

PROACTIVE SECURITY PRACTICES

Preventing Threats to Validity

Jill C. Burroughs, M.A.

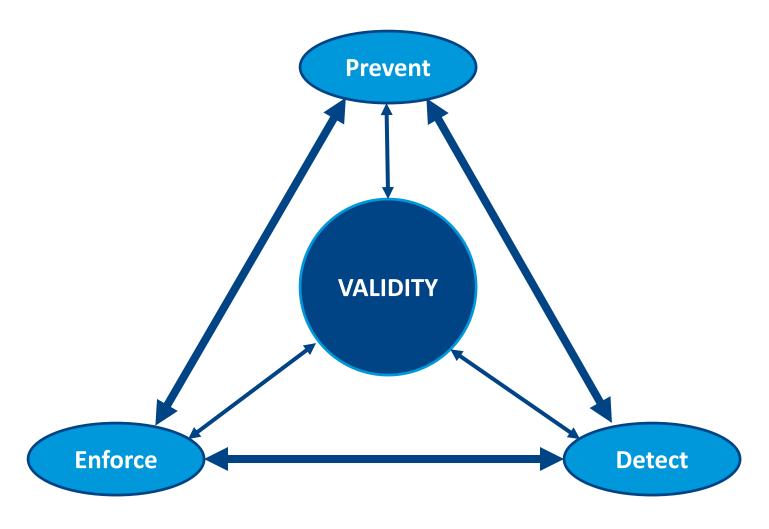
KJ (Ken) Salchow, Jr.



Sara Rupp



Security Validity Triangle





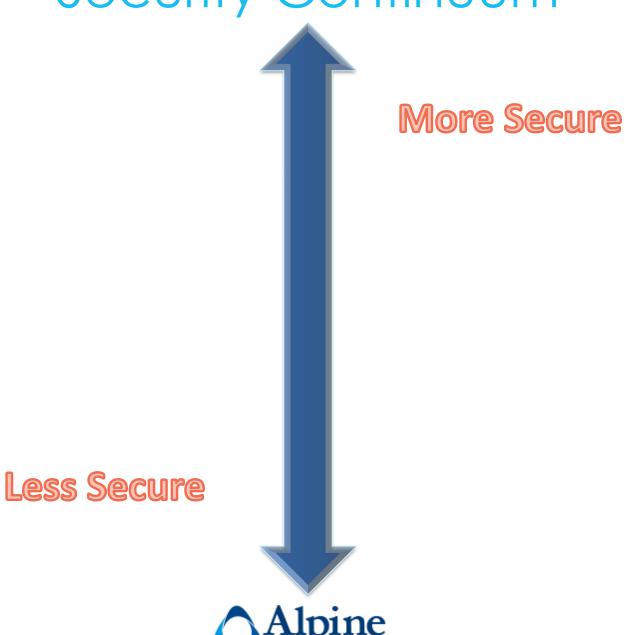


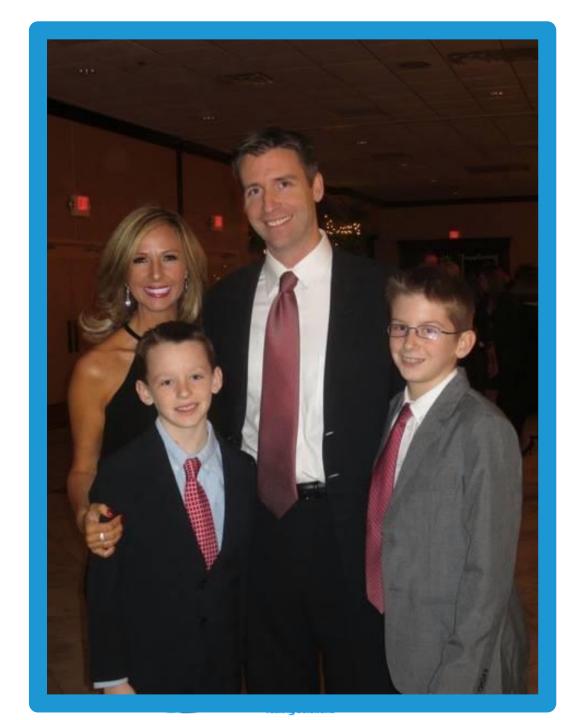
PREVENTING THREATS TO VALIDITY

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"

- Benjamin Franklin

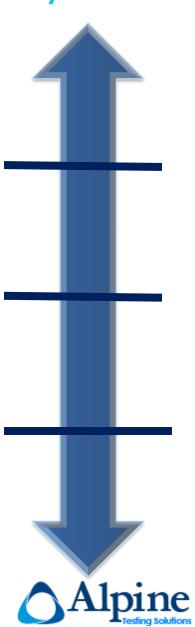
Security Continuum







Security Continuum



More Secure

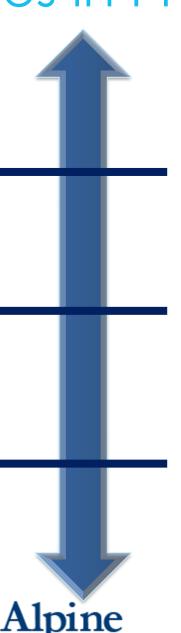
Less Secure

Best Practices in Prevention

Proactive Test Design

Policies and Procedures

Education



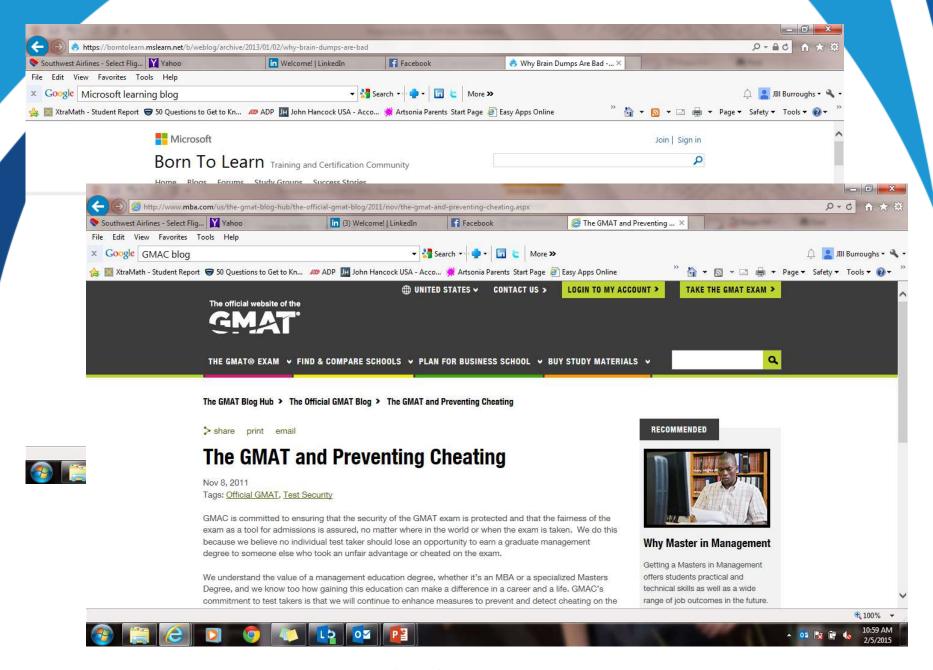
More Secure

Less Secure

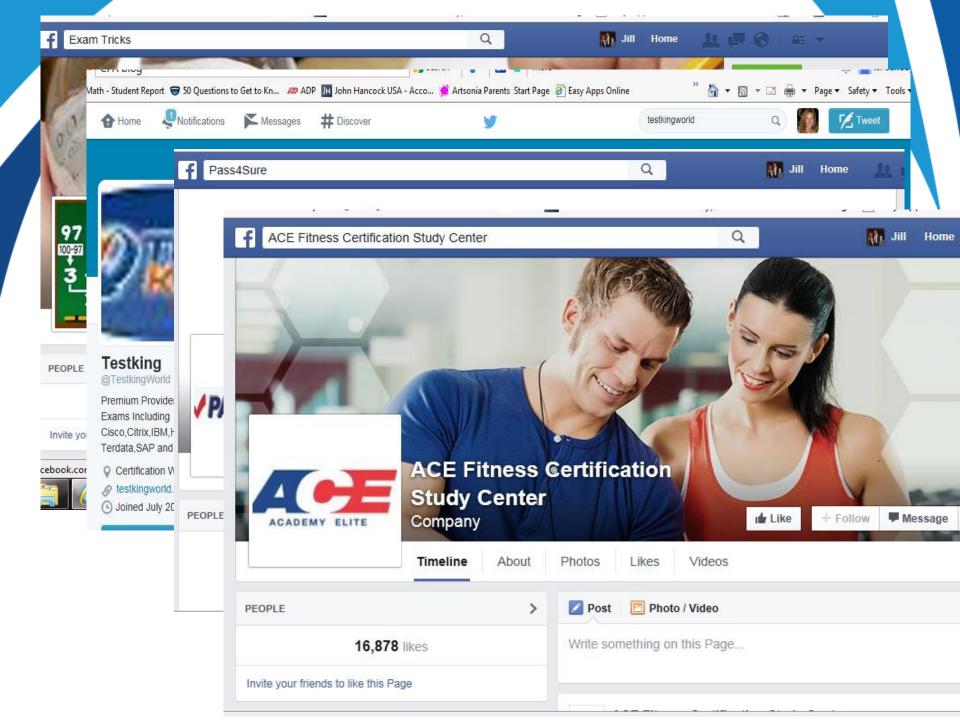
Education

- **≻**Website
 - Blogs
- ➤ Social Media
 - Your candidates are on there, the bad guys are on there – you need to be on there too.
- ➤ Marketing
 - Press Releases









Policies and Procedures

- Security Manual Internal use
 - Limiting Access to your item bank
 - Need to know
 - Data security parameters set by your IT department
 - Critical Incident Plan
 - Internal security training
- Candidate agreement
 - Presented to candidates before exam
 - Conduct policy and associated consequences
 - Confidentiality
 - Retake Policy
- Prerequisites for registration
 - Closed program



Proactive Test Design

- ➤ Program Design
 - Risk Assessment
 - Mitigation strategies throughout the life cycle
 - ➤ Limited delivery areas
 - ➤ Unique forms in high risk zones
 - ➤ Rapid Form Republication
 - > Continuous refresh
 - ➤ Innovative Item Types
 - ➤ CAT LOFT delivery
 - ➤ Biometrics at administration



Prevention on a budget...





Best Practices in Prevention







F5 CERTIFIED!TM PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

KJ (Ken) Salchow, Jr. Sr. Program Manager



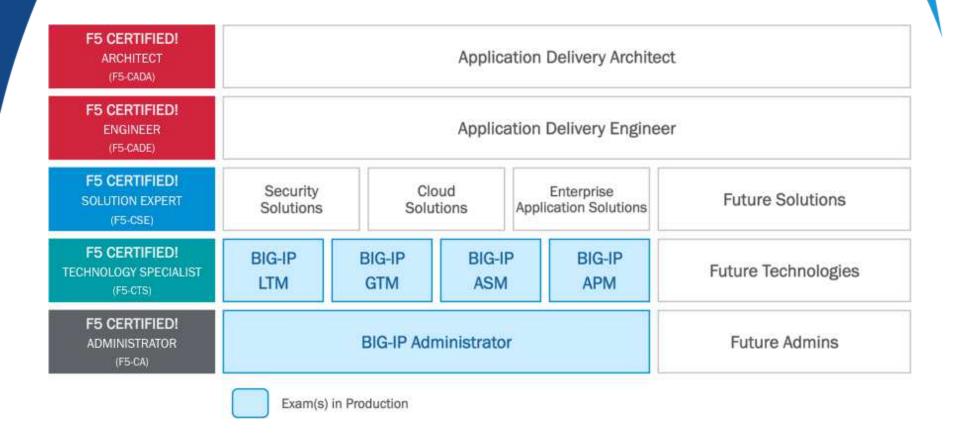
F5 Certified!TM Overview

- ▲ Technology Certification
- ▲ First Exam published Oct. 2012;
- ▲ ~2000 Certified Candidates with >3000 Certifications (Feb 2015);
- ▲ Candidates in 74 countries;
- ▲ Deliver ~600 exams per month (avg);
- ▲ 4 Team Members (+1 in process);





F5 Certified!TM Overview







Key Security Practices

- ▲ "Closed Program"
- ▲ Limited Exam Delivery
- ▲ Exam Center Security
- Stakeholder Investment





Closed Program

Registration

Create Account

Accept CA/NDA

Validation

Verify Unique Account

Eligibility

Issue Exam Specific Eligibility





Limited Exam Delivery

"Owned"
Centers

Default

"Select" Centers

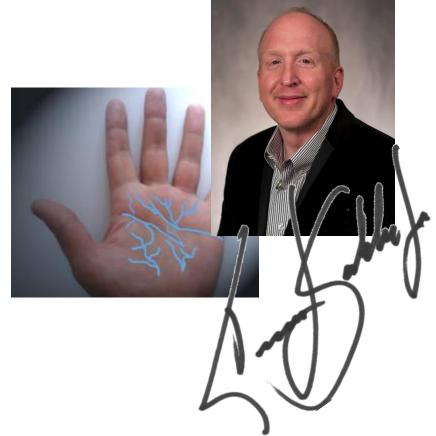
"IT" or "Retail" Channe





Exam Center Security









Stakeholder Investment

- **▲ SME Recruitment**
 - Internal & External
- ▲ Social Media
 - "Personal" Interaction
 - Community Developed Materials
 - "Social Pressure"
- ▲ Candidate "Council"













COMPTIA CERTIFICATIONS

Sara Rupp Senior Director, Exam Services



CompTIA. Overview

Best Practices

IT Fundamentals CyberSecure

Professional

A+

Network+

Security+

CDIA+

Cloud+

CTT+

Linux+

Mobility+

Project+

Server+

Storage+

Mastery

CompTIA Advanced Security Practitioner (CASP)

Specialty

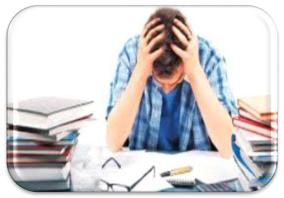
Cloud Essentials Mobile App Security+ Healthcare IT



Security Practices-Prevention



Education



Test development Strategies



Policies and Procedures





Education

- Candidate Agreements
- Notice on candidate documents/registration
- Website
- Articles







Training & Testing / Taking the Test / Policies

Certification Exam Policies

Candidate Agreement

Explains the rules and regulations regarding certification, including the retake policy, candidate conduct policy and the candidate appeals process.

S



Candidate Testing Policies

Includes accommodations during an exam, exam scoring, exam content and out of country testing policies.



Candidate ID Policy

Details the acceptable forms of identification candidates may bring to an exam.

Certification Retake Policy

Details the circumstances in which a candidate can retake a certification exam-

Exam Delivery Policies

Includes testing center suspensions, delivery exclusions and beta testing policies.

Continuing Education Policies

Covers certification renewal, candidate code of ethics and audit findings as related to the Continuing Education Program.

Unauthorized Training Materials and Third-Party Offers Policy

Lists unauthorized training materials related to CompTIA certifications.





Candidate Education

CompTIA Authorized Materials Use Policy

CompTIA Certifications, LLC is not affiliated with and does not authorize, endorse or condone utilizing any content provided by unauthorized third-party training sites, aka 'brain dumps'. Individuals who utilize such materials in preparation accordance with the CompTIA Candidate Agreement. In an effort to more clearly communicate CompTIA's exam policies on use of unauthorized study materials, CompTIA directs all certification candidates to the CompTIA Certification Exam Policies webpage:

http://certification.comptia.org/Training/testingcenters/policies.aspx

Please review all CompTIA policies before beginning the study process for any CompTIA exam. Candidates will be required to abide by the CompTIA Candidate Agreement (http://certification.comptia.org/Training/testingcenters/policies/agreement.aspx) at the time of exam delivery.

If a candidate has a question as to whether study materials are considered unauthorized (aka brain dumps), he/she should perform a search using CertGuard's engine, found here:

http://www.certguard.com/search.asp

Or verify against this list:

http://certification.comptia.org/Training/testingcenters/policies/unauthorized.aspx





Articles/Blogs

How I

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RECOGNIZING AND PROTECTING THE VALUE OF



My CompTIA SME Workshop Experience

I recently made the trip from Bangkok to Chicago to take part in a CompTIA Network+ Subject Mater Expert (SME) exam development workshop. The Network+ was one of the first industry certifications I had earned and it played a part in getting my career on the track it is today, so I was excited to have been invited to participate in the workshop





Test Development Strategies

- Rapid Form Republishing
- Performance Based items
- Item tagging
- Limited delivery areas
- Unique forms by region

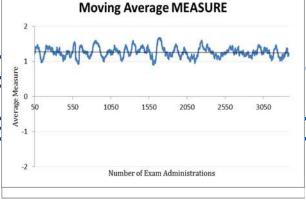


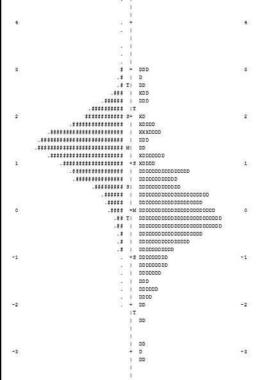


Rapid Form Republishing

Republishing

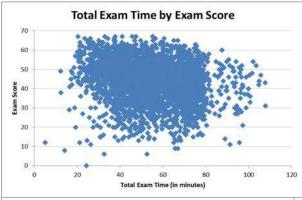
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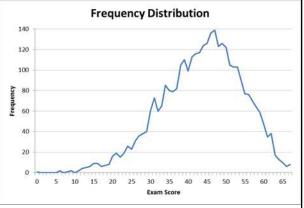




cless> --- PERSON -+- ITEM
EACH "f" IN THE PERSON COLUMN IS 14 PERSON: EACH "." IS 1 TO 13

MAP OF PERSON AND ITEM

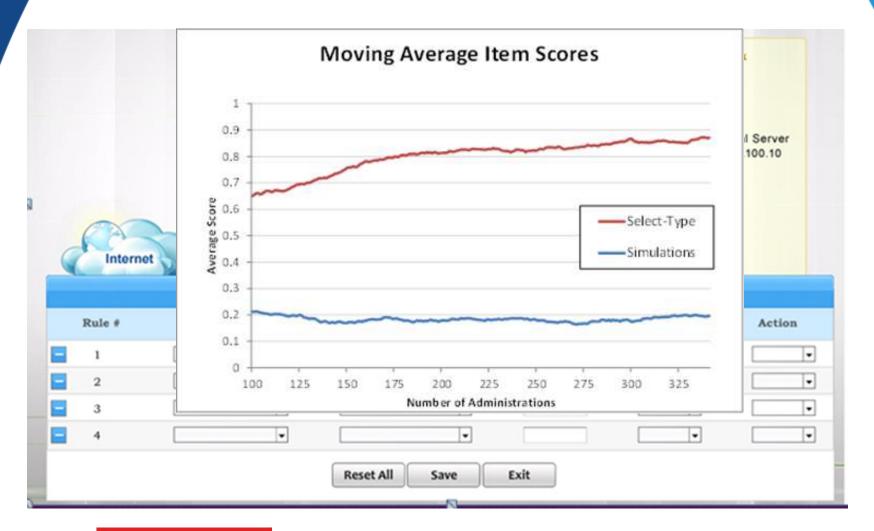






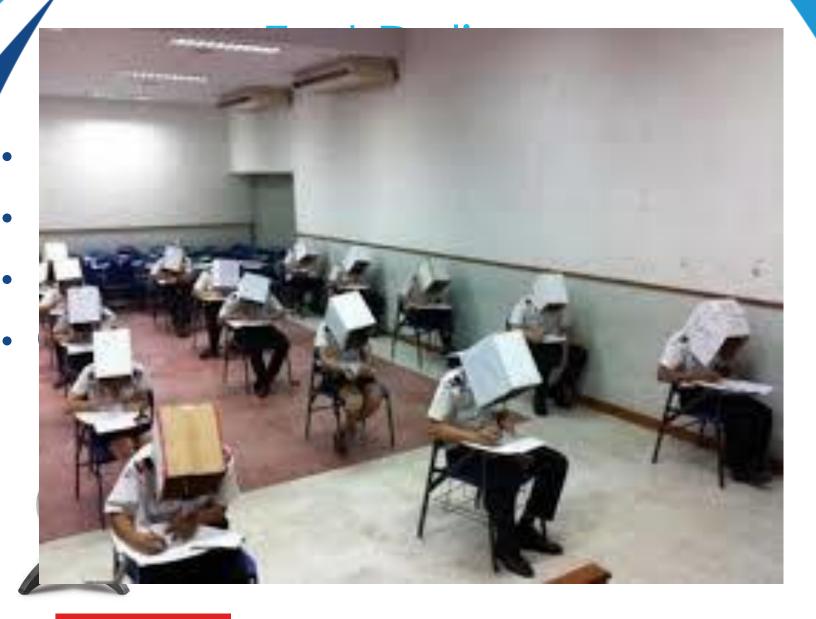


Performance Based items













Security Policies and Procedures

- Test Center Biometrics
- Test Administrator Agreements/Training
- Legal Agreements
- "Need to know" only access





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Exam Score Report 000-000

Candidate Name

54321

2147483647

CompTIA A+ Certification Exam

10/29/13 8675309

PASSING SCORE: 675 CANDIDATE SCORE: 900 PASS/FAIL: Pass

The CompTIA A+ Certification Exam has a scaled score between 100 and 900.





Test Administrator Agreements

2.4 ADMINISTRATOR RESTRICTIONS

The following policies are applicable to any individual serving as a Pearson VUE Certified Test Center Administrator that proclars Comprise certification examinations:

- CompTIA employees are prohibited from acting as test center administrators. Any former CompTIA employee must wait a minimum of six (6) months after ending employment, before becoming a test center administrator.
- CompTIA contractors and/or consultants are prohibited from acting as test center administrators.

 Any roman contractor or consultant must wait a minimum of six (6) months from the contract end date, before becoming a test center administrator.
- compTIA certificate holders that wish to become a test center administrator must wait a
 minimum of six (6) months, following the most recent CompTIA exam, before becoming a test
 center administrator.
- Current test center administrators that wish to take a CompTIA exam, must first resign from the test center administrator position and wait a minimum of six (6) months before a gistering to take CompTIA exams.

The CompTIA Candidate Agreement and Pearson VUE Certified Administrator Rules of Conduct prohibit any conduct by candidates or test center administrators that would compromise the integrity or confidentiality of CompTIA's exams. For test center administrators, such behavior includes:

- Administering CompTIA exams if you have taken any CompTIA exam in the previous six (6) months
- Taking any CompTIA exam while serving as a test center administrator or taking a CompTIA exam less than six (6) months following your resignation as a test center administrator
- Administering CompTIA exams as a test center administrator to candidates who received training
 or instruction from you in the last twelve (12) months, prior to taking the exam.
 - Giving assistance to candidates during delivery of CompTIA exams, or attempting to take a CompTIA exam for someone else
- Administering CompTIA exams to raminy members or members or your immediate household
- Registering or administering CompTIA exams in a manner that would violate the retake policy
- Tampering with the operation of the testing system or attempting to use it for any unauthorized purpose
- Otherwise violating the terms of the CompTIA Candidate Agreement
- Otherwise failing to follow Pearson VUE testing policies, procedures and instructions

If you are found to be in violation of CompTIA or Pearson VUE testing policies you will be asked to resign from the test center administrator position immediately. Furthermore, such misconduct can result in the termination of your test center's agreement with Pearson VUE and may even be subject to prosecution under the applicable laws.





Legal Agreements, Internal Access, and reports

- Collect NDA from vendors, experts, consultants, and so on.
- Lock down internal access.
 - Who needs access to secure content?
 - What are the risks for allowing access?
- Run Reports on records after administration



