Who wants to travel a long distance to get certified for highly specialized computer programs… find out.

Vanessa Voss

It is a very special package tour for David Mueller which is spread over several weeks. He flew approximately 8,000 kilometers away to Dehradun in northern India, to attend a computer course which included accommodation, food and transportation. He spent three months at a training company called Koenig Solutions where he was taught the intricacies of Microsoft.Net and SharePoint by Indian IT professionals. "First time in 2009 I came to India to attend a computer course in Delhi. Because that went so well, I have now registered again," says Mueller, who works as an IT consultant in Vienna.

Outsourcing services in India is a common business model now. Indian call center employees can answer the questions of the local consumer and companies keep their data servers in the care of the computer experts. It's a fact now that Austrians are picking up this business phenomenon.

Koenig Solutions, based in the Indian capital, sees itself as a pioneer. This company grew into offshore training after the burst of Internet bubble. "I recognized the need of computer courses and accommodation from a single source," says founder and CEO Rohit Aggarwal. He still remembers his first student who was a young man from Great Britain. Meanwhile, Aggarwal says, every month 150 Europeans, Americans and Asians get trained in Koenig at its four exotic locations, i.e. Delhi, Shimla, Goa and Dehradun. Highly specialized courses are very popular due to their price. They cost only about half of a similar offer at home. "The money I invested in my first course, I earned it back quickly," said the participant from Vienna.

In India, the daily wage of an IT trainer is 100 dollars but in Europe and the USA, it amounts to ten times. In addition to Koenig Solutions in India, there are now more established suppliers in other countries such as China. If that is too far, one can seek proper training in Cyprus. Since