

MEDIA RELATIONS

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ENEL: TRAINING COURSES FOR 85 IRAQI ENGINEERS AND TECHNICIANS

The goal is to develop the technical skills of key electrical system personnel: a major Italian contribution to the reconstruction of Iraq.

Rome, 13 July 2007 – Within the framework of the broad training initiatives sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, General Directorate for Mediterranean and Middle Eastern Countries, Enel will welcome a total of 85 Iraqi specialists as part of a programme to develop and update their technical skills. The goal is to transfer experience and know-how in the generation and distribution of electricity that can be used to modernise a sector essential to the reconstruction of Iraq.

Courses are scheduled to start by the end of July. Enel will host the first group of engineers and technicians, people who have key roles in managing Iraq's electrical system. Other groups will follow over the course of 2007.

The programme envisages six courses, each one month long, developed by the company's in-house training unit, Enel University. The teaching materials are in English. An interpreter, a tutor and an Arabic-speaking assistant will accompany the participants during their stay in Italy. Classroom training will be accompanied by exercises, simulations, guided visits to plants and direct discussions with Enel experts.

The courses are designed to be a full-immersion experience covering all aspects of the field: from the design and maintenance of distribution networks to international standards, to the construction, operation and maintenance of gas-fired generation plants. In their free time, the Iraqi guests will have a variety of opportunities to acquaint themselves with Italian history and culture.

Enel is responsible for the initiative's logistical and organisational aspects as well as the design and management of the training courses themselves. The programme is financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, General Directorate for Mediterranean and Middle Eastern Countries, as part of its development cooperation programmes.