

CompTIA Educational Foundation Now Offers Free Telecom Training

LIDO Donation Allows the CompTIA Educational Foundation to Expand Services

Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., May 26, 2009, The LIDO Organization Inc. donated 100 single-user licenses for the LIDO Telecommunications Essentials eLearning series to the CompTIA Educational Foundation's Creating Futures program. With the \$115,000 donation, the Foundation now can offer both free IT and telecommunications training to transitioning U.S. veterans, individuals with disabilities, youth-at-risk, minorities, and displaced workers.

"For the past 11 years, we've helped individuals launch their IT careers with training geared toward CompTIA certifications. Now with the LIDO Organization's generous donation, we can expand our programming to the telecom industry which often intersects with an employer's IT requirements," said John Venator, president and CEO, CompTIA Educational Foundation. "Our proven Creating Futures allows people to gain employable skills and achieve rewarding careers for the 21st century."

LIDO Telecommunications Essentials provides a comprehensive understanding of the principles, technologies and infrastructures comprising the telecommunications industry. Topics covered include communications fundamentals, transmission media, circuit versus packet switching, public switched telephone networks, data communications basics, local area networking, wide area networking, Internet and IP infrastructures, IP services and converged networks, next generation networks, optical networking, broadband access alternatives, wireless communication principles, wireless WANs, MANs, LANs, PANs, broadband wireless access and emerging mobile applications.

Creating Futures participants will have access to the software-delivered program which includes 34 hours of dynamic multimedia lectures, simultaneous transcripts, accompanying slide shows and clickable links to supporting educational resources, as well as quizzes to test student understanding. LIDO Telecommunications Essentials are a CompTIA Authorized Quality Curriculum (CAQC) for the CompTIA Convergence+ certification, allowing Creating Futures participants not only to learn telecom, but also use the eLearning to prepare for certification. CompTIA Convergence+ validates the knowledge and skills in the area of Communications Technologies (CT), where data communications, telephony, video and broadcast multimedia technologies combine into a single IP-based delivery system. The certification recognizes a technician's ability to design, implement and manage both data and voice networking.

"We're pleased to offer LIDO Telecommunications Essentials to Creating Futures participants and help them open doors to new professions in a robust industry," said Lillian Goleniewski, president of The LIDO Organization Inc., and member of the CompTIA Convergence+ Certification Advisory Board. "Our rich media presentation creates a multi-dimensional learning experience, which allows individuals to absorb lesson information more easily, while providing a true learning-on-demand environment."

Creating Futures provides career opportunities to groups of people historically under-represented in the IT industry. All candidate applications are screened before selection for the program. Training, mentoring, courseware, practice exams, and certification vouchers are provided at no cost to these individuals.

The CompTIA Educational Foundation aims to attract \$1 million in fundraising this year which will be matched dollar-for-dollar by CompTIA. Donations can be in cash, equipment or training seats. All gifts are 100 percent tax-deductible.

Individuals and companies can make a donation to the program, and prospective participants can apply for training by visiting the Foundation's website, <http://www.CompTIA-EF.org>.

About LIDO Organization Inc.

The LIDO Organization, established in 1984, is globally acclaimed for providing expert telecommunications education, training, consulting and advisory services. LIDO's programs, delivered in multiple formats, including seminars, eLearning, and textbooks, are designed to serve all learning styles and budgets. In addition, LIDO's website is home to the LIDO Telecom Essentials Learning Center, where 2.0 technologies including blogs, podcasts, and access to LIDO's Telecom Essentials social network and discussion forums, work to build telecommunications knowledge. Information about LIDO's products and services can be accessed at www.telecomwebcentral.com.

About the CompTIA Educational Foundation

The CompTIA Educational Foundation provides career opportunities for individuals who historically have been under-represented in the IT workforce. With the support of individuals, industry leaders, companies and the government, the Foundation creates programs aimed at helping U.S. veterans, at-risk youth, women, minorities, dislocated workers, and individuals with disabilities to obtain the technical and business skills employers require. Since its creation in 1998, the Foundation has helped more than 1,000 individuals enter the IT workforce, helping the industry alleviate its shortage of skilled workers. For more information or to make a donation to the CompTIA Educational Foundation, visit <http://www.CompTIA-EF.org>.

About CompTIA

The Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA) is the voice of the world's information technology (IT) industry. Its members are the companies at the forefront of innovation; and the professionals responsible for maximizing the benefits organizations receive from their investments in technology. CompTIA is dedicated to advancing industry growth through its educational programs, market research, networking events, professional certifications, and public policy advocacy. For more information, visit www.CompTIA.org.

Participant Contact:

Amy Alexander
Program Manager
CompTIA Educational Foundation
(630) 678-8411
aalexander@comptia-ef.org

Donor Contact:

Dennis Zimmerman
Executive Director
CompTIA Educational Foundation
(630) 678-8477
dzimmerman@comptia-ef.org

Media Contact:

Lisa Fasold
Communications
CompTIA Educational Foundation
703-509-1124
lfasold@gmail.com