



BSD
CERTIFICATION.ORG

BSD Certification Group Inc.
Annual Report 2005

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Corporate Statement

The BSD Certification Group Inc. is a non-profit registered in the state of New Jersey. Established in January, 2005, its mission is to create and support a standardized certification process to assist system administrators and employers validate competence in the implementation of BSD best practices.

BSD Certification Group Inc. is committed to creating and maintaining a global certification standard for system administration on BSD based Unix operating systems. The BSDCG shall ensure that the certification standard:

- Uses test questions and testing methodologies that adhere to established psychometric methods
- Provides testing candidates with detailed exam objectives and an appeals process
- Provides a verification database accessible to employers
- Where feasible meets the standards required by accreditation organizations
- Provides a secure testing delivery mechanism
- Endeavors to provide testing globally, based on local interest, and where feasible, in the primary language of that geographic region
- Solicits the needs, input, and contributions of the BSD community and other interested parties, including employers who hire BSD professionals and companies who use BSD products
- Operates according to Open Source methods, and where feasible uses Open Source products
- Provides the criteria for becoming a testing center as well as verification and disciplinarian guidelines

What is BSD?

BSD is a family of operating systems based on Berkeley Unix. BSD runs some of the busiest sites on the Internet and is renowned for its stability, performance, and security. BSD is also an attractive Open Source license which allows for both commercial and Open Source derivatives. For this reason, BSD networking code is used in many of the industries most well known software suites including Microsoft, Sun Microsystems, and Mac OS X.



Acting Chair's Report

When the BSD Certification Group Inc. formed in 2005 it posed the question “would the BSD community benefit from and assist in the creation of a certification exam which assesses the skills of BSD system administrators?” The answer quickly proved to be a resounding “yes!” and many of the successes seen in 2005 are due to the sustained contributions of thousands of dedicated individuals throughout the world.

The community played a key role in the establishment of the frameworks required to build a respected and useful assessment of BSD system administration skills. Input gathered through the Task Analysis Survey, BSD Usage Survey, the certification mailing list, and audience participation at technical conferences provided the data necessary to determine exam audience and the skills which should be assessed.

Infrastructure costs are often significant, especially for a newly formed non-profit organization. We are fortunate in that several ISPs (Internet Service Providers) have donated hardware and bandwidth and a team of system administrators donate their DNS, mail server, web design, database, scripting, and security skills to maintain the BSD Certification Group's servers. This is a small testament to the spirit of the BSD community, the reliability of BSD systems and the skills of those who administer them.

2006 will prove to be both an exciting and a challenging year as the first exam is published and made available. Raising monies to pay for the psychometric assessment and choosing (and possibly creating) a secure, affordable, and accurate mechanism for delivering the assessment will be the biggest challenges. We look forward to working with the community in facing these challenges head-on in order to produce a high quality certification examination.

Sincerely,

Dru Lavigne
Acting Chair, BSD Certification Group Inc.



Major Events of 2005

Much of 2005 was spent researching the certification needs of the BSD community and publishing the results of those findings. Each publication from the BSD Certification Group is available for download at their website and is licensed under a Creative Commons license. Everyone is encouraged to read and distribute the publications as well as include that data in their own publications as long as the derived publication meets the licensing guidelines found immediately after the cover page of each document.

January

- ◆ 18 members, with backgrounds in IT security, system administration, education, programming, business management, and technical writing, form the original BSD Certification Group (BSDCG)
- ◆ A mission statement and rules of governance are agreed upon
- ◆ Technical infrastructure created to support mailing lists, IRC channels, collaborative wikis, and a website

February

- ◆ Website designed
- ◆ BSD projects advised and permission received to use copyrighted logos on website
- ◆ Research begins on existing examinations, training options, and test delivery mechanisms

March

- ◆ Press release announces BSDCG and receives a tremendous response
- ◆ BSDCG replies to several hundred offers of assistance and begins the process of coordination
- ◆ Translation teams defined and a translation team coordinator established



April

- ◆ Task Analysis Survey written and various Open Source survey engines tested
- ◆ First monthly newsletter published
- ◆ First BSDCG interview published (on Zdnet)

May

- ◆ Task Analysis Survey is available in 9 languages
- ◆ BSDCG holds its first BoF session at a conference (BSDCan)
- ◆ Advisory Board created

June

- ◆ Results from Task Analysis Survey analyzed and discussed
- ◆ Redundant website setup
- ◆ Work begins on Certification Roadmap

July

- ◆ Report on Task Analysis Survey published
- ◆ Research on accreditation bodies begins

August

- ◆ Certification Roadmap published
- ◆ Work on BSDA Requirements document begins



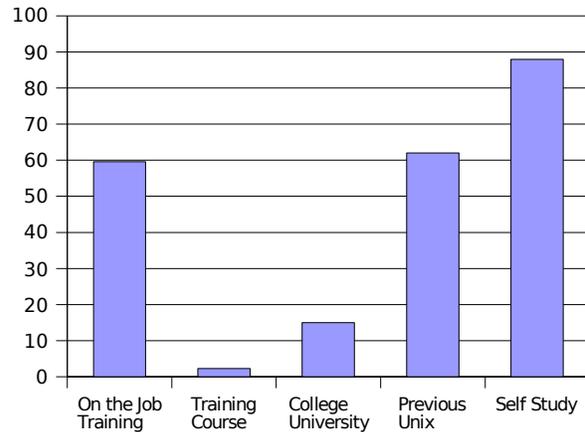
September

- ◆ BSD Usage Survey available in 6 languages
- ◆ Several psychometric agencies are researched and interviewed
- ◆ Incorporation researched
- ◆ Work on business plan and bylaws begins

October

- ◆ BSD Certification Group Inc. incorporated in state of New Jersey
- ◆ BSDA Certification Requirements document published
- ◆ Report on BSD Usage Survey published

How BSD Admins Currently Learn Their Skills



November

- ◆ Sponsorship fact sheet published
- ◆ Bylaws ratified and published on website

December

- ◆ First Fund Raising Drive launched
- ◆ Non-voting chair for selection of nominating committee selected



Financial Statement

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2005

Assets

Cash	\$453.16
Accounts Receivable	\$0

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$0
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Revenues

Individual Donations	\$995.00
Corporate Donations/Sponsorships	\$0
Exam Fees	\$0

Expenses

Paypal Fees	\$ 41.84
Incorporation Fee	\$500.00
Psychometric Fees	\$0
Test Delivery Fees	\$0



Voting Members as of December 31, 2005

Jim Brown, Incorporator, Acting Vice President & Treasurer

Jonathan Drews, Acting Secretary

Hubert Feyrer, Curricula Development

Dan Langille

Dru Lavigne, Incorporator, Acting President & Chair

Scott Long

Jean M. Melo

Wes Peters

Luiz G. Ramos

Jeremy C. Reed, Media Relations & Curricula Development

David Rhodus, SME

Eduardo Ribeiro

John Richard

George Rosamond, Incorporator, Acting Vice President & Assistant Treasurer

Brad Schonhorst, SME

Marc Spitzer

Patrick Tracanelli, Translation Team Coordinator

Advisory Board as of December 31, 2005

Richard Bejtlich

Mike Karels

Greg Lehey

David Maxwell

Marshall Kirk McKusick

