

NEW APPLE CERTIFIED SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR (ACSA) CERTIFICATION COURSES AND TESTS NOW AVAILABLE

- Certified Training Alliance (CTA) Offers Advanced Mac IT Training Across US -

August 12, 2008 – San Diego, CA – Starting this month IT professionals can now get trained and certified as an Apple Certified System Administrator (ACSA) on Mac OS X Leopard through the Certified Training Alliance (CTA), a network of independent Apple Authorized Training Centers (AATC's) in the U.S.

CTA Members offer the new ACSA-level courses and exams as part of their curriculum of advanced Macintosh IT Training and Apple certification testing for corporate and education clients at 20 independent training centers located throughout the U.S.

Three brand new courses developed by Apple are now available for Mac OS X Leopard:

Leopard 301 - Mac OS X Directory Services v10.5 is a four-day, hands-on course that teaches the skills to configure Mac OS X computers to access directory services, and configure Mac OS X Server to provide directory services in a mixed-platform environment.

Leopard 302 - Mac OS X Deployment v10.5 is a three-day hands-on course which focuses on solutions for deploying and maintaining software, ranging from the installation of individual files to the deployment of complete system images to multiple computers.

Leopard 401 - Mac OS X Advanced System Administration v10.5 is a five-day hands-on course designed to teach the skills necessary to administer Mac OS X Server in a complex environment, including implementation, networking and maintenance tasks, and monitoring and automation tools.

“Apple's new ACSA courses, Leopard 301, 302, and 401 are the most comprehensive set of technical training classes Apple has ever released. We are thrilled to be able to offer such high caliber training to IT professionals across the country,” said Adam Karneboge of MacSpecialist, a CTA member with two training centers in the Chicago area.

Apple technical training courses are developed by Apple for delivery by Apple Authorized Training Centers. Apple certification tests are also delivered by AATCs.

“Since Apple no longer delivers Mac OS X training, these courses are only available from Apple Authorized Training Centers like the members of the CTA,” said Karneboge.

“Apple's new curriculum for System Administrators consists of three new courses, which are designed to give experienced computer professionals the in-depth knowledge and skills to manage Mac OS X v10.5 systems and servers in sophisticated, cross-platform environments,” said Dave Frank of FirstTech, a CTA member in Minneapolis.

These new courses complete the foundation for Apple's professional IT certifications:

- Apple Certified Support Professional (ACSP) addresses basic Mac OS X troubleshooting. Leopard 101 is the preparatory course for the ACSP certification.
- Apple Certified Technical Coordinator (ACTC) adds Mac OS X server support and troubleshooting skills to basic Mac OS X troubleshooting skills. Leopard 101 and Leopard 201 are the preparatory courses for the ACTC certification.
- Apple Certified Systems Administrator (ACSA) certification is intended for full-time professional system administrators and engineers who manage medium-to-large networks of systems in complex multiplatform deployments. Leopard 201, Leopard 301, Leopard 302 and Leopard 401 are the preparatory courses for the ACSA certification.

“Professional certification is a powerful professional development tool and an excellent way to document skills. Now, these tools are available for IT professionals working with Mac OS X Leopard,” said Karneboqe.

“When someone achieves the new ACSA 10.5 certification, they have proven that they have an excellent baseline of knowledge. You don't pass these exams unless your understanding of Mac OS X is deep and broad. And the new structure of the 10.5 exams guarantees a high level of consistency of knowledge for an ACSA,” said Frank.

Current schedules and locations can be found online at www.certifiedtraining.com.

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The Certified Training Alliance is a nationwide Not-for-Profit organization of key independent Apple Authorized Training Centers. Each CTA member is dedicated to providing the industry's best hands-on technical training experience available on the Apple platform.

CTA members agree to maintain the highest levels of professionalism in their facilities, as well as clear and easy-to-understand policies and procedures for doing business with them. CTA members must adhere to a common set of policies and practices, and meet high standards set by both the CTA and Apple. CTA member trainers are trained and certified by Apple and present Apple courseware that prepares students to take, and pass, Apple's rigorous certification exams, all of which are given onsite at CTA member centers.

The Certified Training Alliance currently represents 14 Apple Authorized Training Centers with 20 locations throughout the U.S. More information is available at www.certifiedtraining.com.

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