

2007

Annual Report

BSD Certification Group Inc.

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www.bsdcertification.org

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Corporate Statement

The BSD Certification Group Inc. (BSDCG) is a non-profit organization registered in the State of New Jersey, USA. Established in January, 2005, its mission is to create and maintain a global certification standard for system administration on BSD based Unix operating systems, and to assist system administrators and employers in validating competence in the deployment of BSD computer systems.

The BSDCG ensures that the certification standard:

- Uses test questions and testing methodologies that adhere to established psychometric methods
- Provides testing candidates with detailed exam objectives
- Provides a verification method accessible to employers and an appeals process for testing candidates
- Where feasible, meets the standards required by accreditation organizations
- 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
- Provides the criteria for becoming a testing center including verification and disciplinary guidelines

What is BSD?

BSD is a family of operating systems based on UC Berkeley Unix. BSD runs some of the busiest sites on the Internet and is renowned for its stability, performance, and security. BSD is also the name of 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 most well known software suites including Mac OS X, Microsoft, and Sun.

What is Psychometrics?

Psychometrics is the science of educational testing and measurement. A psychometrician applies various procedures to construct a test that is valid, reliable and fair. Tests with these characteristics are widely perceived as the most credible.



President's Report

In 2007, a successful collaboration between the BSDCG and the BSD community saw the BSDA pass through the steps needed to publish a psychometrically valid certification exam. SMEs (Subject Matter Experts) worked with the psychometrician to prepare the items in the pool of questions for the beta testing period. System administrators participated in the beta test at several locations in Brazil, Canada, and Germany, and provided valuable feedback on individual questions and the examination overall.

Several day-long sessions followed where volunteer SMEs spent their Saturday reworking the pool of questions to align with the beta feedback and the psychometrician's analysis of the beta questions. Along the way, they experienced first-hand the value of psychometrics and gained much experience in creating unbiased questions that fairly assess the skills being examined. They also prepared for the Angoff session, the last psychometric step before launching the certification, and the one that sets the passing score for the exam.

Secure shipping of test packs across the globe represented a new expenditure in 2007 and processes were developed to streamline this cost. Many thanks are owed to the generosity of the BSD and business communities who respond with donations of time, money, feedback, and hardware. Their continued support is the reason why the BSDCG is able to produce and maintain a quality certification program.

On behalf of the BSD Certification Group, I'd like to thank everyone who has donated their time, expertise, and money to make this effort a success. I look forward to the continued success of the BSDA certification exam and the upcoming development of a published BSDA study guide and the creation of the BSDP exam.

Sincerely,

Dru Lavigne
President, BSD Certification Group Inc.



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Major Events of 2007

More details regarding the events summarized here can be found on the [News](#) page of the BSD Certification Web site and in the archives for the [mailing lists](#). Each publication from the BSD Certification Group is available for download at the website and is licensed under a Creative Commons license. Everyone is encouraged to read and distribute the publications as well as include the 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 - March

- ◆ First board of directors confirmed
- ◆ First board meeting
- ◆ [Wiki](#) started to create a collaborative study guide with the BSD community
- ◆ Winter version of study DVD released
- ◆ SME NDA and SME conflict of interest policy created
- ◆ Jason Dixon, Liam Foy and Wim Vandeputte join as SMEs
- ◆ Jason Dixon joins as voting member of BSDCG

April - June

- ◆ Beta exam announced
- ◆ Proctor guidelines developed
- ◆ Certification booth at LinuxWorld Toronto
- ◆ Certification talk and beta exam offered at LinuxTag in Berlin
- ◆ Certification talk and beta exam offered at BSDCan in Ottawa
- ◆ Beta exam offered at Mohawk College in Hamilton, Ontario

July - September

- ◆ Beta exam offered in Sao Paulo and Bela Horizonte, Brazil
- ◆ Beta exam offered in NYC
- ◆ Beta exam offered in Augsburg, Germany
- ◆ Certification talk at OSCON
- ◆ Fall version of study DVD released



October - December

- ◆ SME session in NYC
- ◆ Certificate and seal designed for BSDA
- ◆ Psychometrician provides detailed beta item analysis
- ◆ Beta testers advised of their results
- ◆ Jonathan Drews retires as voting member
- ◆ 2008 conference organizers contacted to arrange for certification exams
- ◆ Price of exam set
- ◆ New brochure design
- ◆ Registration system and BSDCG ID generator developed



Financial Statement

Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2007

Revenues

Individual Donations	\$ 2,200.28
Corporate Donations	\$ 1,666.66
DVD Sales	\$ 2,757.00
Exam Fees	\$ 0
<u>Total:</u>	\$ 6,623.94

Expenses

Paypal Fees	\$ 185.29
Psychometric Fees	\$ 7,375.00
Postage (beta exams)	\$ 649.07
Postage (DVDs)	\$ 189.60
Printing for beta exams	\$ 170.71
Misc. (bank fees, NJ registration)	\$ 107.00
<u>Total:</u>	\$ 8,676.67



Board of Directors as of December 31, 2007

Dru Lavigne (term expires Jan. 14, 2010)

Jim Brown (term expires Jan. 14, 2010)

Jeremy Reed (term expires Jan. 14, 2009)

Voting Members as of December 31, 2007

Jim Brown, Vice President & Treasurer

Jason Dixon

Hubert Feyrer

Machtelt Garrels

Axel Gruner

Mikel King, Secretary

Dan Langille

Dru Lavigne, President

Scott Long

Jean M. Melo

Wes Peters

Luiz G. Ramos

Jeremy C. Reed

David Rhodus

Eduardo Ribeiro

John Richard

George Rosamond

Brad Schonhorst

Patrick Tracanelli, Translation Teams Coordinator

Wim Vandeputte



Advisory Board as of December 31, 2007

Richard Bejtlich

Mike Karels

Greg Lehey

David Maxwell

Marshall Kirk McKusick

SMEs (Subject Matter Experts) as of December 31, 2007

Jim Brown

Darrin Chandler

Jason Dixon

Hubert Feyrer

Liam Foy

Mikel King

Dan Langille

Dru Lavigne

Brad Schonhorst

