



Aaron Scott

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CWNE # 142

What is your level of industry experience?

I've been in networking for 10+ years, and Wi-Fi for the last 8 years.

What are some highlights from your resume?

Bachelor Degree with Honors in Software Engineering
Owner of Squashed Software Channel Enablement for Aruba across
Australia and NZ

Where did you receive your training/education?

I have been mainly self taught, with just a few official training courses thrown in. These days it's events like WLPC to keep me learning new things, as well as blogs and Twitter.

When did you first become interested in wireless?

The partner I was working with decided to send me to a Wi-Fi vendor training session. After that I decided Wi-Fi was something I wanted to concentrate on. A later training course I attended that was taught by David Coleman had me hooked.

What certifications do you currently hold?

I currently hold several Aruba Expert Level certifications: ACMX, ACDX as well as several professional level certifications: ACCP, ACEAP. I have certifications across other vendors as well as some non-Wi-Fi ones to round out my knowledge.

Why did you choose the CWNE path?

If something is worth doing, it's worth doing right. I figured if I wanted to be good at Wi-Fi I should read the CWNA book. From there it was only natural to aim for the Expert level. I felt the CWNP program gave me a detailed Wi-Fi foundation that the vendor programs don't always provide.

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

I spent about 6 months getting my CWNP exams completed, at that point I didn't feel I had the required experience to call myself an expert, so I worked in the field until I thought I was ready to apply for the CWNE. The whole process took about 2 years. I've been involved since 2012.

Why did you choose CWNP and its certifications over other industry designations?

I chose the CWNP program due to its vendor neutral stance and prioritising standards over vendor features. This way I had a strong foundation from which vendor specific information can sit.

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

The most difficult part of becoming a CWNE was that I didn't believe I had enough real world experience to be considered an "Expert". I overcame this by spending more time in the field working on strengthening my real world experience. Once I was more confident in my own abilities I submitted the CWNE application.

What would you say to anyone considering a CWNE designation?

Do it, don't hesitate. Be confident in your abilities. Its a tough program, but worth every minute you spend working on it - you'll learn lots!

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

Being at networking vendor, being a CWNE gives the company credibility, and it shows their involvement with the wireless community. The CWNE also affords me credibility with my customers.