



## U.S. Department of Defense and Cisco Provide Global Learning Opportunities

### U.S. Department of Defense Education Activities Model of Practice

Shortly after the end of World War II, the United States established permanent military bases overseas and invited families to join military personnel abroad. This created a need for educational facilities to teach the children of those in service and U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) civilians stationed throughout Europe and the Pacific. As a result, the DoD created the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA), a civilian agency headquartered in Arlington, Virginia.

DoDEA operates more than 200 fully-accredited public schools in 12 countries, seven U.S. states, Guam, and Puerto Rico, and employs approximately 8700 teachers serving 87,000 students. In 2001, the DoDEA partnered with the Cisco® Networking Academy® and began offering IT Essentials and the Cisco Certified Networking Associate (CCNA®) curriculum. “The Networking Academy is our flagship offering,” says Patrick Kilkenny, program analyst for DoDEA. “The rigorous curriculum and opportunity for professional certification hold high value with our students.”

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In September 2006, Cisco announced the winners of its 3R Recognition Award Program, which was developed by the Networking Academy to recognize students, instructors, and schools in the United States that demonstrate excellence in the categories of Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships. The DoDEA received an award in the Rigor category for developing a robust instructor training program that supports a community of teachers around the world. CCNA instructors within the DoDEA attend a three-day professional training program in either Okinawa, Japan for Pacific academies, or in Wiesbaden, Germany for European academies.

“The DoDEA’s commitment to the quality of local academies and continuing education of instructors is superlative in every respect,” says Bob Meyers, academy legal main contact at WVU-Morgantown, which serves as the regional academy for the DoDEA. “We developed workshops for the DoDEA to present advanced CCNA concepts in a way that challenges instructors to further develop their technical and pedagogical skills.”

Frank Pendzich, instructor of professional technical studies at Wiesbaden High School in Germany says, “The DoDEA provides exceptional continuous development opportunities to help instructors acquire the level of mastery required to teach complex subject matter, and provide students with highly-skilled and knowledgeable educators.”

To learn more about the DoDEA, visit [www.dodea.edu](http://www.dodea.edu).



DoDEA instructors build a PC with a classmate during an instructor class at the West Virginia University training center.

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