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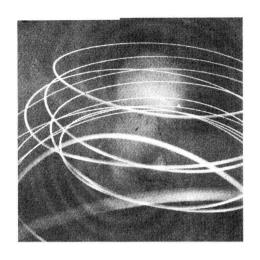
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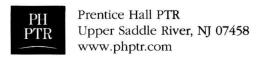


Cisco Certification: Bridges, Routers and Switches for



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When we think about the future of the world, we always have in mind its being at the place where it would be if it continued to move as we see it moving now. We do not realize that it moves not in a straight line, but in a curve, and that its direction is changing constantly.

Ludwig Wittgenstein

ARS is the corporate sponsor of this book, and the first edition was written while Bruce Caslow was a trainer at ARS. ARS is an Information Technology firm located in Alexandria, VA, with offices throughout the USA. It has been involved with leading edge technologies since its inception in 1982. ARS made the decision to author the Cisco Certification book because ARS believes that Cisco Systems offers a solution: the Cisco IOS (Internetworking Operating System). By mastering the Cisco IOS, an internetworking professional can supply virtually any internetworking solution. ARS delivers comprehensive Cisco training at its Certified Training Center and prides itself on both its training and consulting capabilities, delivering a broad array of highquality training on Cisco and FORE internetworking equipment. ARS students pass the CCIE exam with over an 80% success rate—twice the national average. ARS is also one of the few training organizations that has a direct reseller relationship with some of the top networking manufacturers across the country. As one of the first Cisco and Fore certified trainers nationally, ARS has some of the best networking professionals in the business. Other available training solutions include distance learning options to meet the changing demands of professional development in today's fast-paced work environment, as well as custom training designed for specific customer use. This training program has allowed ARS the opportunity to design and implement networks globally. The ARS IT Solutions Group develops network solutions for large and small enterprises—from federal agencies to community banks. ARS services a vast majority of Northern Virginia community banks, providing the banks a network and desktop solution. Please visit the ARS Web site at www.arslimited.com.

Preface

For the next ten years, the opportunities for internetwork professionals will be immense. However, the challenge of possessing the proper knowledge base and skill set will be faced by every internetworking professional. The challenge is two-fold: (1) how does one develop his internetworking knowledge base and skill sets to the highest possible level and (2) how does one stay current in this rapidly changing field! Cisco Systems offers a solution: the Cisco IOS (Internetworking Operating System). By mastering the Cisco IOS, an internetworking professional can supply virtually any internetworking solution. The IOS has its origins in the routing world but has expanded to LAN switching, ATM switching, multilayer switching, voice-data integration and security.

From an internetwork education perspective, the IOS configuration set, show commands and debugging tools provide a technician with a valuable insight into how internetworking technologies operate. For example, having access to IOS debugging tools and a network protocol analyzer such as a Network Associates Sniffer in a testbed environment allows a technician to develop a strong technical understanding of how internetwork protocols operate at a high level of technical detail. IOS debugging tools should be used with extreme caution in a production internetwork.

Preface



However, in an educational environment, IOS debugging tools should be used to enhance the internetwork education process. One of the goals of this book is to demonstrate how debug output can be used to enhance the internetwork education process.

A broader goal of this book is to demonstrate the power of the Cisco IOS from both a production and education perspective. An internetwork professional that learns the IOS well enough to attain CCIE certification has developed an internetworking knowledge base and skill set that will allow him to accelerate his learning of other internetworking technologies. Therefore, mastering the Cisco IOS and the related internetworking technologies to the point of attaining CCIE certification should be viewed as a foundational beginning rather than an end. Once you have attained your CCIE, you must look ahead to what new internetworking topics you will master. However, as you learn new topics, you will apply the precious internetworking analysis skills you developed while you prepared for CCIE certification.

In sum, I hope this book assists in developing the reader's internetwork analysis skills. By developing methodologies to think like a quality internetworking professional, you will be able to rapidly adapt to the constant changes occurring in this industry. By developing methodologies to think like a quality internetworking professional, you will be better prepared to attain your CCIE. Therefore, a clear road to optimizing your internetworking analysis skills is mastering the Cisco IOS. Once you learn how to speak IOS and think IOS to the highest level of technical detail, improved internetworking analysis skills come along with the territory. Good luck on your journey to CCIE certification!

Acknowledgments

Writing this book was a tremendous challenge. The potential topics of CCIE certification are vast, ever expanding and ever changing. In order to cover the wide range of topics covered in this book, assistance from several associates in the Cisco community was required. In particular, I would like to thank Valeriy Pavlichenko (CCIE) for providing technical editing services. Valeriy is one of the most disciplined and systematic internetworking engineers in the business. Without his feedback, much of the work of this book would not have been done. Secondly, special thanks must be given to Brent Baccala, the editor of the Internet Encyclopedia at www.freesoft.org. Brent provided key contributions to Chapters Nine, Eleven and Fourteen. Brent Baccala is blessed with a tremendous combination of brilliant technical insight and strong writing skills. Brent's ability to explain highly technical topics clearly has been tremendous inspiration to me. Finally, special thanks must be given to fellow Cisco Certified Instructor and CCIE Rajah Chowbay. Rajah assisted in drafting Chapter Seven of this book as well as provided tremendous influence in the structure in each and every chapter of this book.

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Guillermo "The Marine!!" Rastelli for providing graphics and logistics support.

All Bridges, Routers and Switches for CCIEs students. They are the best and brightest in the internetworking industry! Remember my students, "Can you spot the issue?"

Writing this book also required extensive support of friends and family of both Andrew Caslow and Valeriy Pavlichenko.

Special thanks goes out to the friends and family of Andrew Caslow: his mother, brothers, sisters, and dear friends Spottie, the Constable of France and the Schwarz Graf. Finally, Andrew wants to thank his wife, Lania, and his two daughters, Andreina and Gabriela, for their love and support while writing this book.

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For further information on topics covered in this book see www.cccert.com. Also, access the extensive set of vLabs from www.mentortech.com.



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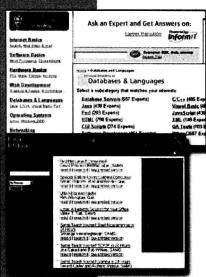
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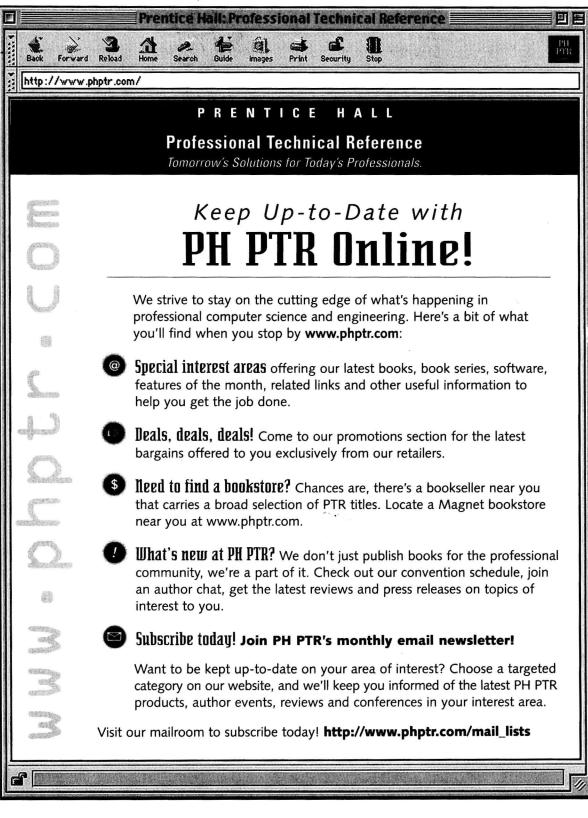
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