Title:
Be Certifiable! The Basics Of MCSE And MCP

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477

Summary:
It is not always who you know, but what you know. That is why obtaining
Microsoft certification can be a valuable asset to your career. Of course, it
does depend on what career path you want to take as to whether you want to get
either MCSE training or MCP training or anything else for that matter. So what
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Article Body:
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either MCSE training or MCP training or anything else for that matter. So what
do those abbreviations MCSE and MCP stand for anyway?

MCP stands for Microsoft Certified Professional and MCSE is an abbreviation for
Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer. What exactly does having a Microsoft
certification mean anyway? We know that it looks good on a resume and opens new
doors in your career. Did you know that being certifiable - in Microsoft anyway
- sometimes will also boost your pay? Experience counts for a lot, but having a
Microsoft certification or two does not hurt either!

So what does it take to be and MCP or MCSE? Lots of studying! The MCP courses
and MCP exams are geared toward a more rounded technical professional.
Candidates for MCP must pass one current certification test from Microsoft.
Passing one of the exams demonstrates that the candidate has a consistent level
of technical expertise.

With the Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer path, there are MCSE boot camps

that help prepare candidates for the MCSE exams. These MCSE boot camps are intense classes often packed into a full two week period instead of the traditional weekly MCSE training classes in preparation for the MCSE exams. This path is more involved. MCSE certification is standard in the IT field and prepares you for anything from the design of a system's infrastructure to analyzing the company's needs before implementing a design.

Unlike those individuals who take the MCP training to prepare for MCP exams, students of MCSE have a course of study that is more intense. Instead of one test to prepare for, they have seven tests that they are required to pass to get their Microsoft certification. Yikes! Seven! They have five main exams to take as well as two electives. The five required MCSE exams are broken down into four operating system exams and one design exam. The two electives typically deal with other issues in design and implementation not covered in the five core tests.

After learning a few basics, it is easy to see that the MCP or Microsoft Certified Professional is really just a stepping stone to bigger and greater things in the world of Microsoft certification. The individuals who go for the MCP have a leg up on those peers who have no technical experience. They will have a better grasp on technical issues and usually stay a step ahead of trends. The MCSE is more specialized and appeals to the techno geek with a penchant for design and implementation. They like knowing how stuff works. So market yourself and become certifiable!