



## **NTC's Core Competency Certification**

### 1. What is Core Competency Certification?

Core Competency Certification is an independent certification program focused on the core competencies of the low voltage industry: intrusion systems, video systems, fire alarm system, and access control systems. There are four levels of certification in each category, ranging from Level 1 (entry level) to Level 4 (advanced)

### 2. How is Core Competency Certification different that other certifications?

Core Competency is a knowledge based certification program. Certification is based on the knowledge an individual has, not on the years of experience. Core Competency Certification does not have any prerequisites or experience requirements.

### 3. How does Core Competency Certification benefit me?

As an employee, Core Competency Certification can serve as a proof of your technical competency in different low voltage system areas. As an employer, Core Competency Certification can help you evaluate your current team, as well as potential additional members to your team.

### 4. What does the exam cover?

The exam covers general knowledge of the specific systems, best practices, and equipment specific questions. Manuals are supplied in the test interface for any equipment specific questions on the exam.

### 5. How long is the exam?

All exams are 50 questions with a 2 hour time limit.

### 6. What is a passing grade for the exam?

Passing grade requirements increase by level in each exam. Level 1 is 70%, Level 2 is 74%, Level 3 is 78%, and Level 4 is 82%.

### 7. How do I take a Core Competency Certification test?

Purchases access to the exams at [NationalTrainingCenter.net](http://NationalTrainingCenter.net). Access to the exams is \$99 for 24 hours and gives you unlimited access to all exams at all levels. The exam is open reference. The test taker is permitted to use any materials or resources to answer questions.

#### 8. How can an employer use Core Competency Certification?

Core Competency Certification provides an excellent tool for evaluating the knowledge of current employees and well as potential employees. Since different individuals have different levels of skill, simply evaluating an individual based on years of experience is not an effective means of judging competency. A highly motivated individual may, with less experience, possess more of the required job knowledge than a less motivated individual with more experience.

Core Competency Certification is a knowledge based certification, allowing the employer to evaluate actual knowledge of an individual on specific system categories. The employer can easily identify motivated employees who are growing their knowledge, and the employees who do not desire to grow in their position. By identifying more motivated employees, the employer can allocate company resources accordingly.

#### 9. How can an employee use Core Competency Certification?

Core Competency Certification provides a proof of knowledge to employers. The employee can show growth in knowledge in a single category or across multiple categories. Core Competency Certification indicates a high level of skill and motivation, and a desire to grow in a position and with a company.

#### 10. How is Core Competency Certification documented?

Test takers can request an email certificate upon successful completion of an exam. Durable metal wallet cards are available for purchase as well. Successful test takers that request a certificate or purchase a wallet card are issued a certification number. The certification number, along with certifications held, are indicated on the certificate and wallet card.

#### 11. How is test security handled?

Since Core Competency Certification is an open reference test, there are no test security measures in place. Core Competency Certification is a real world certification – any resources available during the normal course of work are permitted into the exam.

If test security is required, the test administrator can require that the exam be taken under direct supervision.