Leading corporations, associations and education and training providers will form the Information Technology Certification Council (ITCC) to promote the advantages and benefits of IT certification.

Founding members of the ITCC include HP, IBM, Microsoft, Novell, and Sun; the Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA) and the Linux Professional Institute (LPI); test development and delivery providers Pearson VUE and Prometric; and education provider Kaplan.

"The industry has come together to drive the value of certification," says Bill Horzempa, ITCC chair and director of the Worldwide HP Certified Professional Program at HP.

The ITCC intends to confront many issues facing the IT certification industry, including exam security; perceptions versus realities of IT certification value and return on investment; and training to testing ratios.

Cisco is noticeably absent, but the founders rank as some of the companies that earn the most from getting their channel customers to certify.

Go **ITCC**