



Targeted Internship Program Helps Partner Recruit Top Talent

An intensive training and internship program in the Philippines helped address a partner's need for network engineers.

Linking Graduates to Career Opportunities



"We are impressed with the quality of graduates that Cisco Networking Academy produces. We were able to employ 15 of its graduates, which shows how good their training is."

Gretch Santos
Head of Human Resources, LBNI

When one of Cisco's top customers in the Philippines faced a shortage of personnel to manage its infrastructure, the Cisco® Philippines team began exploring opportunities to help Cisco Networking Academy® graduates develop the career skills and experience needed to fill the demand.

After signing a multimillion dollar deal with Cisco, Liberty Broadcasting Network Inc. (LBNI), which is backed by San Miguel Corporation and Qtel group, discovered its wireless networking service provider brand, wi-tribe, needed additional network engineers. To address this challenge, Cisco and LBNI developed a targeted cadetship program and invited Networking Academy graduates to submit their applications.

"It was the logical solution, and one we're really proud of," says Noel Kimuell, Cisco area academy manager for the Philippines.

The response was overwhelming, with more than 250 graduates submitting their resumes. Forty candidates were short-listed, and 19 participants were selected based on their communication and networking skills, and ability to work well under pressure.

Bootcamp for Specialized Skills

Although the graduates possessed many of the skills required by wi-tribe, they lacked some specialist knowledge required to excel in the position. To help ensure an ideal fit between the capabilities of the candidates and the skills needed by wi-tribe, the 19 participating graduates attended an intensive, two-month bootcamp at the end of 2009.

"It was quite tough," says Kimuell, "but in the end, the interns had the skills they needed to fulfill vital roles at wi-tribe."

At the end of the bootcamp, the participants helped advance wi-tribe's technological and business goals, while gaining valuable experience in wireless technologies. Fifteen of them were hired on as shift engineers in LBNI's operations team and are performing well.

Gretch Santos, head of human resources at LBNI, says: "The cadetship program has opened up career opportunities for Cisco Networking Academy graduates. With wi-tribe's unlimited broadband service, which utilizes the latest 4G wireless technology, Cisco engineering graduates found a fitting workplace where they get to apply the intensive training and knowledge gained from the internship program."

For More Information

To learn more about Cisco Networking Academy, please visit www.cisco.com/go/netacad.

To learn more about wi-tribe, please visit www.wi-tribe.ph.