

Cardonald College

Offers Turkish Visitors a Taste of Scotland

A group of Turkish visitors travelled the length of Europe to take part in training and a cultural visit at Cardonald College.

More than 60 people from Istanbul-based gas company IGDAS have participated in the programme so far, receiving training in Operation and Administrative Management of Utilities – an area of expertise for Cardonald College following years of water industry links created throughout Europe.

Cardonald College has beaten competitors from around the Continent to gain business links with companies throughout Europe. The College aims to offer more companies the opportunity to train, as well as experience and study the successful Scottish market and the role of natural gas companies in the UK.

Hosting the visit on behalf of the college was Colin Gordon, who assisted the group of visitors throughout their stay.

He said: “IGDAS is a very ambitious company that is fast becoming the natural gas leader in Turkey.

“The college has a strong reputation throughout Europe for training within the industry and we are delighted to expand this even further with our new contacts at IGDAS, and we are confident that future visits will be secured.

“Cardonald College staff wanted to offer our Turkish visitors a Scottish experience involving more than just training. We took our guests to one of Glasgow’s top football stadiums, and all were delighted to participate in a sightseeing trip to Edinburgh to enjoy some free time and take in the culture and traditions of Scotland.”

Three groups from IGDAS have been through the training scheme.

Mustafa Mert, Human Resources Manager for IGDAS and one of the visitors on the trip, was delighted with the warm welcome he received from Cardonald College.

He said: “I cannot thank the staff and students at Cardonald College enough for the warm welcome they gave to my colleagues and I.”

During a recent meeting between the College and IGDAS, the company’s General Manager, Levent Tufekci said: “We now see Cardonald College as part of the IGDAS family and look forward to working on projects together in the years to come.”

Cardonald College has welcomed two sets of foreign business visitors over the last 12 months, both as a result of European trade missions through Scottish Development International (SDI) and Business Gateway International.

Hadi Fawzy, Senior Executive with International Operations at SDI, commented: "SDI is delighted by the success that Cardonald College has enjoyed as a result of its hard work surrounding and during last year's Trade Mission.

"SDI identifies the need, but we also require the expertise to fulfil that demand from overseas clients. We are very pleased that the College has again agreed to join the next trade mission this month and I have no doubt that it will secure more international business with its efforts."

Notes to editors:

Scottish Development International works to attract inward investment and knowledge to Scotland in order to help the economy grow. SDI also works to help Scottish companies do more business overseas and to promote Scotland as a good place to live, work and do business. It is jointly operated by the Scottish Executive and Scottish Enterprise. Its work is guided by the global connections theme of the Scottish Executive's Smart Successful Scotland strategy for economic development in Scotland.

Business Gateway International helps organisations develop international business by offering a single point of access for help and advice on outward international trade. The service is generally free and the only criterion is that the business must be of an economic benefit for Glasgow.

BGI Glasgow recently celebrated its 10th anniversary and is delivered by Glasgow Exports Ltd; a partnership comprising Glasgow City Council, Glasgow Chamber of Commerce and Scottish Enterprise Glasgow.

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