Jeff Haydel

Principal Systems Engineer

Nyansa

CWNE #163

What is your level of industry experience?

20+ years of networking experience at the customer, partner, and manufacturer. Easily 15 of those years have had some sort of involvement with wireless.

Where did you receive your training/education?

Mississippi State University, BS in Computer Engineering.

What certifications do you currently hold?

CWNE #163
Aerohive ACWP
CCNP-wifi and R&S (both expired)

When did you first become interested in wireless?

My first serious introduction to wireless was when I was assigned the task of implemented a campus wide and centrally management wireless system for Mississippi State University. From day one the physics of Wi-Fi clicked for me because it made so much sense with my background in Computer Engineering.

Why did you choose the CWNE path?

It offered the purest wireless certification that let me delve in how wifi works and not how a particular vendor configures it. The depth of knowledge and exposure to the underlying IEEE standards and the implementations of those standards captured me from the beginning.

How long have you been involved in the CWNP certification process?

I passed my first CWNA test in 2007 (I think) and have been involved, reading, or discussing the topics of CWNP ever since.

What was the hardest part of the whole process and how did you overcome it?

Motivation was the hardest part, although time management was a close second. Finding the motivation that clicked for me to pick the text up over a video game, to study the notes versus watching a football game. But also forcing myself to spend the time studying over working on more emails was difficult, maybe more so for my business partners than me.

What would you say to anyone considering a CWNE designation?

Keep plugging away. Get someone in your corner that encourages you and motivates you (my wife and kids helped me with that but so did David Coleman who was a coworker at the time.) Also, don't be afraid to step away for a while. I passed the CWNA and CWSP in 2007/2008 and then changed careers and left CWNP behind to focus on trying to pass my BCSI. By the time was back in the wifi game those had expired and I had to start over but my understanding and absorption and retainment from the previous time was immeasurable and VERY helpful in mastering the deep advanced topics included in these tests.

What value will your CWNE provide to you, your clients, and/or your company?

It has provided me great value since it got added to my signature in 2015. It sets the level of expectations for my customers to understand that I am coming from a position of knowledge and it has also let me sit at almost any table and be accepted as someone who deserves to talk at that table.

To whom would you recommend the CWNE program?

Anyone who deals with wifi on a regular or semi-regular basis should study in the CWNP program. Anyone who styles themself as an architect or wireless designer should definitely have CWNE on their list.