



Kansas Student and Graduate Profile

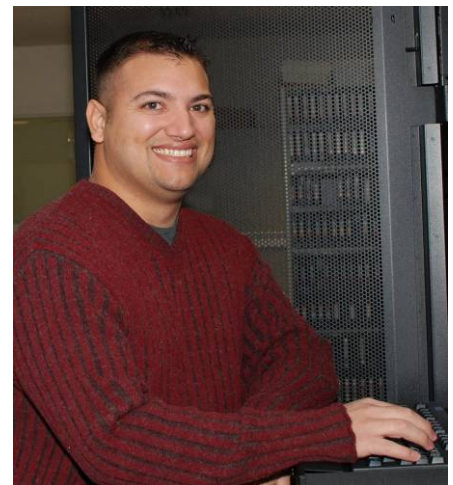
It was during Casey King's second deployment to Qatar as an Army Reserve computer technician that he first learned of Cisco® Networking Academy®. As a network administrator and medical supply shipping supervisor, Casey worked with other network administrators, most of whom held Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA®) certifications. Casey was so impressed with their level of knowledge that when a fellow soldier told him about the Networking Academy, Casey researched the program online to see if it was something he might pursue when he got home. Ever mindful of employment opportunities when he returned stateside, Casey knew he would go to college. Once he discovered that Fort Hays State University (FHSU) near his home town had an academy, he knew it was a "perfect fit" and decided that enrolling in the FHSU academy would be his first mission upon returning home.

Within 24 hours of receiving his discharge papers at Fort Riley, Kansas, Casey drove the two and one half hours to FHSU, enrolled in the academy, and started classes the following day. Mission accomplished. Casey firmly believes that "enrolling in the Networking Academy was and still is one of the smartest choices I made."

Casey insists that the Networking Academy was one of the best programs he's ever taken and that "the tutorials, expertise of the instructor, and true lab testing environment prepared me and others to walk out the door and feel confident establishing ourselves with a new company."

At first, Casey found the course challenging because of the amount of information covered and the time required learning all the material. He also had a fiancée with two daughters, his military obligations, and was president of the Advanced Technology Student Organization (ATSO) within the Information Networking and Telecommunications Department at FHSU. But Casey turned the challenge into an exciting opportunity and with his focus, determination, and positive attitude, he was able to hone his time management skills and manage the stress.

Casey took full advantage of the virtual and physical labs, which he says were instrumental in getting everyone through the course. He was completely engaged in the hands-on experience of practicing on real routers, switches, and firewalls and enjoyed the camaraderie of working with his classmates. The class offered fun learning opportunities to building everyone's knowledge base, like having one team set up a network and another team tries to break the network. Casey insists that the Networking Academy was one of the best programs he's ever taken and that "the tutorials, expertise of the instructor, and true lab testing environment prepared me and others to walk out the door and feel confident establishing ourselves with a new company."



Casey attributes his success to several individuals, including Mark Bannister, Chair of the Department of Information Networking and Telecommunications at FHSU, who conveyed the advantages the Networking Academy would give Casey in the corporate world. Casey's academy instructor Kevin Schaffer was "brilliant, and able to take his knowledge and bring it down to the students' level so they could understand it." And last but not least, Casey acknowledges the fellow soldier in Qatar who first told Casey about the Networking Academy. Coincidentally, they live only a few miles from each other in Kansas and have remained friends.

But the largest contributor to Casey's success was "knowing my wife and children will benefit from my labors ... knowing that what I do will enhance their life in the future." His CCNA® certification, coupled with his bachelor of science degree, has

advanced Casey's civilian and military career. Casey is now an officer in the Army Reserves and a commander of a unit. He is also a network engineer with The Coleman Company, Inc., where he is responsible for administrating servers, and overseeing the open systems backup environment and disk management (SAN), SQL, Oracle, and SAP. "The Networking Academy gave me the breadth and depth of knowledge I needed in order to get my foot in the door of a great company and dive into unfamiliar territory with the confidence that I will succeed" says Casey.

Casey's advice to someone considering the Networking Academy is "If there is the slightest interest in the Network Academy, it would be in your best interest and your future to put the time, effort, and dedication into the next two to four years. ... If you are even considering information technology or networking, this is the program you need to be a part of ... it's an absolute must."

Casey is also pursuing a master's of business administration degree and starting a business with his wife. He enjoys coaching his daughter's soccer team, tae kwon do, back packing, camping, reading, playing Xbox, and computer games. Casey's advice to someone considering the Networking Academy is "If there is the slightest interest in the Network Academy, it would be in your best interest and your future to put the time, effort, and dedication into the next two to four years. The fruit of your labors will present themselves based upon your efforts. Tools are available to enhance your learning experience ... use them – faculty, staff, virtual servers, physical test labs, study guides, classmates, and the Networking Academy site. If you are even considering information technology or networking, this is the program you need to be a part of ... it's an absolute must."

More information on the academy at Fort Hays State University may be found at:

http://www.fhsu.edu/int/cisco_acad/index.shtml. For information on The Coleman Company, visit:

<http://www.coleman.com/coleman/home.asp>.



Americas Headquarters
Cisco Systems, Inc.
170 West Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134-1706
USA
www.cisco.com
Tel: 408 526-4000
800 553-NETS (6387)
Fax: 408 527-0883

Asia Pacific Headquarters
Cisco Systems (USA) Pte. Ltd.
168 Robinson Road
#28-01 Capital Tower
Singapore 068912
www.cisco.com
Tel: +65 6317 7777
Fax: +65 6317 7799

Europe Headquarters
Cisco Systems International BV
Haarlerbergpark
Haarlerbergweg 13-19
1101 CH Amsterdam
The Netherlands
www-europe.cisco.com
Tel: +31 0 800 020 0791
Fax: +31 0 20 357 1100

Cisco has more than 200 offices worldwide. Addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers are listed on the Cisco Website at www.cisco.com/go/offices.

CCVP, the Cisco logo, and Welcome to the Human Network are trademarks of Cisco Systems, Inc.; Changing the Way We Work, Live, Play, and Learn is a service mark of Cisco Systems, Inc.; and Access Registrar, Aironet, Catalyst, CCDA, CCDP, CCIE, CCIP, CCNA, CCNP, CCSP, Cisco, the Cisco Certified Internetwork Expert logo, Cisco IOS, Cisco Press, Cisco Systems, Cisco Systems Capital, the Cisco Systems logo, Cisco Unity, Enterprise/Solver, EtherChannel, EtherFast, EtherSwitch, Fast Step, Follow Me Browsing, FormShare, GigaDrive, HomeLink, Internet Quotient, IOS, iPhone, IP/TV, iQ Expertise, the iQ logo, iQ Net Readiness Scorecard, iQuick Study, LightStream, Linksys, MeetingPlace, MGX, Networkers, Networking Academy, Network Registrar, PIX, ProConnect, ScriptShare, SMARTnet, StackWise, The Fastest Way to Increase Your Internet Quotient, and TransPath are registered trademarks of Cisco Systems, Inc. and/or its affiliates in the United States and certain other countries. Mind Wide Open is a trademark of Cisco Networking Academy.

All other trademarks mentioned in this document or Website are the property of their respective owners. The use of the word partner does not imply a partnership relationship between Cisco and any other company. (0711R)