

The IMD MBA

Middle East Alumni



This selection of recent alumni highlights the kind of work experience our participants have before joining the full-time IMD MBA program, and the careers they go into after graduation or several years after.

2012

Sari Kalakesh, Lebanese – Head of Real Estate, Siemens, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Prior to IMD: 9+ years int'l experience in project and procedure management in the construction industry

Mazen Zein, French/Lebanese – VP of Business Development, The Change Initiative, UAE
Prior to IMD: 8 years international management in the energy and the automotive industries in Europe and the Middle East

2010

Ohad Goldberg, Israeli – Regional New Commercial Models Lead, EMEA, Astra Zeneca Belux, Belgium
Prior to IMD: 8 years of int'l management in operations, marketing & sales in the agro industry & biotech

Raffi Kasparian, French/Lebanese – Senior Consultant, Roland Berger Strategy Consultants GmbH, Germany
Prior to IMD: 8.5 years of int'l consulting and project management in air transportation

Naama Lilach, Israeli – Global Key Accounts Marketing Director in Nutrition & Health Business, DuPont, Switzerland
Prior to IMD: 10 years int'l experience in engineering, support & project management in the aerospace industry

Walid Masrouha, Lebanese – Client Services Director, IPSOS, Switzerland
Prior to IMD: 7 years marketing & brand communications consulting in Western Europe, Middle East & North Africa

2009

Eva Hubsman, Israeli/Romanian – Senior Manager, Samsung, South Korea
Prior to IMD: 8 years in finance and accounting for high tech and early stage VC

Tony Jamous, French/Lebanese – CEO, Nexmo Inc, UK
Prior to IMD: 5.5 years in business development and entrepreneurship in the telecom industry

Vahid Khamsi, Iranian/Swiss – Project Manager, The Boston Consulting Group, Singapore
Prior to IMD: 6 years in business performance improvement and project management in Europe and Asia

Oren Yehudai, Israeli – EMEA IBM OEM Sales Manager, NetApp, The Netherlands
Prior to IMD: 7 years in consulting, business analysis and project management in Europe

2008

Ziad Charafeddine, Lebanese – Marketing Director, Philips Consumer Lifestyle BV, The Netherlands
Prior to IMD: 5 years of experience in sales/account management in the FMCG industry

Zina Sanyoura, Lebanese – Senior Investment Manager, Blueorchard Investments Sarl, Switzerland
Prior to IMD: 8.5 years in corporate and development finance

A selection of prior MBA alumni

2007: Yariv Hefetz, Israeli/Italian – VP, Head Business Development, Licensing & Alliance Mgmt, Merck Serono SA, Switzerland

2006: Ihab Bishara, American/Egyptian – Marketing Director, Tiler Corporation, USA

2005: Talal Yousif, Lebanese/Swiss – Senior Financial Specialist, Thomson Reuters, Switzerland

2004: Sultan Alturki, Saudi Arabian – COO, Al Nahla Group, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

2003: Asher Bennett, American/Israeli – CEO, Teva Motors Ltd, UK

2002: Amir Alon, Swiss/Israeli – CEO, Swiss Diamond International Sarl, Switzerland

2000: Asaf Somekh, Israeli – Vice President Marketing, Voltaire Ltd, Israel



Sultan Alturki
Saudi Arabian, MBA 2004
COO, Al-Nahla Group, Saudi Arabia

“Alumni are the ambassadors. When we do well, IMD does well.”

These are the words of Sultan Alturki, who was recently appointed to represent IMD alumni on the Foundation Board, IMD's ultimate governing body. Alturki will join chairmen and CEOs from companies that have strong learning partnerships with IMD.

Sultan sits on a number of prominent boards and is the Chief Operating Officer for the AlNahla Group, a leading Saudi Arabian family business active in telecommunications, real estate development, trading, private equity and financial investments. He is also the Chairman of Awakening - a fast-growing Islamic media company based out of the UK.

Sultan's own experience at IMD began after he had led a structured finance team at NCB, Saudi Arabia's largest bank, and had also worked on a government related financial advisory mandate in partnership with UBS Investment Bank. Sultan was sold on the fact that IMD was rated among the world's top 10 business schools and that it offered an accelerated one-year MBA program, “The agility and rigor that IMD's program offered is one of a kind,” he says.

Sultan also found that IMD's classes were cutting edge in other ways. “IMD's leadership approach was ahead of other schools in stressing the importance of corporate social responsibility and in helping participants learn to adapt to local cultures and connect with the values of the local community where they are working.”

Putting his education into practice, Alturki currently sits on the board of Smile Telecoms, which is creating affordable communications across Sub-Saharan Africa. “The vision was built on serving a segment that has never made a telephone call before,” he explains. “It is about improving lives and making communications affordable. It also features the voice over WIMAX network, a world first from a technology perspective.”

One of Sultan's priorities is to increase IMD's visibility in the Middle East.. Alumni clubs are critically important, Sultan feels, not only for the networking opportunities that they provide, but also in spreading the word about the advantages which make IMD such a unique school.

“The Middle East can add a great deal of diversity to IMD programs. Many of these people have experience in doing business in truly different environments. This correlates to IMD's open, real world approach.”

Alumni Clubs

www.imd.ch/alumni/clubs

Our network of IMD alumni connects you with more than 75,000 executives from over 140 countries. The network is structured into more than 40 alumni clubs as well as more focused groups. In this region, we currently have clubs in:

- **United Arab Emirates - Dubai**