

Learning@Cisco

Certifications Transform Lives. Mauro Apolloni, Diesel Clothing

Mauro Apolloni's path towards an IT career began with the Commodore VIC 20, a 1-MHz computer with a total of 5K of memory. Mauro received the computer as a gift from his brother when he was 10. Despite the fact that his computer was extremely underpowered by today's standards (by about 2000 times), it sparked Mauro's interest in video games, the Internet, and high tech devices. At the time, Mauro could never have imagined that years later he would be maintaining and configuring the communication lines between the many business units and functions of a multinational fashion corporation.

"IT is not a routine job, because there is always something new to learn, Technology is improving all the time and that brings new challenges to our work. At Diesel, I now get to work not only at the cutting edge of technology, but also at the cutting edge of consumer fashion."

—Mauro Apolloni, T&C Communication Technician, Diesel Clothing

Mauro had been in the IT industry for a few years before he made the move to Diesel Clothing, a popular Italian denim and clothing icon. While working for Diesel, he learned about the Cisco® Networking Academy® on a Web forum where he was communicating with other people who were studying to obtain their Cisco CCNA® certifications. Mauro feels very strongly about the benefits of the Networking Academy. As he put it, "This is the best way to learn. The Networking Academy helps a student understand and appreciate the power of the network."

After Mauro obtained his CCNA certification, Diesel gave him the opportunity to become a member of their communications team. "I think that for IT technicians, being Cisco certified is very important because it demonstrates knowledge of the network," he said. "I also think that if Cisco certification can be linked with an experience inside a large, modern company such as Diesel, then career success is more firmly placed in your own hands."

Mauro Apolloni has been working at Diesel for six years and is now a technician for Diesel in the T&C Communication department. Besides getting a discount on clothing at Diesel's Italy store, Mauro's favorite part of the job is the international aspect. He not only gets the opportunity to travel around the world, but also frequently uses Cisco TelePresence to communicate with international subsidiaries. He says, "I like being in contact with people all over the world who are involved in technology."

For More Information

To find out more about Cisco Career Certifications, go to: www.cisco.com/go/learnnetspace.