

MEF Launches Certification Program for Carrier Ethernet Professionals

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The MEF (Metro Ethernet Forum) has today formally launched the third part of its widely adopted MEF Carrier Ethernet certification program. The new MEF Professional Certification program is designed for individuals whose Carrier Ethernet technology, services and application expertise meet MEF criteria. The MEF's Carrier Ethernet Certified Professional (MEF-CECP) test validates knowledge of Carrier Ethernet technology, standards and applications.

Speaking at the NetEvents 2011 APAC Press Summit in Malaysia, Nan Chen, MEF President, said: "With thirteen new services and five providers certified in the last quarter of 2010 alone, we are witnessing a strong and growing appreciation of the value of MEF certification. For the individual, this new aspect of MEF certification helps career advancement by providing industry recognition of their knowledge and expertise. For the employer, it simplifies the choice of candidates and helps to define standard training requirements. For the industry, it will enable growth via better trained sales, marketing, product management and technical professionals."

To qualify for the MEF-CECP certificate, suitable individuals must sit a two-hour multiple choice exam covering topics that include: MEF definitions, access technologies, MEF certification, target applications, circuit emulation over Ethernet, SOAM and comparisons with other network services. This exam can be taken online from the home or office – regulated by web based proctoring technology to ensure the security and integrity of the examination, at an approved test center or at an MEF Accredited Training Provider's facilities following the completion of their training course. The first five of these accredited third party training providers were announced today at NetEvents – Accedian Networks, EANTC, Perpetual Solutions, Tech 2000 and Telefocal Asia. The first group of MEF Certified Professionals (MEF-CECPs) will be announced in the first half of this year.

In addition to receiving the MEF certificate, successful candidates will be automatically listed on the on-line Directory of MEF Certified Professionals posted on the widely visited EthernetAcademy.net website. Typical candidates for this initial certification will be: technical marketing or product managers, pre-sales engineers, product planners, network consultants, technical sales, network operations engineers and application consultants.

"This professional certification could not be timelier" commented Michael Howard, Principal Analyst, Infonetics Research. "We anticipate healthy growth in the market as organizations

increasingly look to Ethernet for the lowest cost-per-bit – with Ethernet services revenues forecast to hit \$40 billion by 2014. There will be a growing demand for professionals with MEF certified Carrier Ethernet expertise.”

Details of the certification process including registration are available now on the MEF website <http://www.MetroEthernetForum.org/>

About The MEF:

The MEF is a global industry alliance comprising more than 175 organizations including telecommunications service providers, cable MSOs, network equipment/software manufacturers, semiconductor vendors and testing organizations. The MEF’s mission is to accelerate the worldwide adoption of Carrier-class Ethernet networks and services. The MEF develops Carrier Ethernet technical specifications and implementation agreements to promote interoperability and deployment of Carrier Ethernet worldwide.

For more information about the Forum, including a complete listing of all current MEF members, please visit the MEF web site at <http://www.MetroEthernetForum.org/>

<http://www.vancouversun.com/business/Launches+Certification+Program+Carrier+Ethernet+Professionals/4574021/story.html>