Kris Madura, MBA, PMP
Security Program Manager
securityplus@comptia.org
Security+ Description

- Foundation-level vendor-neutral benchmark certification validating the knowledge and experience of the “foot soldier” security worker
- Recommended candidate pre-existing knowledge and experience:
  - A+ / Network+ or equivalent certification
  - 2 years experience in networking with emphasis on TCP / IP
  - Experience in a security related position and adequate self study or formal training
- Developed with input from industry, academia and government from over 30 countries worldwide, the exam will cover domains including:
  - General Security Concepts
  - Communication Security
  - Infrastructure Security
  - Basics of Cryptography
  - Operational / Organizational Security
Security+ Target Candidate

** The green area represents the general knowledge and experience level of the Security+ candidate. Some of the exam content however, is placed at a higher level of difficulty, as illustrated by the blue box.
Security+ Schedule & Objectives

- Security+ launched in live format on December 2, 2002. The live exam is available at Prometric and Vue testing centers, in English. The exam consists of 100 questions. Candidates have 90 minutes to complete the exam. The scoring is on a scale range of 100 – 900. Candidates are required to achieve a score of at least 764 to become Security+ certified. Registration information is available at:
  
  http://www.comptia.org/certification/test_locations.htm

- CompTIA does have plans to localize / translate Security+ but specific dates for translated releases have not yet been identified. The non-member price for the live Security+ exam is $225 USD, member price is $175 USD. **Reimbursable to veterans and active US military personnel under the G.I. Bill and DANTES programs.**

- The objectives of the Security+ exam have been identified by the committee and validated by the results of the beta exam. Information on the objectives beyond the domain areas already listed can be found at:

  http://www.comptia.org/certification/security/default.asp
Security+ Founding Organizations

- VeriSign
- Entrust
- RSA Security
- Microsoft
- Sun Microsystems
- IBM / Tivoli Software
- Novell
- Olympus Security Group
- Motorola
- VCCS - Institute of Excellence for Information Technology
- Information Systems Security Association (ISSA)
- Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA)
- National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)
- Argonne National Laboratory
- U.S. Secret Service
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Cybersmuggling Center – U.S. Customs
- New Horizons Computer Learning Centers
- Course Technology
- Tech-Connect
- Ascendant Learning
- Marcraft International
- ElementK
- Sybex
- Intense School
Domain Specific
- Auditing
- Firewalls
- Investigation
- Physical
- Protection
- Wireless, Etc.

Vendor Neutral
Although specific vendors and products may be mentioned, there is no direct affiliation between the certification and the vendor

Vendor / Technology Specific

CompTIA’s Security+

Network+ MCSA TCP/IP CCNA CNA Training Self-Study CWNA
Courseware
The following training and publishing organizations sit on the Security+ committee:

- **Course Technology**
  - www.course.com
- **ElementK**
  - www.elementk.com
- **Intense School**
  - www.intenseschool.com
- **Marcraft International**
  - www.mic-inc.com
- **New Horizons**
  - www.newhorizons.com
- **Sybex**
  - www.sybex.com
- **Tech-Connect**
  - www.tech-connect.com

In addition to the training and publishing organizations participating on the committee, there are numerous more creating Security+ materials for submission to CompTIA’s CAQC (CompTIA Authorized Quality Curriculum) program.