

Certification Options for SharePoint Professionals

Timothy L. Warner
TS Warner Consulting Services
tim@tswarnerconsulting.com

Our Agenda

- Why SharePoint certification?
- How MS Certification Works
- SharePoint Admin Certs
- SharePoint Dev Certs
- Exam Preparation Resources

Why SharePoint Certification?

- Corporate/departmental mandate
 - Salary bump
 - Job security
- Middle TN is cert-focused
 - Career-changers
 - Improving one's "hireability"

How Microsoft Certification Works: Old School

- One exam: Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP)
- IT Pro: MCDST, MCSA, MCSE
- Database: MCDBA
- Developer: MCSD

How Microsoft Certification Works: New School

- One exam: Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist (MCTS)
- IT Pro: MCITP
- Database: MCITP
- Developer: MCPD
- Architect: MCA

SharePoint Cert Tracks

- Administration
 - MCTS
- Development
 - MCTS

SharePoint Admin Credentials

- MCTS: Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 – Configuration
 - Exam 70-631 TS: Windows SharePoint Services 3.0, Configuring
- MCTS: Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 – Configuration
 - Exam 70-630 TS: Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007, Configuring

SharePoint Admin Training

- Course 5061: Implementing Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 (3 days)
- Course 50047: Advanced IT Pro Course for Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 (5 days)
- Course 50048: Architecting and Planning the Search Capability in Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 (2 days)

SharePoint Dev Credentials

- MCTS: Microsoft Windows SharePoint Services 3.0: Application Development
 - Exam 70-541 TS: Microsoft Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 – Application Development
- MCTS: Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007: Application Development
 - Exam 70-542 TS: Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 – Application Development

SharePoint Dev Training

- Course 50064: Advanced SharePoint Development (5 days)
- Course 50049: Architecting Web Content Management Solutions with Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 (2 days)
- Course 50051: Architecting Portals and Collaboration Solutions with Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007

Third-Party SharePoint Training

- SharePointSolutions.com
- Mindsharp.com
- TedPattison.net
- PilotHouseConsulting.com

General Exam Tips

- Exams are all standard-issue multiple-choice
- Very "Mickey Mouse"
 - Reminiscent of CompTIA exams
- Register with Prometric
 - www.prometric.com
 - \$125.00 per attempt

Truths about MS Certification

- You must develop test-taking skills in order to pass these exams
- You must recite the "Microsoft answer" as opposed to a "real-world" answer
- You must never read too much or too little into each question

Practice Exam Software

- Boson.com
- Transcender.com
- MeasureUp.com...not so much

Warning: Avoid the Braindump

- "Practice tests" like:
 - Pass4Sure.com
 - ActualTests.com
- Violate your NDA and could result in your permanent decertification
- See www.certguard.com for more information

Good CBT Content

- CBTNuggets.com
- TrainSignal.com
- PilotHouseConsulting.com
- TotalTraining.com
- LearnITFirst.com
- Lynda.com...not so much
- CareerAcademy.com...not so much

Good Trade Books

- *Office SharePoint Server 2007 Administrator's Companion* (MS Press)
- *Inside Windows SharePoint Services 3.0* (MS Press)
- *Administrator's Guide to Microsoft Office 2007 Servers* (Sams)

Wrap-up

- Questions? Comments? Curiosities?
- Thanks for being here today!
- Tim Warner
 - tim@tswarnerconsulting.com