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On Top of the World: RRC's Candidate for NEBOSH International Diploma is Top Global Performer

India's Satya Prakash Gautam, who studied with RRC Training, has gained the highest marks in the world in the NEBOSH International Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety course.

Background

Satya is extremely passionate about health and safety, his chosen profession. "*My desire for growth in the health and safety profession bolstered my enthusiasm to get a specialised qualification in this field*," he explains.

Satya started his career aged 22 as a safety professional in a Middle Eastern oil and gas plant in 2009, with responsibility for job planning, training, motivating, and supervising staff.

He obtained 79%, the highest score in India, when he passed the NEBOSH International General Certificate in 2010. This excellent result inspired him to go on to study for the NEBOSH International Diploma by e-learning with RRC, which he started in February 2011, taking only one year to complete the five-year course.

Satya has several other reasons for deciding to study for the Diploma. "*Firstly, it is recognised worldwide; secondly it is a gateway to studying a UK MSc in Occupational Safety and Health; and thirdly it leads to acceptance by international professional organisations such as IOSH and IIRSM, and this inspired me to pursue it*," he says.

"*Besides this*," he adds, "*I believe that getting the International Diploma was the best way to compete with my peers who have longer working experience in this field. I knew it would help me immensely in my individual growth and my zeal for excellence*."

In the end, Satya achieved a fantastic 90% in Unit IA of the International Diploma (International Management of Health and Safety), 82% in Unit IC (International Workplace and Work Equipment Safety) and 78% in Unit IB (International Control of Hazardous Agents), a truly amazing result.

The RRC Training experience

Satya is generous in his praise for RRC. "*I am hugely grateful to RRC for their tremendous effort, encouragement and support throughout the course*," he enthuses. "*RRC material is a complete package. The study materials are informative, well planned and pertinently explained. I studied the course notes more than 50 times and never got bored, accumulating better insights and expanding my knowledge*."

The only downside for Satya was that RRC does not have a recognised centre in India. "*I had to deal with certain issues on my own in my preparation and I believe that an active RRC centre could have been effective and of immense help to aspirants like me. It would be a matter of great pride and satisfaction if RRC establishes any regional branches here*," he believes.

Advice

So what does Satya put his outstanding success in the Diploma down to? "*Hard work has no substitute*," says Satya, who gives credit to the effort and labour he put in to his studies. "*I went through more than 500 case studies during my preparation, and this was the concrete base of my success*," he says.

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Satya advises others taking the Diploma to use the RRC Revision Notes as a "*beacon of light*". "*Go through the previous year's questions, as this will give you an idea of what should constitute the structure of your answer*," he urges. However, Satya stresses that: "*There is no shortcut to success without rigorous hard work*".

Outcome

Satya is not content to rest on his laurels with his superb achievement in the NEBOSH International Diploma. "*I am now one more step ahead, and have overcome an important milestone in my career. However, my destination is not yet near, because the Diploma is a means to the end and not the end in itself*," Satya declares.

"*At the age of 25, my ambitions are expanding my potential*," he says. "*This result has definitely boosted my confidence and I now plan to do an MSc and PhD from the UK in occupational safety and health*."

Career-wise, the achievement means that Satya is now eligible for GRAD IOSH membership and he is hoping to become CMIOSH in the next two years. "*My reliability as a safety professional has increased drastically. I now feel at a par with my peers, even though they may have more actual work experience than me*."

Future

Until recently Satya has been working as a safety consultant in India with Chola MS Risk Services, a pioneer risk management solutions provider in Asia. However, he says: "*I would rather be an employer and expand my possibilities, than be an employee and work under limited opportunities*."

With this mantra in mind, Satya resigned from his post a few months ago and is currently looking to establish his own risk management and safety training company.

"*Thanks to NEBOSH, I have been provided with a strong, concrete foundation*," says Satya. "*I want to thank RRC for being the participant in my odyssey to success. I thank my family for being my support system. Last but not the least, the grace and blessings of the almighty have been my motivation throughout*."

Gary Fallaize and Dr David Towlson accept Satya's NEBOSH Best Candidate Prize on his behalf

Left to right: Lawrence Waterman OBE (Head of Health and Safety at the Olympic Delivery Authority), Gary Fallaize (RRC Managing Director), Sir Bill Callaghan (NEBOSH Chair), Dr David Towlson (RRC Director of Training and Quality) and Teresa Budworth (NEBOSH Chief Executive).

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