

Press Release

UAE's special needs centres embrace smart assistive technology for education, more employment opportunities

Exhibitors, education centres to display innovative applications of technology at AccessAbilities Expo 2016

Assistive technology facilitating faster, more effective training

Dubai, 28 December, 2015: Latest smart technology is enabling training centres for the disabled to provide more effective training and therapies for their students. Education centres across the UAE are focusing more on embracing innovative assistive technology products, that are playing a powerful role in empowering their students with disabilities, improving educational outcomes and generating sustainable employment opportunities.

Mariam Othman, Director General, Rashid Centre for the Disabled, said: "The role of technology has definitely increased in the way we educate our students. From teaching aids such as electronic boards, software that facilitates ease of learning to computers with special needs and wheelchairs, we are using new innovative products and methods in every possible area."

Rashid Centre, which is participating in AccessAbilities Expo 2016, will showcase its services, facilities and highlight the use of technology in education during the expo.

The Expo, taking place from February 9-11, 2016, is being held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority and Chairman of Dubai Airports, Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group.

Training centres for the disabled across the Middle East and other countries, along with companies that provide products using latest technologies to assist and empower the disabled, will showcase their range of products, services and applications of assistive technology at the Expo.

Isphana Al Khatib, Director, Al Noor Training Center for Children with Special Needs in Dubai, said: "To facilitate effective educational outcomes, we adopt innovative approach to education. Assistive Technology has demonstrated a highly positive role in enhancing their abilities. The technology can range from low-tech picture books, flash cards to robotics, help that permeates across every function and enhances communication, mobility and learning. We are keen to showcase the diverse usage and multiple benefits of AT during our participation in AccessAbilities Expo 2016 where children and adults with disabilities, families, caretakers, educationists and companies can experience the tremendous difference technology can make and use it to benefit thousands of people with disabilities."

To create awareness on how Assistive Technology can improve functional capabilities of individuals with special needs and empower them to reach their highest potential, Al Noor recently organised a two-day expo on Assistive Technology.

Dr. Mahshid Salehi, Director of Dubai Center for Special Needs, said: "By using smart technology to its maximum potential, we can create a difference in the lives of thousands of people with disabilities and their families. At our centre, our internationally trained staff keeps up to date with the latest medical technology, and use the latest equipment and therapies."

"During AccessAbilities Expo 2016, we look forward to demonstrating the usage and, at the same time, knowing more about the latest international advancements in technology that can empower the disabled."

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