



Where Experience Counts

Safety matters empowered by skill and pride

Been there, seen it, done it. This is a recipe for complacency for some people, but for Hasan Alardi, Managing Director of RRC Middle East, it lends power to his arm in the shape of experience.

That's because he really has been there, with his origins in health and safety as a front-line fire fighter. For 23 years Mr Alardi responded to many emergencies.

And he's seen it – which, as you can imagine in this context, hasn't always been a pleasant experience. He's seen some horrific sights, actually.

It's precisely because of this that he's so passionate about what he's doing now – namely bringing the weight of his experience to saving lives.

Mr Alardi said: "I am a fireman by trade and spent my youth fighting fires at an oil refinery. During my first year of employment I witnessed a fire where I saw a man walking in fire. From then I learned to respect fire and have taught others to do so."

Background

RRC Training has successfully trained more than a million people worldwide in the 80 years since it was first established.

Joining the company in 2006, Mr Alardi has a varied past – but safety concerns are central throughout his journey with the Bahrain Petroleum Company, as a Fire Inspector and Process Safety Management Specialist, through to his appointment as an HSE Manager.

Under Mr Alardi's guidance, RRC Middle East is a leading provider of health, safety and environmental training in the region, offering courses accredited by NEBOSH, IOSH, CIEH and OSHA as well as a range of short courses designed to develop skills and knowledge.

While there are numerous success stories RRC Middle East could cite, one project was conducted with Mr Alardi's wife, who is head of Health and Safety at a local school. In this initiative all teachers were trained to cope in the event of a fire, and an evacuation procedure was developed.

Another project was on a much larger scale.

Mr Alardi said: "We helped develop an emergency response system for a large company in the Middle East and trained their fire officers. I am proud because this project has managed to help save lives and prevent big losses to the company.

"I have identified the need to develop locals and my recommendations gave the opportunity to show how good they could be if the company invests in training and development."

Quality is key

RRC Training is expanding globally, and it's clear that immense pride rests at the heart of Mr Alardi's work.

The answer to ensuring that this success continues into the future is a simple one, and driven from a position of maintaining high standards.

Mr Alardi said: "We have to make sure that we are the best at what we do, and if we are asked to do anything outside the scope of our expertise, we basically reject it."

This remark points to a leader who knows his own strengths, and those of his staff – but while he might be prepared to refuse a potential customer on the grounds that he mentions, Mr Alardi is very clear about the driving force behind RRC.

He said: "A satisfied customer, be it a graduate attending a presentation I did, a company who has asked me to design and develop their HSE system, or a student who has attended my course and obtained their qualification with distinction."

Good news travels fast

Word definitely seems to be spreading about the range of products RRC offers, the quality of its training material and the professionalism of its consultants and tutors.

One chance meeting Mr Alardi had with a gardener in Oman demonstrated this. As the two men conversed it became obvious that this man immediately knew about RRC, and spoke enthusiastically of the company's work.

Evidently delighted about this, Mr Alardi said: "We want to maintain RRC's reputation for the quality of our work – and our integrity." ■