



# The IPSJ Model of IT Professional Certification

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### Introduction of IPSJ



- **q** Foundation
  - m Year 1960
- President
  - m Tatsuo Tomita (Chairman Fujitsu Laboratories Ltd.)
- Members (as of March 2015)
  - m 19,540 individuals (including students) and 223 corporates



# Vision and strategy of IPSJ



- Q Vision Statement
  - m Be the most Trusted ICT Professional Society in Japan
  - m Establish Digital Eco System among members and IPSJ
  - m Family Friendly Policy for women members
- **q** Strategy
  - m Enhance Research Activity (40 SIGs in 3 Domains)
  - M Strengthen relationship with Practitioners
    - IT Forum: Creating Practitioner's Community
    - Digital Practice: Industrial Paper
    - **Ø** CITP\*: Certification of High-level IT professionals
  - m Provide Services for Public
    - **⊘** JABEE\*: Accreditation of University Engineering Education
    - Ø Digital Libraries Including "Computer Museum on the Web"
  - m Continue Collaboration to ICT Standardization

<sup>\*</sup>CITP: Certified IT Professional

<sup>\*</sup>JABEE: Japan Accreditation Board for Engineering Education



### What is CITP?



- Certified <u>IT Professional</u>
- Certified by IPSJ
- q High level IT human resource having competence of ITSS\* level 4 or above
- q Equivalent to SFIA\* level 5 or above
- **q** Expire in 3 years

\*ITSS: Skill Standards for IT Professionals developed by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Japan)

\*SFIA: Skills Framework for the Information Age

Levels in ITSS								
Level Description								
Level 7	High I	Super High	Domestic high-end player and world class player					
Level 6	High level IT human resource		Domestic high-end player					
Level 5	uman re:	Hiab	High-end player within a company					
Level 4	source	High	High level knowledge and skill					
Level 3	Middle		Applied knowledge and skill					
Level 2			Fundamental knowledge and skill					
Level 1	E	ntry	Required minimum basic knowledge					



# Purpose of CITP



- Visualization of high level IT professionals and raise their social position
  - m CITP provides objectives for IT professionals to encourage skill development
  - m CITP provides measure to evaluate ability of IT professionals to develop their social position
  - m CITP can be utilized for IT human resource development and IT education
  - m CITP provides conformity to global standard for IT professional
  - m IPSJ contributes to the development of international rules for evaluating high level IT professionals



# Purpose of CITP (continued)



- Development of IT professional community
  - Autonomous quality improvement through mutual learning among IT professionals
  - m Social contribution
    - Ø submitting opinions to the government
    - participating various activities related to IT
    - IT education and professional development in IT domain
  - m Evaluation of high level IT professionals through peer review
  - Promote contribution to the society and industry
  - q Raise the social position of IT professionals as a result



### Benefits of CITP Certification



Stakeholders	Benefits				
IT Users	<ul> <li>Measure to evaluate IT professionals for recruiting and job assignment</li> <li>Measure to evaluate ability of IT Vendors</li> <li>Objectives to develop IT section staff</li> <li>Evidence for various stakeholders such as share holders and residents</li> <li>Provide business chance for small companies with high competency</li> </ul>				
IT Vendors	<ul> <li>Tool for proving ability of the company</li> <li>Measure to evaluate joint venture including offshore vendors.</li> <li>Proof to perform duty of diligence</li> <li>Indicator to promote IT human resource development within company</li> </ul>				
IT Professionals	<ul><li>Tool to prove ability to promote career progression</li><li>Objectives for skill development</li></ul>				
Others (including IPSJ)	<ul> <li>Raising global competitiveness of Japanese industry</li> <li>Development of IT professional community and maximization of social contribution</li> <li>Raising social position and quality of IT professionals</li> <li>Global contribution for IT certification and qualification system</li> </ul>				



# Development Policy of CITP



- Make full use of Japanese standards and existing systems
  - m Skill Standards for IT Professionals (ITSS)
    - Ø 65% of IT companies which have more than 1000 employees, and 50% of IT companies which have 100 to 1000 employees uses ITSS.
    - Some large companies have their own certification systems which conform to ITSS.
  - m Japan Information-Technology Engineers Examination (JITEE)
    - Ø 70% of IT companies which have more than 1000 employees, and 60% of IT companies which have 100 to 1000 employees uses JITEE.
- Accepted internationally
  - m ISO/IEC 24773 compliance
  - m IP3 accreditation



### IT Skill Standard and JITEE



Level 7	High level IT human resource	Super	International high-end player and world class player		
Level 6		High	Domestic high-end player		
Level 5		∐iah	High-end player within a company		
Level 4	source	High	Advanced Level knowledge and skill		
Level 3	Middle		Applied knowledge and skill		
Level 2			Fundamental knowledge and skill		
Level 1	Entry		Required minimum basic knowledge		

### Certified IT Professional (CITP)

JITEE Examination Categories

Advanced Level Exams. (9 categories)

Applied IT Engineer Exam. (AP)

Fundamental IT Engineer Exam. (FE)

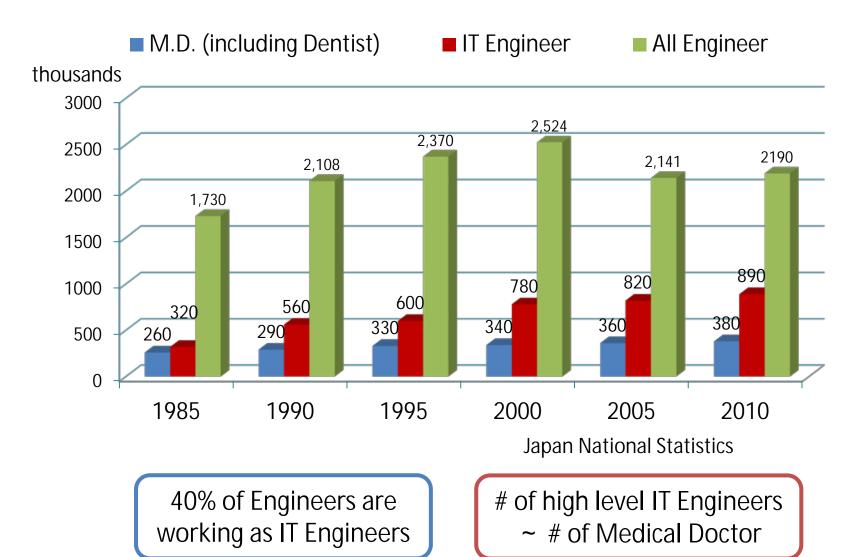
IT Passport Exam. (IP)

- IT Strategist (ST)
- Systems Architect (SA)
- Project Manager (PM)
- Network Specialist (NW)
- Database Specialist (DB)
- Embedded Systems (ES)
- Information Security (SC)
- IT Service Manager (SM)
- Systems Auditor (AU)



# # of IT Engineers in Japan

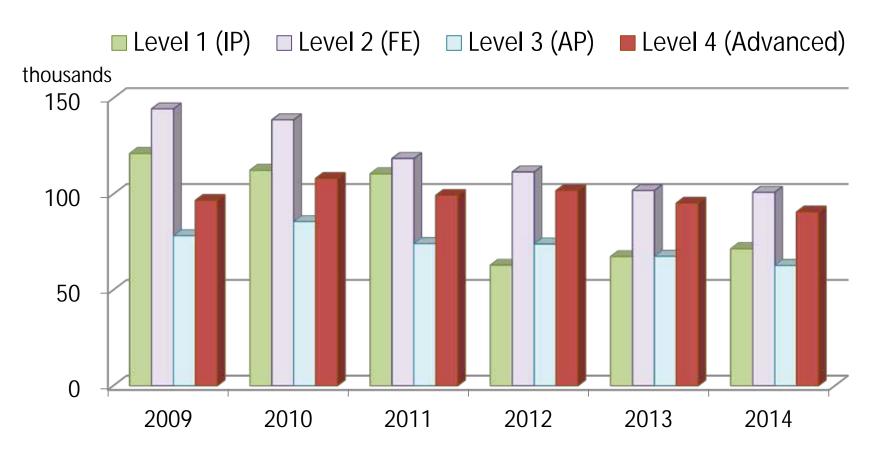






# # of Applicants of JITEE





- q Levels  $1 \sim 3 \rightarrow decreasing$
- ☐ Level 4→ constantly collecting applicants
- q Total # of Successful Examinees (Level 4) ~ 150,000



### ISO/IEC 24773:2008



- Software engineering Certification of software engineering professionals
  - m Developed as a Comparison Framework
- Major Requirements for Certification
  - m Knowledge and skill
  - m Evaluation of competence

Requirements for Qualification

- m Code of ethics and professional practice
- m CPD (Continuing Professional Development)
- m Renewal of Certification

CITP is designed to comply with ISO/IEC 24773



# Revision of ISO/IEC 24773



- q ISO/IEC JTC1/SC7/WG20 is working to revise 24773
  - m From Comparison Framework to Conformity Standard
  - M Add Systems Engineering to Software Engineering
- q IPSJ participate the activity as co-editor & convenor
- q IP3 has an opportunity to join standard development

ISO/IEC 24773 Requirements	JITEE		Professional Engineer (IT)		Private certification of IT industry	
Knowledge and Skill						
Competence						
Code of ethics						
CPD						
Renewal of certification						

Current Status

satisfy 24773 by combining CITP



# Two Methods of CITP Certification

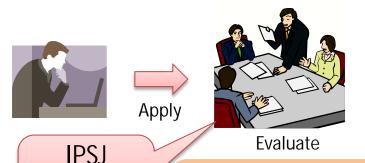


#### **Direct Method**

- IPSJ evaluates individuals' ability of IT Profession
- Applicants must have passed JITEE level 4 exam
- Main target: IT professionals in small and medium-sized companies

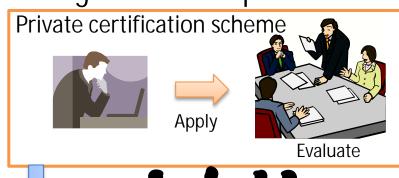
evaluate

ability



#### **Indirect Method**

- IPSJ accredits private certification scheme operated by companies
- q Main target: Large-scale companies



Apply

**IPSJ** accredit certification scheme

#### Equivalence

- Same evaluation criteria
- Mutual feedback between two methods



# Direct Method: Evaluate Individuals







Result of Japan IT Engineers Examination (Advanced level examination)



#### m Business contributions

- Ø Recent two projects or services
- Key Performance Indicators achieved
- Ø Skill Proficiencies demonstrated

#### m Professional contributions

Publication of a paper,
Publication of a book,
Instructor,
Activities in a professional community,
Filing of a patent application, or
Development of subordinates



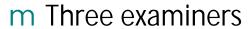
Referee

m Recommendation

m Attestation of the application

Ref. doc.

**q** Evaluation



- m Review application documents
- m Interview selected applicants
- m Use ITSS as the evaluation criteria
  - Ø Key Performance Indicators
  - Ø Skill Proficiencies



### Indirect Method: Evaluate Corporate Systems



- q Certification system
  - m Governance system
  - m Organization of certification
  - m Management system of certification
  - m Record keeping system of certified professionals
  - m Maintaining confidentiality
- Certification requirements for professionals
  - m Knowledge and skill
  - m Competency
  - m Code of ethics and code of practice
  - m Renewal requirements
  - m Continuing professional development (CPD)

Appl. doc.



- m Three or more examiners
- m Initial review of application documents at IPSJ site
- Detail review of certification system at applicant's site with more detailed documents and interviews
- m Evaluation viewpoints
  - The certification system is appropriate
  - The certification system is operated appropriately





### Status of CITP Certification



- Open Direct Method
  - m Piloting in 2013
  - m Public operation started in 2014
  - m 52 CITPs were certified so far
- q Indirect Method
  - m Piloting in 2014
  - m Public operation started in 2015
  - m 5 companies were accredited in 2014



# Consideration in Direct Method



### Attention to be paid

M Application documents may contain personal information or business secrets.

### Measures by IPSJ

- m Evaluate under NDA.
- m Separate personal information from application documents to hide it from examiners.
- m Instruct applicants not to mention business secrets.
- m Substitute confirmation by referees for the submission of evidence from which business secrets cannot be removed.



# Consideration in Indirect Method



### Attention to be paid

m Documents to be examined may contain business secrets especially those against competitors, and sensitive information that violates Competition Law.

### Measures by IPSJ

- m Select examiners from outside of IT industry, such as professors.
- m Evaluate under NDA.
- m Not to mention business secrets and sensitive information in examiners' evaluation reports.



# 



### Category

- m Skill Development
  - Attending conferences, seminars, symposia, professional communities, etc.
- **Professional Contribution** 
  - Technical Presentations, Writing books, Patent applications, Development of subordinates, Member of public committee, Peer review of a paper, Speaker at symposium, etc.

#### **q** CPD points

- m CPD hours X Weight
  - CPD hours: Hours spent on CPD activities
  - Weight: Difficulty or complexity of CPD activities

### CITP Renewal Requirements

- m At least 150 CPD points in recent three years
- At least 50 professional contribution points are included



# **Professional Community**



- A professional community is established by CITPs.
- Community meetings are held every two months.
- Preparing a session of CITP forum at the next Software Japan event of IPSJ.



### **Future Plan**



- Q Develop a renewal process of CITP (2015-2016)
  - m CPD requirements has been developed.
  - m Application process is under development.
- q Get an accreditation from IP3 (2016-2017)
  - m Public operation has started in 2015.
  - m Documents for application have to be prepared.
- Q Develop a certification system for higher level (ITSS level 5 and above) (2016-)





# Thank you very much.