocomm professions for aspiring individuals. The National University of Singapore – Institute of Systems Science’s (NUS-ISIS) Yum Hui Yuen highlights the benefits of staff training for the industry as a whole.

sector. It enables organisations to recruit, develop and retain the right infocomm staff – whether they are new to the infocomm industry, or are experienced practitioners wishing to pick up a new infocomm skill for a different role within the infocomm sector.

Essentially an apprenticeship scheme, the NICF-IGNITE programme comprises an on-the-job training component with an employer, which allows new or inexperienced infocomm employees to benefit from the mentorship and supervision of skilled practitioners, and structured training programmes offered by WDA’s CET partners such as NUS-ISIS.

The biggest value of such an initiative is that it combines identifying the right courses for candidates with providing a contextualised learning opportunity for them. The result? Employees who get to speed up quickly with the necessary knowledge and skills to do a job well.

Contributing to the industry

As the National CET Institute (NIC) for the infocomm sector, NUS-ISIS has been supporting the NICF-IGNITE initiative since 2012 and has built up a strong track record in tailoring training courses that are relevant to specific infocomm roles. Being a practice-driven institute of higher learning, NUS-ISIS offers 11 highly sought-after training courses that qualify for NICF-IGNITE funding and enter to a growing pool of corporate participants.

It isn’t just the large corporations that are benefiting from the initiative though. Increasingly, employers of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are also taking up NICF programmes, while sponsoring employers are adopting more sustainable approach to talent development and retention, as well as government assistance. The programme is also useful for NSmen seeking a second career in infocomm. It offers an opportunity for former military men to transit into mainstream commercial careers in infocomm.

Today, NUS-ISIS has a NICF-IGNITE client base comprising both public and private sector companies. They include organisations such as PSA Corporation, International Skill Verification Services, CagroSonic Logistic, Equisar, GreenFossil and JustLogin (see box for how it has benefited from NICF-IGNITE).