

Media Alert

Al Akhawayn University and Alcatel-Lucent to bring communications training and certification programs to Morocco

Rabat, Morocco, February 22, 2011- Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco, and Alcatel-Lucent (Euronext Paris and NYSE: ALU) announced an agreement to offer students a training and certification program based on Alcatel-Lucent technologies and products.

Al Akhawayn University will participate in the [Alcatel-Lucent Application Partner program](#), giving the University access to content, training, and products that will be part of Al Akhawayn student courses and labs. Students will be able to develop applications to run on the newest smart desk phone, [Alcatel-Lucent OmniTouch™ 8082 My IC Phone](#), and have access to the last product prototypes, development frameworks, API's and documentations.

Al Akhawayn University students will participate in real-life project management where both technical and business lessons will be applied. The target is to give students a realistic view of the telecommunications market and encourage start-ups. Al Akhawayn students will have the opportunity to apply for Alcatel-Lucent product certification as a result of their experience in the program.

“Partnering with a worldwide telecommunications leader like Alcatel-Lucent, and being a part of a comprehensive application program with access to innovative technologies and real business opportunities, was one of the determining factors in our decision to provide this academic opportunity. This effort will also contribute to the technological and economical development in our country,” said Tajje-ddine Rachidi, Associate Vice President for IT and Research at Al Akhawayn University.

Part of the intent for the “Alcatel-Lucent Dynamic Academy” is to foster creativity and innovation, enable knowledge and experience sharing on research and development projects among students and offer access to information about the latest communication and collaboration solutions and services.

“With our partners we have the opportunity to create the future of innovation, today through the Alcatel-Lucent academy partner program. This effort has become a model in Africa and Middle East and represents a step forward in Alcatel-Lucent’s Applications Enablement strategy, where the goal is to enhance the value of network assets for applications partners,” said Mounim Ghetreff, Country Senior Officer of Alcatel-Lucent in Morocco. “Al Akhawayn in Morocco is the first university to be certified ‘Academic Partner for Alcatel-Lucent’ in Middle East and Africa region.”

Alcatel-Lucent and Al Akhawayn University will work together on new communications solutions that combine technological skills and specific needs of the region. Morocco is one of the most dynamic countries in the region, where growth is linked to the telecommunications business and where local service providers are actively addressing growing customer needs.

“This strategic partnership with Al Akhawayn University reinforces the commitment of Alcatel-Lucent in the development of information and communication technologies in Morocco, especially in the higher education environment and student’s professional training. As a continuity of the “Dynamic Knowledge for Education” program initiated in 2008, this partnership aims to build a bridge between higher education and industry realities to tackle the technological, economical and social challenges while promoting innovation in Morocco” said Moussa Zaghdoud, Enterprise Product Marketing Manager, Alcatel-Lucent and Project owner.

About the Alcatel-Lucent OmniTouch™ 8082 My IC Phone

[The Alcatel-Lucent OmniTouch™ 8082 My IC Phone](#) is a new device with a new user interface based on a large multi-touch display, it can be used to provide, fast, convenient access to multimedia communications capabilities and web applications, to create personalised mashups or industry-tailored applications such as instant messaging, presence, contextual applications, integrated e-mail, and MP3 music which can be brought together on the desktop. A powerful example of the company’s approach to [Application Enablement](#), the new phone serves as an application pod featuring an open API developer platform similar to the approach taken in the applications explosion in the mobile space , and will be integrated with the next generation Unified Communication services from Alcatel-Lucent.

About Alcatel-Lucent's Application Enablement strategy

Application enablement is an industry vision and network approach that combines the trusted capabilities of network operators and the speed and innovation of the web to provide end users and enterprises what they demand: a richer and more trusted web experience and beyond. Through a strategic focus on application enablement, Alcatel-Lucent is helping its customers create new value by exposing their network capabilities in a managed and controlled way, facilitating new business models and improving return on investment. For more information, go to http://www.alcatel-lucent.com/application_enablement/

About Al Akhawayn University

Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane is an independent, public, not-for-profit, coeducational Moroccan university committed to educating future citizen-leaders of Morocco and the world through a globally oriented, English-language, liberal-arts curriculum based on the American system. The University enhances Morocco and engages the world through leading-edge educational and research programs, including continuing and executive education, upholds the highest academic and ethical standards, and promotes equity and social responsibility.

For more information please visit <http://www.aui.ma/>

About Alcatel-Lucent

Alcatel-Lucent (Euronext Paris and NYSE: ALU) is the trusted transformation partner of service providers, enterprises, strategic industries such as defense, energy, healthcare, transportation, and governments worldwide, providing solutions to deliver voice, data and video communication services to end-users. A leader in fixed, mobile and converged broadband networking, IP technologies, applications and services, Alcatel-Lucent leverages the unrivalled technical and scientific expertise of Bell Labs, one of the largest innovation powerhouses in the communications industry. With operations in more than 130 countries and the most experienced global services organization in the industry, Alcatel-Lucent is a local partner with a global reach. Alcatel-Lucent achieved revenues of Euro 15.2 billion in 2009 and is incorporated in France, with executive offices located in Paris. For more information, visit Alcatel-Lucent on the Internet: <http://www.alcatel-lucent.com>, read the latest posts on the Alcatel-Lucent’s blog <http://www.alcatel-lucent.com/blog> and follow us on Twitter: http://twitter.com/Alcatel_Lucent

Alcatel-Lucent press contact:

Sherine Aziez
Alcatel-Lucent
Regional Communications Manager
North, West & Central Africa
sherine.aziez@alcatel-lucent.com

Al Akhawayn press contact:

Amina Lahbabi
Al Akhawayn University
External Communication Officer
Voice: (+212) 535 862 104
Mobile: (+212) 661 434 891
Fax: (+212) 535 862 009
Email: a.lahbabi@ui.ma