The Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA) A+ certification assesses an individual's basic computer service and repair technology skills. When members of the IT industry recognized the value of this vendor-neutral certification, they requested another baseline certification to assess the skills and knowledge of networking professionals.

In 1995, CompTIA began researching the need for a networking industry certification. CompTIA invited leaders in the networking industry, including vendors and networking professionals, to create a networking certification program that covered a variety of networking vendors and skills. In April, after almost five years of intensive research and review, CompTIA released the Network+ certification. As this article goes to press, more than 3,000 people have taken the Network+ exam, and the demand for this certification continues to grow.

COURSE 1400 THE NOVELL GUIDE TO NETWORK+

Because Novell Education is a keystone member of CompTIA and had a significant role in creating the Network+ certification, Novell Education has recently released Course 1400 The Novell Guide to Network+. This five-day, instructor-led course covers information included on the Network+ exam, and attendees receive a three-user license of NetWare 5.

If you pass the Network+ exam, Novell Education will waive the exam for Course 565 Networking Technologies, which is required for CNE certification. For more information about getting Course 565 Networking Technologies waived, visit Novell Education’s web site (http://education.novell.com/waiver/netplus.htm).

WHAT TO EXPECT ON THE NETWORK+ EXAM

The Network+ exam certification covers information about a wide range of networking skills and knowledge, including subjects relating to a variety of networking platforms such as NetWare, Windows NT, and UNIX. The Network+ exam is divided into two sections: The first section of the exam tests your knowledge of networking technology. For example, the first section tests your understanding of subjects such as the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) model, and installing, maintaining, and supporting a heterogeneous network. The second section of the exam tests your knowledge of networking practices. For example, the second section of the exam tests your knowledge of transport protocols such as TCP/IP; directory services such as Novell Directory Services (NDS); and network components such as hubs, transceivers, and routers.

The Network+ exam is administered worldwide by Sylvan Prometric testing centers. After you pass the exam, CompTIA will mail your certificate to you. For more information about Network+ certification, including subjects that are covered by the Network+ exam, visit CompTIA’s web site (http://www.comptia.org).

Oracle for NetWare Training and Certification

Are you a NetWare professional looking to add database knowledge to your portfolio? If so, Novell Education and Oracle have developed an intensive new training and certification for you: Course 990 Oracle Database Operator for NetWare. If you pass the exam for this course, you will receive Oracle Database Operator (DBO) certification, and you will also complete an elective course for CNE certification.

Course 990 Oracle Database Operator for NetWare covers subjects such as the following:

- Installing Oracle database software
- Creating and configuring Oracle databases
- Setting up and managing database users
- Installing and implementing applications
- Performing routine backups
- Conducting performance checks

Course 990 Oracle Database Operator for NetWare consists of two parts: The first part is a four-day, instructor-led class that covers the basics of the Oracle database. The second part is a computer-based training kit that covers SQL. You must complete both sections to pass the exam for Course 990 Oracle Database Operator for NetWare.

For more information about Course 990 Oracle Database Operator for NetWare, visit http://education.novell.com/general/odonw.htm. For a list of Novell Authorized Education Centers (NAECs) that teach Course 990 Oracle Database Operator for NetWare, visit http://education.novell.com/locator.