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Cisco Collaboration Certifications Overview

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Overview

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Introduction

You may have heard the saying, "The only thing constant is change itself," and in the IT industry, that has proven itself so true time and time again.

In technology, advancement and change are good things, but any change comes with levels of apprehension, a little stress, and a lot of new knowledge to be absorbed. The end result, however difficult to reach, can be very satisfying.

In the Cisco world, one of the current areas of change is in the voice and video arena. In previous discussions, these two were referred to as separate technologies, with distinct infrastructure and endpoints to support a differing set of requirements. As a result, there were different certification tracks for both voice and video.

Today, both voice and video capabilities are combined to provide us with a broader, more comprehensive set of communication tools. This approach is often referred to as collaboration. Cisco's training classes and certification tracks have been revised to reflect this convergence of technologies and the Cisco infrastructure that supports it.

On February 17, 2015, Cisco announced changes to the existing voice and video certifications and detailed the new collaboration certification portfolio.

This white paper will provide an overview of the changes to Cisco certifications with respect to voice and video, outlining dates and deadlines that may affect your certification process.

The workplace we have today is vastly different than what our parents and grandparents experienced in their job roles. Where previously you had cubicles and offices that defined each person's workspace, today's office is a bit more disparate and global. Office space is being downsized in favor of home offices or mobile workers. We still need to communicate with each other, but we are no longer able to pop our heads around the cubicle wall to do so. So new tools have been honed and implemented that allow us to track colleague availability, communicate face to face from different locations, and share visual resources such as files, graphics, and whiteboards. This is collaboration.

Tejas Vashi, director, product strategy and marketing, Learning@ Cisco, Cisco Services: "For many professionals, work is no longer a place where you go, it's where you are, who you are, and what you want to accomplish. Keeping up with the pace of change, and the rapid, continuous evolution of job roles and skills, is essential to business success. The new certifications are specifically targeted at addressing the convergence of voice, video, data, and mobile applications in mid-sized to large networks utilizing Cisco collaboration solutions. The certifications being announced today are designed to enable IT personnel to both add value with their skillsets and influence the way their employers work."

Source: http://newsroom.cisco.com/release/1592331/Cisco-Addresses-IP-Voice-and-Digital-Video-Workplace-Transformation-and-Evolving-Job-Roles-with-New-Collaboration-Training-and-Education-Portfolio?utm_medium=rss

In order to support this collaboration effort, Cisco has had to evolve some of its infrastructure to provide support for both voice and video in a seamless user experience. This change of infrastructure capabilities has brought about demand for new learning courses, and thus new certifications to confirm competency levels.

New Topics in the Cisco Collaboration Courses

In April of 2010, Cisco completed the acquisition of Tandberg, who was a global leader in video communications. Through this acquisition, Cisco gained a wide range of video products, both in the endpoint and infrastructure environments.

In the years since, Cisco has been working to combine its own comprehensive collaboration portfolio with the acquired Tandberg products. As with any acquisition, there was overlap of products and functionality. Over time, Cisco has fine-tuned their collective product line to eliminate the overlapping functionality and choose the best in class for each service and feature.

The new Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) and Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP) collaboration training courses will focus heavily on the video endpoints and infrastructure components that form today's collaborative environments.

Some of the new topics covered include:

- Endpoints—including IP Phones, Jabber, and TelePresence Endpoints
- Call Control—including Cisco Unified Communications Manager (Call Manager) and Video Communications Server (VCS), using both Control and Expressway features
- Media Services—including TelePresence Server, Multipoint Control Unit (MCU), TelePresence Content Server, and Integrated Services Routers (ISR) Video Conferencing gateways
- Gateways—including Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) Gateway and TelePresence Advanced Media Gateway
- Management and Scheduling—including TelePresence Management Suite (TMS) and Cisco Prime Collaboration

Changes to the Associate-Level Certification

CCNA Voice	Last day to test is September 17 2015	CCNA Video	Last day to test is September 17, 2015
PreReq	Any valid Cisco Certified Entry Networking Technician (CCENT), CCNA Routing and Switching, or any Cisco Certified Internetwork Expert (CCIE) certification	PreReq	None
Exam	640-461 Introducing Cisco Voice and Unified Communications Administration (ICOMM)	Exams	200-001 Implementing Cisco Video Network Devices (VIVND) 640-461 ICOMM
Training	ICOMM	Training	VIVND1 VIVND2 ICOMM

Certification is valid for a period of three years.

CCNA Collaboration	
PreReq	None
Exams	210-060 Implementing Cisco Collaboration Devices (CICD) 210-065 Implementing Cisco Video Network Devices (CIVND)
Training	CICD CIVND1 CIVND2

Certification is valid for a period of three years.

CCNA Voice/Video Migration Options

If you already have taken some or all of the CCNA Voice or Video exams, you can use the CCNA Collaboration Exam Migration Tool to determine which exams you need to achieve CCNA Collaboration status. The tool can be found on the CCNA Collaboration Certification web page or at this link:

http://www.cisco.com/web/learning/tools/cna_collab/cna_collab_tool.html.

If you already possess a valid CCNA Voice certification, you will need to take exam 210-065 CIVND to migrate to CCNA Collaboration.

If you already possess a valid CCNA Video certification, you will need to take exam 210-060 CICD to migrate to CCNA Collaboration.

CCNA Collaboration Recertification Requirements

CCNA Collaboration certifications are valid for three years. To recertify, pass ONE of the current offerings before the certification expiration date:

- Associate-level exam EXCEPT for the Interconnecting Cisco Networking Devices Part 1 (ICND1) exam
- 642-XXX Professional-level OR any 300-XXX Professional-level exam
- 642-XXX Cisco Specialist exam (excluding Sales Specialist exams or MeetingPlace Specialist exams, Implementing Cisco TelePresence Installations (IT!) exams, Cisco Leading Virtual Classroom Instruction exams, OR any 650 online exams)
- CCIE Written Exam
- Cisco Certified Design Expert (CCDE) Written Exam OR CCDE Practical Exam
- Cisco Certified Architect (CCAr) interview AND the CCAr board review to extend lower certifications

When using a higher level of certification to extend other certifications, the expiration date of other certifications will extend to the expiration date of the higher certification (i.e., If you have one year left on your CCNA certification and you earn a CCIE certification, which has a two-year certification life, then both your CCIE certification and your CCNA certification will expire two years from the date you achieved the CCIE certification).

Changes to the Professional-Level Certification

CCNP Voice	Last day to test is Q4 2015 (check cisco.com for more specific dates)
PreReq	Valid Cisco CCNA Voice or CCNA Video or any Cisco CCIE certification
Exams	642-437 Implementing Cisco Unified Communications Voice over IP and QoS v8.0 (CVOICE) 642-447 Implementing Cisco Unified Communications Manager, Part 1 (CIPT1) 642-457 Implementing Cisco Unified Communications Manager, Part 2 (CIPT2) 642-427 Troubleshooting Cisco Unified Communications (TVOICE) 642-467 Integrating Cisco Unified Communications Applications (CAPPs)
Training	CVOICE CIPT1 CIPT2 TVOICE CAPPs

Certification is valid for a period of three years.

CCNP Collaboration	
PreReq	Valid CCNA Collaboration certification or any Cisco CCIE certification
Exams	300-070 Implementing Cisco IP Telephony and Video, Part 1 (CIPTV1) 300-075 Implementing Cisco IP Telephony and Video, Part 2 (CIPTV2) 300-080 Troubleshooting Cisco IP Telephony and Video (CTCOLLAB) 300-085 CAPPs
Training	CIPTV1 CIPTV2 CTCOLLAB CAPPs

Certification is valid for a period of three years.

Migration to CCNP Collaboration

If you already have taken some or all of the CCNP Voice exams, you can use the CCNP Collaboration Exam Migration Tool to determine which exams you need to take to achieve CCNP Collaboration status. The tool can be found on the CCNP Collaboration Certification web page or at this link:

http://www.cisco.com/web/learning/tools/ccnp_collab/ccnp_collab_tool.html.

If you already possess a valid CCNP Voice certification, you will need to take exam 300-075 CIPTV2 to migrate your CCNP Voice certification to CCNP Collaboration.

CCNP Collaboration Recertification Requirements

Cisco Professional-level certifications (CCNP, CCNP Wireless, CCDP, CCSP, CCNP Security, CCNP Voice, CCIP, CCNP Service Provider, CCNP Service Provider Operations, and CCNP Data Center) are valid for three years. To recertify, pass ONE of the current offerings before the certification expiration date:

- 642-XXX professional-level OR any 300-XXX ProfessionalLevel exam
- CCIE written exam
- CCDE written exam OR CCDE Practical Exam
- CCAr interview AND the CCAr board review to extend lower certifications

When using a higher level of certification to extend other certifications, the expiration date of other certifications will extend to the expiration date of the higher certification (i.e., if you have one year left on your CCNA certification and you earn a CCIE certification, which has a two-year certification life, then both your CCIE certification and your CCNA certification will expire two years from the date you achieved the CCIE certification).

Changes to CCIE-Level Certification

The written exam has added the following topics:

- Virtualization in UC Solutions
- IPv6
- ILS/URI Dialing
- Cisco Service Advertisement Framework/Call Control Discovery (SAF/CCD)
- Medianet
- Cisco Jabber

The lab exam has removed T1/E1 channel associated signalling (CAS) and Gatekeeper to H.323 Registrations, Admission, and Status (RAS) and has added the following topics:

- ILS/URI Dialing
- SAF/CCD
- Cisco Jabber

There has also been a change to the equipment used for the lab exam, mostly as upgrades to like servers or functions, which includes UCS C-Series Servers, updated routers, VWICs, and PVDM modules. The 9971 IP Phone has been added, as well as Cisco Jabber for Windows.

CCIE Collaboration Recertification Requirements

The CCIE Collaboration Certification is valid for a period of two years. Recertification is achieved by taking a written test to renew for the next two-year period.

Conclusion

Today's communication options provide for a varied mix of voice and video capabilities. Infrastructure has followed suit to provide an environment to carry the different communication streams. Administrators need to understand this changing environment, how to implement it, and how to troubleshoot issues.

Global Knowledge delivers Cisco training courses that provide the knowledge and the hands-on experience to learn about the new collaborative capability and how Cisco's certification process has evolved to validate a person's competence in the collaboration arena.

Learn More

Learn more about how you can improve productivity, enhance efficiency, and sharpen your competitive edge through training.

[CCNA Collaboration](#)

[CCNP Collaboration](#)

Visit www.globalknowledge.com or call **1-800-COURSES (1-800-268-7737)** to speak with a Global Knowledge training advisor.

About the Author

Berni has worked in the IT industry for more than thirty-five years, starting her career with software development and moving into networking in 1990. Berni is an independent consultant and has been a contract instructor with Global Knowledge since 1998. She has focused much of that time on the Cisco voice and video product lines. Her other areas of expertise include Quality of Service implementations for converged networks.