

Rochester Community and Technical College and the AS/400 University

RCTC

RCTC's Department of Continuing Education and Workforce Development provides custom training in computer software and professional certifications for computer skills. Among the computer skills and professional certifications currently provided are:

- AS/400 professional training and certifications
- A+ Certification (hardware expertise)
- MCSE certification (Microsoft networking)
- MOUS certification (Microsoft Office software expertise)
- Lotus Notes professional training and certifications
- SmartSuite software training and expertise
- Corel 8 training
- Training in Adobe graphical software such as PhotoShop and Illustrator
- Webmaster training (using FrontPage and/or Netfusion)

RCTC's Department of Continuing Education and Workforce Development is a charter member of the IBM AS/400 University, as well as a Microsoft Authorized Technical Education Center and a CISCO Networking Academy. They provide certification in these and other programs through their on-site Sylvan

Prometric Testing facilities. For more information about what RCTC can do for you, contact them at:

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851 30th Avenue Southeast
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workforce.education@roch.edu

AS/400 University at RCTC

RCTC is a premier AS/400 University education partner. In partnership with IBM, which manufactures AS/400 and RS/6000 computers in Rochester, Minnesota, RCTC offers both credit and non-credit classes toward industry-recognized certifications as operators, administrators, networking specialists, and programmers. In addition, RCTC offers continuing education programs for AS/400 professionals, including such specialties as Web/Domino servers, Java programming, and new releases of RPG.

Credit classes are a continuing part of RCTC curriculum, providing a two-year Associates Degree in computer science and a one-year Advanced Certificate. The curriculum focuses on the AS/400 business computer.

The AS/400 University program for non-credit certifications is offered continuously year-round. RCTC offers two professional pathways to AS/400 credentials: an AS/400 Operator and an AS/400 Administrator, both of which can be further enhanced with programming and computer networking skills. A full certification can be completed in less than six months.

Throughout the year, AS/400 University at RCTC, in partnership with the Education Connection, also a premier AS/400 University education partner, provides corporate training sessions to educate AS/400 professionals around the globe. Detailed sessions are taught by a group of AS/400 experts who are recognized as industry leaders in their respective fields; in fact, many are award-winning speakers. Instructors such as Al Barsa, Wayne Evans, Dick Grenham, and Skip Marchesani combine seminars with hands-on labs.

FOREWORD

AS/400 customers, business partners, and professionals benefit from proof of measurable skills. Consequently, measuring the knowledge, skills, and abilities of AS/400 professionals has become a crucial task. The need to evaluate AS/400 knowledge, skills, and abilities is the key reason IBM launched a world-class AS/400 certification program in 1997. This certification program establishes standards that identify minimum levels of competency for individuals who work on the AS/400. To learn more about AS/400 certification programs, visit IBM's certification home page on the Internet (www.ibm.com/certify).

Various certification tests are offered based upon crucial roles required to run, manage, or program an AS/400. IBM's certification program provides information technology (IT) professionals with the knowledge and confidence to successfully implement the dynamic features of the AS/400. Capability will continue to be added to the AS/400 at an aggressive rate.

In March 1999, Rochester Community and Technical College accepted the challenge of developing educational interventions for these AS/400 certifications. The book you're now holding is the first in a series of certification guides—in this case, for the IBM Certified Specialist, AS/400 Associate System Operator—to be written to address the certification test objectives.

RCTC also has developed traditional classroom system operations classes to prepare IT personnel for the real world of operating an AS/400. These classes continue to enjoy wide success.

FOREWORD

This text is an excellent source of educational material for classroom use in any AS/400 operations curriculum or as a self-study guide for the individual who might not have the time to attend a formal class. The concepts are presented at a down-to-earth, practical level. This is the first text I have seen based directly on the AS/400 system operator test objectives. While no test or course can guarantee passing a certification test, the material in this book will prepare the qualified student to master real-life AS/400 system operations. And this text provides readers with a practical, effective means with which to prepare for the certification examination.

We often talk about the shortage of skilled workers in the IT world and how businesses struggle with providing their staff with the right quality training to keep technical skills current with the rapid speed of change. This book and subsequent offerings from RCTC directly address the skill-shortage dilemma.

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