

From: IFPUG <cmc@ifpug.org>
To: dthomp01 <dthomp01@aol.com>
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IFPUG presents the following news of interest to our members:
IFPUG/iSQI Newsletter # 1



CHANGES ARE COMING TO THE CFPS EXAM PROCESS!

To the IFPUG Members:

IFPUG is proud to announce the signing of a new contract with International Software Quality Institute (iSQI) for Providing Service that will offer Certification Exams in the future for IFPUG Members.

iSQI, headquartered in Potsdam (Germany) with subsidiaries in Boston (USA), London (UK) and Amstelveen (NL), is honored to be the official Certification Exam provider of IFPUG.

For the past 11 years iSQI has proven itself as an examination provider behind some of the largest vendor-neutral certifications schemes (ISTQB, IREB, UXQB, ISPMA etc.), working hard to confirm the know-how of IT-professionals in over 90 countries on 6 continents in 10 languages. iSQI's ISO 9001 compliance is the independently confirmed guarantee for its business partners that all contracts are fulfilled in a secure and high-quality manner.

iSQI is looking forward to working with everyone involved with this global support of IFPUG Certification Exams as well as supporting IFPUG and their partners in marketing the IFPUG standards and Certifications on a global scale. iSQI is excited about entering and further supporting the Software Sizing Standard market.

The new partnership with iSQI is great news for both IFPUG and the IFPUG members as it allows anyone to take certification exams or renew their certification exams electronically either in groups with an iSQI invigilator (proctor) or remotely at the member's

convenience in their own environment - in a private office or in your very own home.

In 2007 IFPUG started to provide automated Certifications for CFPS/CFPP. This was a great leap for IFPUG and made it possible to offer an alternative to the paper based certification exams that could only be offered in connection with IFPUG Conferences or in a regional setting.

In recognition that IFPUG needs to offer Certifications worldwide to our members and the fact that the technology has changed since 2007, IFPUG has decided to offer the exams using a remote secured technology called FLEX. As a result, it will also be possible to take the Certification Exam using a proctored computer based exams approach (called SMEX), when certifications exams can be offered in groups, for example, in connection with a Conference or group training.

The current certifications that IFPUG offers though automated exams with ProMetric will be available in stages with all certifications expected to be available no later than the 1st of November, 2016. We will also be introducing remote secured SNAP certifications. The SNAP certifications are expected to be available no later than the 1st of December, 2016. As a result of the new partnership with iSQI, IFPUG and ProMetric have decided to terminate their partnership effective as of the 31st of October, 2016.

How does a Remote Secure Certification Exam work?

IFPUG and iSQI will present the concepts behind Remote Secure Certification Exams in detail via Webinar before the first exam is online.

The remote Certification Exam solution requires a solid internet connection, a microphone as well as a web-cam. A clean desk and empty examination room is required. The Certification Exam will be monitored using the web-cam as well as recorded sound.

The Certification Exam questions will have the same look and feel as in the old Certification Exam using a similar Automated ProMetric site-based approach.

The engagement with iSQI is a reality because of a lot of volunteer effort between January and June.

In January, IFPUG decided to charter a taskforce to find alternatives to the current Certification approach which included finding a way to offer Remote Secure Certification Exams.

The taskforce did an excellent job in identifying possible Service Providers and the result was that the best Service Provider, iSQI, was chosen.

A lot of work will be completed throughout the next few months by both IFPUG and iSQI in order to implement the Certification Exams using iSQI tools as well as detailing the requirements for the Remote Certification Exam. This work will require an update of our exam guidelines and frequently asked questions to assist members in fully understanding this new Certification Exam approach.

In near future IFPUG and iSQI will decide if an offer of on-site certifications would still be required in order to serve all the IFPUG members. If this is needed, the number of available sites will drastically increase from what IFPUG currently is able to offer through ProMetric.

IFPUG would like to thank the individuals that have made this a success:

The Task Force Members:

Sushmitha Anantha
Lori Limbacher
Saurabh Saxena
Patrick Viscaino
Atul Waze

As well as the Certification Committee and Board Members.

International Function Point Users Group | cmc@ifpug.org | www.ifpug.org



IFPUG, 191 Clarksville Road, Princeton Junction, NJ 08550

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