

Breakdown of Statewide Initiatives:

Hawaii: (Nov. 1, 2005) Certiport today announced a multi-year agreement with the Hawaii Department of Education (HDOE) to implement a statewide Computer Literacy Certification System (CLCS) in which all eighth graders will participate. Leveraging the Certiport Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC³®) program in the largest such implementation to-date, the Hawaii CLCS aims at building a base of technology literate teachers who can, in turn, leverage technology across the core curriculum to enhance learning experiences and develop students to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. Terms of the agreement call for the training and testing of more than 14,000 students per year and their teachers to follow Hawaii's Educational Technology Contents Standards, while complying with technology requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

"Hawaii is focused on producing school graduates that can compete effectively on the world economic stage," said Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of the Hawaii Department of Education. "This program, in partnership with Certiport, provides validated, measurable outcomes that prove our students and teachers have the current, relevant computer and Internet skills needed to distinguish themselves and advance in school and in the workplace."

HDOE will integrate authorized IC³ courseware into its CLCS for eighth graders in the current school year, helping students learn concepts from IC³'s component exams: Computing Fundamentals, Key Applications, and Living Online. Prior to undergoing IC³ training and testing, the Certiport Internet & Computing Benchmark™ and Internet & Computing Mentor™, a comprehensive assessment system, will enable teachers to determine students' existing digital literacy levels and computing skills. The system guides training and remediation through levels of assistance for just-in-time learning and dynamically generated, customized study guides to help teachers perform data-driven curriculum planning.

"Hawaii's commitment to global technology standards distinguishes them among other states seeking ways to develop a competitive workforce for the future," stated David Saedi, President and CEO of Certiport. "Adoption of the IC³ program for digital literacy ensures that students and teachers gain the critical skills needed to advance their education, find and keep meaningful employment, and become more effective citizens in the digital age."

For more information about HDOE initiatives, visit <http://doe.k12.hi.us/>.

Washington State (Dec. 8, 2004): Certiport today announced the renewal and expansion of its agreement with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) in Washington State to deliver a wider array of certification exams to prepare students and teachers for the technology demands of school and the workplace. As part of this expanded program, OSPI has identified the Certiport Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC³®) as a model for Washington State school districts who want to offer students access to—and assessment of—the digital skills necessary for entering the workforce. This addition of IC³ builds on the state's two-year success with Certiport, also known for the creation and worldwide administration of the Microsoft® Office Specialist certification program.

OSPI has mapped the IC³ exam objectives to its Digital Communication Tools (DigiTools) model curriculum framework. Washington State piloted the DigiTools (www.digitalcommunicationtools.com) initiative, a 20-state effort to foster a computer literate society, ensuring that each child can communicate using a variety of digital tools. DigiTools provides exploratory opportunities to build interest in subsequent Business Education programs at the high school level. Schools integrating IC³ into their curriculum may qualify for additional funding through the state office of education.

North Carolina (Aug. 12, 2004): The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction tested more than 400 teachers for Certiport Internet & Computing Core Certification (IC³ ®) and Microsoft Office Specialist designations at its recent Annual Career-Technical Education Summer Conference 2004 in Greensboro.

"Our experience over this past year has demonstrated that IC³ is an effective measurement of teacher and student skills as we validate progress for local, state, and federal accountability purposes," stated Ken Smith, Section Chief for Business and Information Technology, Marketing Education for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. IC³ is an important part of North Carolina's efforts to measure and improve scholastic performance in computer and Internet literacy."

Alabama (July 20, 2004): The Alabama Department of Education (DOE) approved Certiport Internet & Computing Core Certification (IC³®) as a component of an \$800,000 initiative to prepare Alabama high school students, teachers, and workers for the technology demands in the workplace.

Virginia (Aug. 20, 2003): The Virginia Board of Education has announced the Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC³), the globally recognized standard for digital literacy, as verified credit for high school graduation. The department of education recently prepared teachers for implementation of their new IT Fundamentals course at the CTE Professional Development Institute. IC³ certification maps directly to the new IT Fundamentals course.

South Carolina (July 14, 2003): The South Carolina Department of Education today announced the adoption of the Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC³) standard for assessing teacher and student competency in Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Implementation of this global standard ensures South Carolina's leading position in technology readiness.

For a number of years, South Carolina has been exploring ways to better prepare students with essential work skills. The introduction of the No Child Left Behind Act (Title II Part D) elevated this issue to the forefront. As such, beginning this year, a new course called IT Foundations will be introduced for students to develop the skills they need in today's economy. The course is expected to result in IC³ qualified candidates.

Utah (Aug. 14, 2002): The Utah State Office of Education has approved Certiport's globally recognized Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC³) as both a test-out and end-of-course exam option for all high school students across the state for the new state-mandated Computer Technology course. This mandate and IC³ option affect all high school students beginning with this year's more than 35,000 incoming freshman who are now required to complete the computer literacy course or "test-out" of the class in order to graduate.

(Mar. 9, 2004) The Utah State Office of Education has approved Certiport's globally recognized Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC³) for .5 hours course credit for high school students across the state for the state-mandated Computer Technology course.