

70 national oil engineers join Adnoc

100 women to graduate from Petroleum Institute in 4 years



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NEARLY 70 male national oil engineers have joined Abu Dhabi's massive hydrocarbon sector after completing a five-year intensive study at the emirate's Petroleum Institute of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (Adnoc).

The 70 graduates in petroleum engineering received their university-level certificates during a ceremony at the Emirates Palace Hotel on January 5.

Adnoc said it had already assigned jobs to the latest batch of engineers, who join the industry at a time when the UAE is locked in a massive programme to expand its crude oil and gas output capacity, develop its refining and petrochemical industry, and build new projects to utilise its sizable hydrocarbon reserves, among the largest five oil and gas deposits in the world.

Adnoc CEO Yousef Omair bin Yousef said the graduation of national oil engineers would give a strong push to the oil industry and support government efforts to rely more on native workforce.

"There is no better time to join the energy sector in general and the oil and gas industry in particular. We are in an era of

great challenges and excitement. The industry is witnessing an explosion of mega projects, ever growing need for new technologies and an urgent demand for clean energy as well as unprecedented quest for alternative energy...all these developments pose tremendous challenges that make the need for new blood of engineers, new thinking and new innovation profoundly urgent," he said in a speech.

"It was in anticipation of these challenges and the growing need for locally-trained personnel that prompted us to establish the Institute...although our short term objective was to find a replacement for the retiring generation of skilled personnel, our vision was also to provide a world-class quality and research-oriented education to the future leaders of Adnoc and its group of companies."

Yousef urged the new employees to use their knowledge to serve the oil sector in the UAE, which has invested more than \$15 billion over the past seven years to expand its hydrocarbon sector. More than \$10 billion would be

pumped in the coming 10 years to raise oil output capacity to four million bpd.

"I am sure soon you will have the opportunity to apply your knowledge and to realize how the quality education you have earned at the PI makes your life easier...It is also with great pride that I have to mention PI Women Students who have met our expectations and have proven beyond doubt that women can be as good as or even better than men in science and engineering education. I look forward to the day when they will graduate and take their well-deserved positions in Adnoc and its Group of Companies.," he said.

The Petroleum Institute was set up by Adnoc and its foreign partners: Shell, Total, BP and the Japanese Oil Development Company (Jodco). It started with around 140 students, who have grown to more than 700.

The Institute took a landmark move in 2006 when it decided to accept local women. More than 100 of them joined classes last year and are expected to graduate as internationally-recognised oil engineers after completing studies.