

# Community Spotlight

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## Kevin Franzen Senior Network Technical Manager & CWNE

### **Why are you interested in wireless?**

I am techy nerd and enjoy anything tech related. I fell into a wireless job when a network engineer left the company I worked at and I moved out of LAN desktop support to backfill his role. I have been doing it so long, I am good enough at it, that I can make a difference and get cool projects. My projects are always different so it isn't a daily grind.

### **How long have you been involved?**

I have been in tech for over 20 years. Around 10 years of that as a Wi-Fi engineer.

### **Are you certified?**

CCNP wireless and CWNE

### **What motivated you to become certified?**

The studying for certs fills in the knowledge gaps from stuff you pick up while doing hands on work. Knowing why things are the best practices instead of just doing it because someone said so. I find that co-workers trust you from the work you do, customers or non-techy folks respect people that are certified. I have noticed customers trust what you say easier when you have certs to back you up.

### **What was the hardest part of this process and how did you overcome it?**

Forcing myself to study after working all day instead of watching tv or slacking off. I would say my inter drive to be the best at what I do played a large part but forcing myself to cut time out of my evenings and setting goals for what I needed to do were key.

### **How has this journey impacted your life?**

My wife is happy I am going to be cutting back on study time! I've met a lot of good people along the way and the knowledge I have gained makes me look like a rockstar at work. The quality of my work improved because I have an understanding how everything works together. I am able to help others (co-workers) understand Wi-Fi better. So everything improves, knowledge is power.

### **Who would you suggest this to?**

Anyone in the Wi-Fi field. I even recommend our project managers read up on the CWTS even if they don't take the test.

# BIO

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Kevin is a Senior Network & Telecommunications Engineer with substantial enterprise experience in network engineering & design, wireless network architecture & deployment, LAN/WAN/WLAN support, and troubleshooting complex video, voice, & data networks. He's focused on delivering quality, optimal system solutions based on business requirements. Kevin has significant professional experience in working with large retail stores, distribution environments & public access networks.

- Enterprise LAN/WAN/WLAN network architecture & engineering
- Design, consolidation, and support of complex Cisco networks
- Delivery of global projects and initiatives
- Planning & deployment of large wireless fidelity (Wi-Fi) networks for retail stores, distribution facilities, hotels, high density temporary events and high density stadiums.
- Interfacing with customers and clients in high demand environments
- 8+ years of network design and support in top 15 Fortune 500 companies.
- 12+ years of Information Technology in multi-vendor environment
- Wireless voice design & implementation
- Wireless network security design & implementation

Specialties:

Cisco CCNA - Certified

Cisco CCNP Wireless - Certified

Certified Wireless Network Professional CWNE #136