



A Message to IT Employers

Thus far you've seen Cisco's commitment to this venture and you've read about the Toronto District School Board's Co-operative & Career Education Program. Now I'd like to tell you something about the Cisco Networking Academy Program (CNAP), and most importantly, the CNAP Graduates themselves.

Initially industry was reluctant to take on Cisco Co-op students. After all, these *are* just high school kids, aren't they? Now, these same Co-op employers are asking for more CNAP Graduates. In just about every instance, companies have been so impressed with the quality of the CNAP Grad's, that in addition to providing a Co-op placement, they have also hired the students on a part-time basis.

What they've discovered is that often the CNAP students have knowledge equivalent to their University counterparts and just as often they have had more hands-on experience with Cisco hardware.

CNAP Graduates have had successful Co-op experiences with the likes of Bell Nexxia, Royal Bank, ScotiaMcLeod, Intesys, Metro Hall and Ontario Hydro, to name but a few. They have performed a variety of tasks from setting up and testing networks in a lab environment, to configuring and deploying routers in production environments.

Network World Canada said of the Cisco Networking Academy Program, "... it is tempting to call the academies an unqualified success." [June 16, 2000 Volume 10, No. 12, page 4]

I hope you will take the opportunity to help a student discover the real World of IT. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you have about this exciting new chapter in Public Education. If you would like to visit a Cisco Networking Academy and see for yourself what 'The Shop for the 21st Century' looks like, I would be only too happy to oblige.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Nixon" with a checkmark at the end.

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