

Fieldbus Foundation Announces First Educational Institutions Offering Certified FOUNDATION™ Fieldbus Training

STC Brielle and Fieldbus Center at Lee College complete rigorous certification process

Austin, TX ([PRWEB](#)) March 25, 2009 -- [The Fieldbus Foundation](#) today announced that STC Brielle and the Fieldbus Center at Lee College are the first educational institutions worldwide to offer fieldbus training courses certified under its FOUNDATION™ Certified Training Program (FCTP). This program establishes uniform standards for fieldbus educational curriculum around the globe, and defines acceptable levels of learning for students of the technology.

The FCTP is intended to raise the visibility and prestige of institutions offering certified FOUNDATION fieldbus training to a new and exclusive level. Educational facilities successfully completing a multi-stage certification process can issue certificates showing the [Fieldbus Foundation](#) accredits their courses. They also gain recognition from the foundation on its website at www.fieldbus.org.

The FCTP is a comprehensive initiative benefiting the entire industrial automation community--particularly in today's challenging economy and employment market. The program currently offers three levels of certification; additional certifications may be added in the future. The current certifications include:

- 1) Foundation Certified Professional, recognizing engineers, engineering technologists, system integrators, technologists, Main Instrumentation Controls Contractors/Main Automation Contractors (MAC), Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) professionals, Contract Administrators/Estimators, Certified Fieldbus Instructors, Programmers, Startup and Commissioning Specialists, Designers and System Analysts;
- 2) Foundation Certified Support Specialist, recognizing individuals such as Salespeople, End User Management, Estimators, Operations Staff, Quality Control Specialists and Reliability Analysts who are FOUNDATION fieldbus generalists able to communicate intelligently about the technology, but do not have the depth of knowledge required for other certificates;
- 3) Foundation Certified Technical Specialist, recognizing individuals such as Maintenance Technicians, Network Technicians, Vendor/Contract Service Specialists, Maintenance and Contract Maintenance Supervisors, Control Automation Instructors and In-house Trainers who have demonstrated competence to install, maintain, repair/replace and troubleshoot FOUNDATION fieldbus systems.

Thanks to the FCTP, end users gain access to highly skilled employees possessing a strong knowledge of FOUNDATION technology principles; a consistent understanding of fieldbus fundamentals, regardless of geographical location; and a proven ability to implement fieldbus-based control systems. Beginning automation students are able to identify colleges, universities and other facilities offering a certified FOUNDATION educational curriculum. After graduating, they will be able to present official FCTP certificates to potential employers. Existing automation professionals completing certified courses can expand their job skills and employment value within their companies.

According to the [Fieldbus Foundation](#)'s director - fieldbus products, Stephen Mitschke, the FCTP is an

evolutionary extension of the foundation's original training site certification process. "Due to the growing FOUNDATION technology market, there was a strong demand within process industry companies, including the control engineers, plant operators and instrumentation technicians they employ, for a uniform, global fieldbus training curriculum and standardized certification process," said Mitschke. "With the establishment of the FCTP, we have developed formalized procedures to meet different certification standards within the plant automation fieldbus. Regardless of where certified fieldbus training courses are conducted, students will encounter a consistent level of knowledge and curriculum requirements."

Located in Brielle, The Netherlands, close to the Rotterdam-Europoort industrial areas, STC Brielle has established a unique training center for process control and automation. The combination of complex simulation facilities and hands-on training gives students a chance to enhance their theoretical knowledge and gain user experience by working on real fieldbus equipment and configurations. Gertjan Siemons, industrial automation instructor for STC Brielle, commented, "Certification is important for STC because we are recognized by the foundation as a high quality training center. This gives our customers a guarantee that the content of our courses, the used materials and the knowledge of our trainers are up to date. For most of our customers, it is essential to be certified because of the value in their professional environment."

Lee College, located in Baytown, Texas, is a leading educational center for emerging technologies in the field of industrial automation. The facilities of Lee College include a multi-million dollar pilot plant and several state-of-the-art MicroPlants that allow students to build fieldbus segments, configure devices and develop control strategies. Fieldbus Center Director and Principal Investigator Chuck Carter said, "Having the Fieldbus Center, the instructor, and the curriculum certified by the Fieldbus Foundation is not just a great move for Lee College, but also for our client industries. It means we have demonstrated our capabilities to meet each and every student's training and development goals. Clients from the processing, pulp/paper, pharmaceutical, power, manufacturing, and related industries who take our courses are assured they will receive up to date, consistent, and fully applicable training."

For educational institutions, there are rigorous procedures for gaining certified training site status, and for certifying course instructors and curriculum. Certified training centers are required to maintain multiple hosts and devices onsite in order to demonstrate competence with fieldbus technology. They are also audited to ensure their course material adheres to set instructional standards covering fieldbus segment limits; device replacements; commands, icons, menus and screen designs of different software packages; and communication, scheduling and function block assignments enabling configuration.

In addition, certified instructors are audited to see if they have achieved specified Fieldbus Foundation training goals. Instructors must demonstrate expertise in areas such as Human-Machine Interface (HMI) tools, fieldbus troubleshooting, simple device configuration, and device deployment and functionality across a fieldbus network.

To learn more about the FOUNDATION Certified Training Program and fieldbus training sites, please visit the [Fieldbus Foundation's website](#).

About the Fieldbus Foundation

The Fieldbus Foundation is a global not-for-profit corporation consisting of leading process end users and automation companies. Within the Fieldbus Foundation, end users, manufacturers, universities and research organizations work together to develop an automation infrastructure that provides process integrity, business

intelligence and open scalable integration in a managed environment. For more information, visit their web site at www.fieldbus.org.

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Course	Who Should Attend	Length of Class	Cost	Dates Offered
Foundation Certified Professional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineers • engineering technologists • system integrators • technologists • Main Instrumentation Controls Contractors/Main Automation Contractors (MAC) • Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) professionals • Contract Administrators/Estimators • Certified Fieldbus Instructors • Programmers • Startup and Commissioning Specialists • Designers • System Analysts 	10 days	\$6,040.00	SEPT 21-OCT 2, 2009
				DEC 7-18, 2009
Foundation Certified Support Specialist	<p>People who are FOUNDATION fieldbus generalists able to communicate intelligently about the technology, but do not need the depth of knowledge required for other certificates. This course is ideal for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salespeople • End User Management • Estimators • Operations Staff • Quality Control Specialists • Reliability Analysts 	2 Days	\$1,570.00	OCT 12-13, 2009
				NOV 18-19, 2009
				JAN 20-21, 2010
Foundation Certified Technical Specialist	<p>People wanting to gain the competence to install, maintain, repair/replace and troubleshoot FOUNDATION fieldbus systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance Technicians • Network Technicians • Vendor/Contract Service Specialists • Maintenance and Contract Maintenance Supervisors • Control Automation Instructors • In-house Trainers 	5 days	\$3,020.00	SEPT 14-18,2009
				OCT 26-30, 2009
				NOV 9-13, 2009



Fieldbus Center at Lee College Continuing Education Registration Form



Student Info

Name: _____
Address 1: _____
City: _____ State/Country _____ Zip _____
Email _____
Home phone _____ Work phone _____

Please fill in the following information for State of Texas statistical reporting purposes only. NONE of the information below will be shared with external sources.

Date of Birth (required) _____ **SS#** (optional) _____

Ethnic Group (check only one)

<input type="checkbox"/> White non-Hispanic	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Pacific Islander
<input type="checkbox"/> Black non-Hispanic	<input type="checkbox"/> Native American or Alaskan Native
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic	<input type="checkbox"/> International
<input type="checkbox"/> I do not wish to answer	

Gender Male Female

How did you find out about this class? *Please select one only*
__ flyer __ brochure __ friend/family member __ knowthebus.org
__ other website (name of website _____)
__ publication (name of publication _____)

Course Selection

__ **Fieldbus Certified Support Specialist (2 days)** Date: _____ Fee: _____
__ **Fieldbus Certified Technical Specialist (5 days)** Date: _____ Fee: _____
__ **Fieldbus Certified Professional (10 days)** Date: _____ Fee: _____

Payment

__ Cash __ Check __ Discover __ MasterCard __ VISA
Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____
If cardholder name different, please complete the following: (refunds will be made to person who actually pays)
Name: _____ Address: _____
City/State/Zip _____ Phone: _____

Complete

Print this form and then mail, fax, or bring with you to the Fieldbus Center:
PO BOX 818, Baytown, TX 77522-0818 Fax: 832.556.4448 Office: 832.556.4446
Once you have been successfully enrolled, a confirmation will be sent to you via email unless you request otherwise.

Refund Policy

No refunds will be made after a class begins. If you call and cancel your registration at least three business days prior to the starting date of a class or prior to the advertised registration deadline, we will be happy to issue a full refund. This policy is based on the fact that continuing education classes are self-supporting. Registration fees are used to pay salaries for our instructors as well as for supplies.

Lee College does not discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, age, religion, national origin, or veteran status.
AA/EOE

