

CAPacity

Newsletter for the ISA Certified Automation Professional® (CAP®)



Summer 2008

In this issue:

CAP Profile of the Quarter	1
Take the CAP Exam for Free	2
Testing Window Deadline	2
Easy Navigation	2
Welcome New CAPS	2
Keeping it Clean	3
ISA Code of Ethics	3
Quiz and Conquer	3
Frequently Asked Questions	4

CAP Profile of the Quarter: Michael Lindsay



While looking into professional certification and licensing programs, Michael Lindsay learned about ISA's Certified Automation Professional® (CAP®) and decided to pursue it.

"It was something I wanted to do personally," he said, explaining that his employer does not require certification. "I was looking for a challenge and wanted to see how I stood in comparison to my peers."

Based in Vacaville, Calif., a community midway between San Francisco and Sacramento, Michael works as a senior automation engineer for GPSG, a unit of ALZA Corporation. ALZA is a pharmaceutical research and development site of Johnson & Johnson.

The company supported Michael's certification effort, covering the expenses of the review course and the exam. "They saw it as personal and professional development," he said. "I learned some new things in the review course that I was able to apply in my job right away."

In a plant that manufactures transdermal and oral dosage pharmaceuticals, Michael works in the facilities engineering department. He has worked in his current position since 1998, and his responsibilities include reviewing design documentation and facilities drawings for equipment automation and controls. He also oversees control system contractors who are hired to implement system designs.

"I like troubleshooting," Michael said, describing what he enjoys most about his job. "I like identifying a problem in the electronics or control system software and finding a solution to resolve it."

Previously holding positions in both software design/engineering and AutoCad, Michael has worked in automation and controls since 1992. He holds a bachelor's degree in Industrial Technology with an electronics option.

Opportunities to meet and network with other CAPs are one of the benefits he expects from the certification he received in March 2008. "I am looking forward to new avenues for building and expanding my network," he said. "There are times when it will be helpful to get answers from someone outside the company by tapping into the CAP knowledge base."

In response to industry requests, ISA established the CAP program in 2004 to recognize and document the specialized knowledge, education and experience of automation professionals. CAPs are responsible for the direction, design and deployment of systems and equipment for manufacturing and control systems.

CAPs must renew their certification every three years. This is accomplished by earning Professional Development Points (PDPs) by working, training and continually gaining knowledge in the field.

Michael prepared for the exam by taking the CAP Learning System Online Instructor-Assisted Course and reading through a couple of books recommended by friends. He traveled to Sacramento, CA, to take the exam at a computer-based testing center. He got the results immediately after completing the exam.

"The exam is a combination of theory and practical knowledge," Michael said. "There's no substitute for having the required work experience, and you definitely have to study for it." He encourages those considering the exam to take the review course.

Michael's certification will be due for renewal in 2011. He plans to get the necessary continuing education points in order to renew it at that time. He also plans to pursue his Control Systems Engineer (CSE license).

"They saw it as personal and professional development," he said. "I learned some new things in the review course that I was able to apply in my job right away."

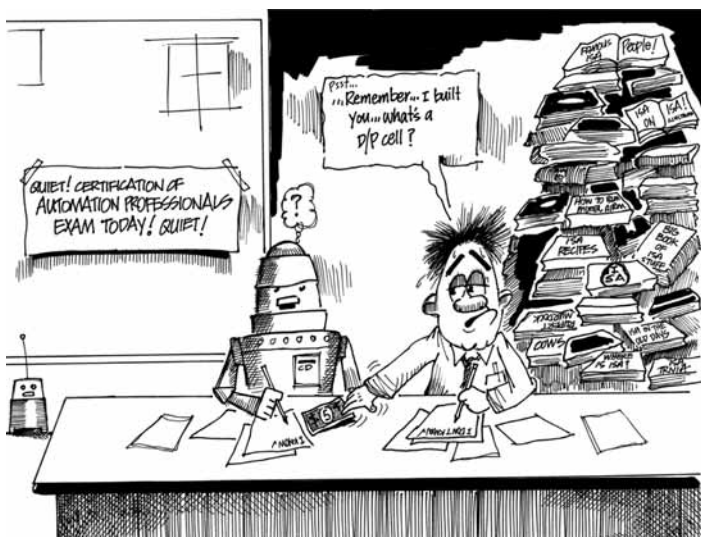
- Michael Lindsay

Take the CAP Exam for Free

ISA's CAP Review Course (EC00) is being offered at ISA EXPO 2008 in Houston at Reliant Center 13–15 October 2008. The CAP exam will be given the day after in the paper/pencil format. If you register to take the course, and complete the CAP application and submit it to ISA by 4 September, the exam application fee will be waived. You could save up to \$295. For more details on the course visit www.isa.org/training/JEC00. If you have previously applied to take the exam electronically, and decide to take it at ISA EXPO, you must contact ISA to change your exam format. If you do not make this change by the application deadline ISA cannot confirm you for the exam on 16 October. If you have questions please contact Customer Service at (919) 549-8411.

Testing Window Deadline Approaching

Are you planning to become a CAP before the end of the year? Testing Window 3 is available, which is 1 November–31 December. The deadline to apply is Monday, 15 September 2008. Take your exam electronically and receive immediate results of your CAP status. To review the details click www.isa.org/examschedule.



The Life and Times of an Automation Professional – An Illustrated Guide, by Ted Williams, Stan Weiner, and Greg McMillan

Easy Navigation

Recently the CAP Certification web page was updated to better serve your needs. You will now find easy tabs in the navigation bar to a variety of CAP related topics, such as Body of Knowledge, Requirements, FAQ, Apply, and more. Visit www.isa.org/CAP to see the changes and to learn more.

Welcome New CAPs

Congratulations to our newest group of Certified Automation Professionals!

Jelili Adeniyi
Port Harcourt Refining Company

Michael A. Lindsay
Alza Corp.

Jason M. Gates
Invie Consulting, Inc.

Michael McCann
SUNOCO

Brad Hawes
New Tech Controls, Inc.

Craig Patrizio
Elan Corporation

Robert K. Henderson
Maverick Technologies

Tom Shephard
Mustang Engineering

Gregory Jeffers
TAC, Corp.

Carl Thompson
Parsons Brinckerhoff

Keeping it Clean

ISA certification provides an objective, third-party assessment and confirmation of a person's skills, and gives them the opportunity to stand out from the crowd and be recognized. Protecting the integrity of the CAP certification is of great importance and, as CAPs and CAP candidates, you should not discuss exam questions with any other person. All CAP candidates must read and agree to abide by to the ISA Code of Ethics as part of their application process. As the CAP program grows, it becomes more important to keep exam content secure, and respect the hard work put into earning this credential by all of you. The ISA Code of Ethics is printed here for your review, and can also be found online at www.isa.org.

Let us continue to grow our program the same way you earned the CAP recognition through hard work, skills, and honesty.

Certification Quiz & Conquer

Join ISA CAPs and CCSTs, on 14 October at ISA EXPO 2008 as they showcase their knowledge on stage during the Certification Quiz & Conquer. Watch two teams go head-to-head and answer questions on-the-fly about safety, process control, electrical, systems integration, and more! The competition begins at 6:00 p.m. and will be held on the EXPO floor in the Safety Exchange area. See you there!

The ISA Code of Ethics

Preamble

As engineers, scientists, educators, technicians, sales representatives, and executives in an important and learned profession; and in order to safeguard public welfare; and to establish and maintain a high standard of integrity and practice; and as members of ISA, we hold to these Articles:

Article I

Members shall hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public in the performance of their duties, and shall notify their employer or client and such other authority as may be appropriate where such obligations are abused. Members shall hold in confidence facts, data and information obtained in a professional capacity, unless the release thereof is authorized by their employer or client, and shall not engage in fraudulent or dishonest business or professional practices.

Article II

Members shall perform services only in areas in which they are qualified by education or experience, and shall endeavor to maintain their professional skills at the state of the art. Members shall practice their profession in a manner which will uphold public appreciation of the services they render.

Article III

Members shall issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner, and shall include all pertinent and relevant information in professional reports, statements and testimony. Members shall be honest and realistic in making estimates or in stating claims based on available data. Members shall offer honest criticism of work, and shall properly credit the contributions of others.

Article IV

Members shall act in professional matters for each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees, and shall not participate in any business association, interest or circumstances which influence, or appear to influence, their judgment or the quality of their services.

Members shall accept compensation, financial or otherwise, from only one party for services on or pertaining to the same work, unless otherwise agreed to by all parties; and shall not give or accept, directly or indirectly, any gift, payment or service of more than nominal value to or from those having business relationships with their employers or clients.

Article V

Members shall use only proper solicitation of employments, and shall represent their abilities, qualifications, education, technical associations and professional registrations without exaggeration and in accordance with the laws of the locations in which they practice.

Article VI

Members shall pledge themselves to live and work according to the laws of man and to the highest standards of professional conduct, using their knowledge and skills to the benefit of all mankind.



ISA
67 Alexander Drive
P.O. Box 12277
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Raleigh, NC
Permit #1461

Dated Material—Open Immediately!

Please share this publication with others in your company:

- Automation Engineer
- Control Systems Engineer
- Plant Manager
- Systems Integrator

FAQs: Examination Process

What will I receive after I submit my CAP application?

If your application does not include all the necessary documentation, you will be notified and given an opportunity to provide the remaining documentation to meet the requirements. Once your application is approved, you will receive an Eligibility Letter with information on how to schedule your exam date and location for electronic exams, or a Confirmation Letter with the date, time, and site address of your private site exam.

Once my application is approved, how long am I eligible to test?

You are eligible to take the exam for nine (9) months after your application is postmarked to ISA.

Once I take the examination, how long will it be before I am notified of my status?

For candidates who take the exam electronically you will receive immediate results of your pass/fail status. If you pass, your certificate and wallet card will be mailed within thirty (30) days. If you take the exam in a private site, notification of your status will be mailed within thirty (30) days of your exam date.



Founded in 1945, ISA (www.isa.org) is a leading, global, nonprofit organization that is setting the standard for automation by helping over 30,000 worldwide members and other professionals solve difficult technical problems, while enhancing their leadership and personal career capabilities. Based in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, ISA develops standards; certifies industry professionals; provides education and training; publishes books and technical articles; and hosts the largest conference and exhibition for automation professionals in the Western Hemisphere.

Certification

ISA certification provides an objective, third-party assessment and confirmation of a person's skills, and gives them the opportunity to stand out from the crowd and be recognized. ISA currently offers three certification programs: Certified Automation Professional® (CAP®), Certified Control Systems Technician® (CCST®), and Certified Industrial Maintenance Mechanic® (CIMM®).