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TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY PARTNERS WITH COMPUTERMINDS

For professionals in the information technology industry, continuing education is an imperative, not a choice. Software and computer systems are constantly changing. In the past four years alone Microsoft has released six different versions of the Windows operating system, with another due out next year. To help area professionals and students stay at the top of their field, Texas Wesleyan University and ComputerMinds, Inc. have joined forces to offer continuing education programs in IT training and certification.

The courses, which will begin in December, will be held mostly at ComputerMinds' Bedford headquarters and taught by ComputerMinds instructors. The courses will offer IT Training and Certification in several different computer applications, including Microsoft, Cisco, ECCouncil, and web development. "This partnership benefits the University and ComputerMinds," noted Allen Henderson, provost and senior vice president at Texas Wesleyan. "ComputerMinds offers the certification and training, while the University provides the higher education credits."

"Much of the training will be for people already in the workforce who want to increase their skill level," explained Dr. Robert Minter, dean of the School of Business at Texas Wesleyan. "Because ComputerMinds will be affiliated with Texas Wesleyan, professionals who take the courses can now earn continuing education credits in their field."

In addition to the rapid pace of technology, changes in many areas of law make continuing education a necessity. "With Sarbanes-Oxley, with HIPAA, you have an increased need for people to stay current in the technologies that are affected by these changes," said Prabath Boteju, president of ComputerMinds.

The continuing education courses can also be helpful to college graduates. "Given the volatility of the Information Technologies market, a certification of completion can be invaluable," pointed out Dr. Thomas Bell, professor of Management Information Systems at Texas Wesleyan. To a potential employer, a certificate in a given program demonstrates proficiency beyond what a college degree can show, Bell said.

For example, one course offered will be EC Council Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH) Certification Training. A CEH is a skilled professional who understands and knows how to look for the

weaknesses and vulnerabilities in target systems and uses the same knowledge and tools as a malicious hacker. The CEH certification could apply to a variety of job positions, including security officers, auditors, security professionals and site administrators.

ComputerMinds and Texas Wesleyan will also work with area school districts and the Texas Workforce Commission and Veterans Administration to develop courses for college-bound high school students and job seekers and veterans, respectively.

ComputerMinds is located in Bedford, TX. Since 1998 it has offered IT training and certification to the Dallas/Fort Worth community. ComputerMinds' clients include American Airlines, Bank of America, Keller ISD and the Federal Aviation Administration.

For more information, contact Dr. Thomas Bell at (817) 858-9670.