In my Word of Welcome post at the commencement of the course, I mentioned that a new education system was being designed for INSOL International and that it would be implemented during the presentation of the current course. Initially the planning was for the testing of the new system to take place over December 2020, with implementation in January 2021. Unfortunately the design and implementation process has taken longer than anticipated and the new system has only now reached a stage where it can be tested. It will take at least a couple of weeks to test and implement the system.

While the testing will take place on a test server and will therefore not impact on the current web pages for the course, there is a good chance that the implementation phase, when the new system goes live, will impact on you as a candidate on the course. I am unable to provide an exact date when the new system will go live, but please anticipate some disruption any time from the second week in April 2021. During the implementation phase I would ask that you exercise some patience while we iron out the inevitable bugs in the system. Please rest assured that all the data in relation to the course will be backed up and separate mark sheets with results kept on a different server.

If you wish to continue working on your assessments during this period of possible disruption, **please be sure to download everything you will need from the course web pages prior to the week commencing 5 April 2021**. Please note that you will likely be unable to download or upload documents during the time the system is implemented. I will post an update on the Course Administration page as soon as implementation is complete.

During the implementation phase it is possible that I will contact some of you on a random basis, asking for your help in checking that everything the system is working optimally. In this regard your assistance would be much appreciated in order to ensure that any disruption is kept to a minimum.

Prior to the system being implemented I hope to be able to provide you with guidance as to how to navigate the new course web pages. I do not anticipate that the new system will be difficult to navigate, but all candidates will nonetheless be provided with a document in which the new system will be explained.

Many thanks in advance and please do not hesitate to get in touch with me should you have any concerns or questions relating to the implementation of the new system.

**David Burdette**

**Course Leader**