

## **55% of Irish IT Managers interested in up-skilling and continued learning (*ICS annual Survey 12/09*)**

Today the Irish Computer Society released results of its survey based on the current state of the IT industry in Ireland. Over 200 senior Irish IT managers and executives completed the questionnaire.

Those surveyed understand the need to keep their skills current and to learn new skills with 55% interested in up-skilling and continued learning....

Commenting on the findings, Ailish O'Connor who is Corporate Training director at Olas said: The pace of ICT investment has slowed and Olas has noticed that many IT managers are investing on learning how to get better value from the tools they already have. Some are getting certified in project management, others in Visio and advanced Excel use. Other managers are investing in how they present information with tools such as PowerPoint."

Other findings in the survey included that although 51% of companies stated that IT budgets and spending will be reduced when compared with 2009. 42% of companies will be making reductions through contractor salaries. "This is consistent with what we're seeing," added O'Connor, "because the IT manager and their team now needs to roll up their sleeves to do the work that contractors previously did."

"We acknowledge and commend the fact that so many Irish companies continue to remember the importance of IT through these tough times. IT development is essential to the success of the "smart economy". About a third of ICS members will be investigating cloud technology in 2010, in its various forms –platform, infrastructure and software as a service. The "Smart Economy" has the potential to create up to 25,000 new jobs – as well as enabling entrepreneurs to set up world-class businesses in any part of Ireland. This is something we must be ready for," said Jim Friars, CEO Irish Computer Society.

About the Survey: The survey was conducted in December 2009. A quarter of those surveyed were IT managers in public sector bodies. The online survey, conducted by the Irish Computer Society, was distributed among the Society's member base.

<https://www.ics.ie/index.php/News/strong-focus-remains-on-it-for-irish-companies-in-2010-according-to-a-major-new-survey-by-irish-computer-society.html>

Founded in Dublin in 1981 **Olas** operates its IT Development & User Performance Centre in Stillorgan, County Dublin. It provides e-learning training, tools, and content development services to corporate and government clients. It also supplies e-learning tools, training and content development services, SAP training, Microsoft training, and bespoke IT development services.

Headquartered in London, its parent, **Assima plc**, employs 150 professionals worldwide. It

has filed several patents for its unique “system cloning” technology, and its software tools cover the entire development life-cycle, including localisation.

For further information or to discuss issues raised here: see [www.olas.ie](http://www.olas.ie), [www.assima.net](http://www.assima.net), or call Ruairi Boland on (01)279 0025.