

Dutchess County
Workforce Investment Board



“Building Partnerships for
Workforce Solutions”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board
3 Neptune Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
(845) 463-0517 x204

Contact: Laraine Kautz, Deputy Director, (845) 463-0517 x204, LKautz@dcwib.com

HEADLINE: The Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board and the Marist Center for Collaborative and On-Demand Computing Announced A Partnership to Establish New York State as the Open Source Software Development Capital of the Nation!

Poughkeepsie, New York, May 31, 2005 – On May 25, 2005, at the New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals (NYATEP) Spring Conference in Saratoga Springs, New York, an opportunity for New York State companies to be at the forefront of the global movement toward open source software was announced. This innovative, first of its kind, is a certification program that teaches the concepts of open source software development and relational database integration, using Linux operating systems, Eclipse-based tools and Apache Derby as the development and runtime environments.

A training program consisting of two online twelve-week sessions has been developed as part of an IBM Faculty Innovation Grant to prepare IT staff for Open Source Software Development. The training sequence is offered in September and February of each year beginning September 5, 2005 and partial scholarships are available to private business in New York State that enroll employees.

Barbara McMullen, Director of the Marist Institute for Data Center Professionals, the training arm of the Marist Center for Collaborative and On-Demand Computing commented on the value of the innovative Open Source Software Development Training and Certification program; “Open source software is based on the shared efforts of software engineers committed to the idea that a freely extensible and non-proprietary software infrastructure is the basis for cost effective

development. The adoption of open source software by the IT enterprise depends, however, on the quality of software developers prepared to accelerate open source innovation. This program certifies New York State software engineers to assume a leadership role in open source software development."

Other Partners in this initiative include IBM, New York State Office of Science, Technology and Academic Research (NYSTAR), the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Marist Institute for Data Center Professionals (IDCP). Certification details and training prerequisites are available at www.dcwib.com or <http://ccodc.marist.edu>. Contact Laraine Kautz, (845) 463-0517 X204 to sign up your employees.

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The Center for Collaborative and On-Demand Computing is a NYSTAR--Designated College Applied Research and Technology CenterSM charged with offering services, support, and training to assist new and existing companies in applying technologies that multiply computing capacity at substantial cost savings.

Workforce Investment Boards administer federal funds for job counseling and training, and are advocates for workforce issues to help employers and employees improve their competitiveness in business.

The programs provided by this agency are partially funded by moneys received from the County of Dutchess, the New York State Workforce Investment Board and the New York State Department of Labor.

EOE/P, auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities