



AWS Certification Programs— What They Are and How You Can Benefit From Them

***Peter Howe
Managing Director, Technical Operations
AWS Certification Department***

Certification – What Is It?

- Certification is evidence, by means of a certificate or other credential, that adequate training and/or competence to practice a particular trade or profession has been demonstrated.
- Certification is achieved by satisfying a combination of defined education, experience, and/or examination requirements.
- Certification is not an assurance of future competence or ability.



Why and What Benefits?

- AWS has developed various certification programs that serve the needs of the welding industry.
- The programs are designed to give individuals, institutes, and organizations the credentials needed to demonstrate their competence in specific welding or welding-related disciplines.
- AWS certification programs provide credentials that are required by many manufacturers and governmental institutions, thus enhancing career opportunities.



Current AWS Certification Programs

- Certified Welding Inspector (CWI), Certified Associate Welding Inspector (CAWI), and Senior Certified Welding Inspector (SCWI)
- Certified Welder (CW)
- Certified Welding Educator (CWE)
- Certified Welding Supervisor (CWS)
- Certified Radiographic Interpreter (CRI)
- Certified Robotic Arc Welding Operator/Technician (CRAW)
- Certified Welding Engineer (CWEng)
- Certified Welding Fabricator (CWF)
- Accredited Test Facility (ATF)



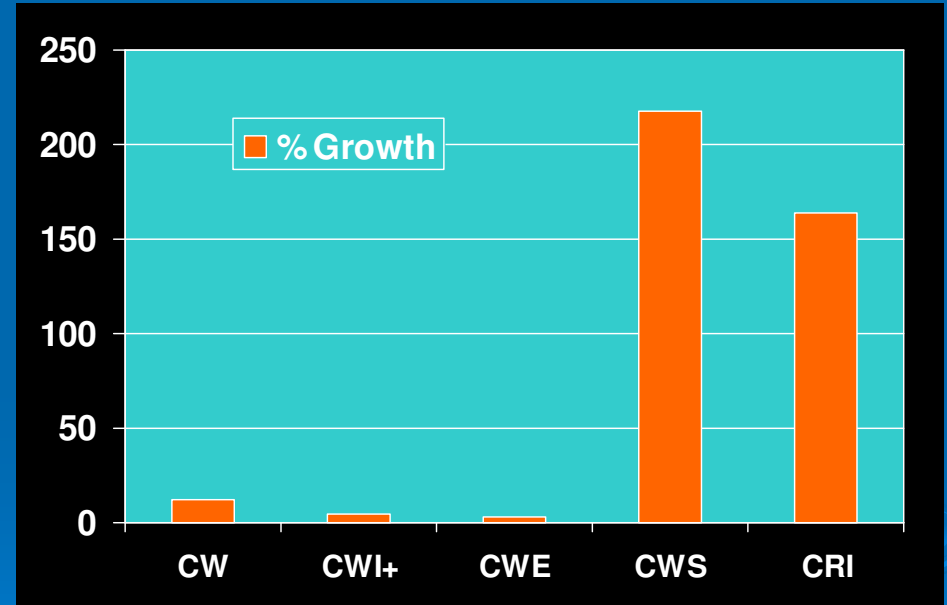
January 1, 2008 Totals

CWI	20,295
CAWI	3,174
SCWI	343
CWE	1,371
CW	2,049
CWS	248
CRI	95
CWEngineer	18



1/2007 to 1/2008 Growth

PROGRAM	Change	% Change
CERTIFIED WELDER	214	12%
CWI + CAWI + SCWI	1205	5%
CWE	39	3%
CWS	170	218%
CRI	59	164%

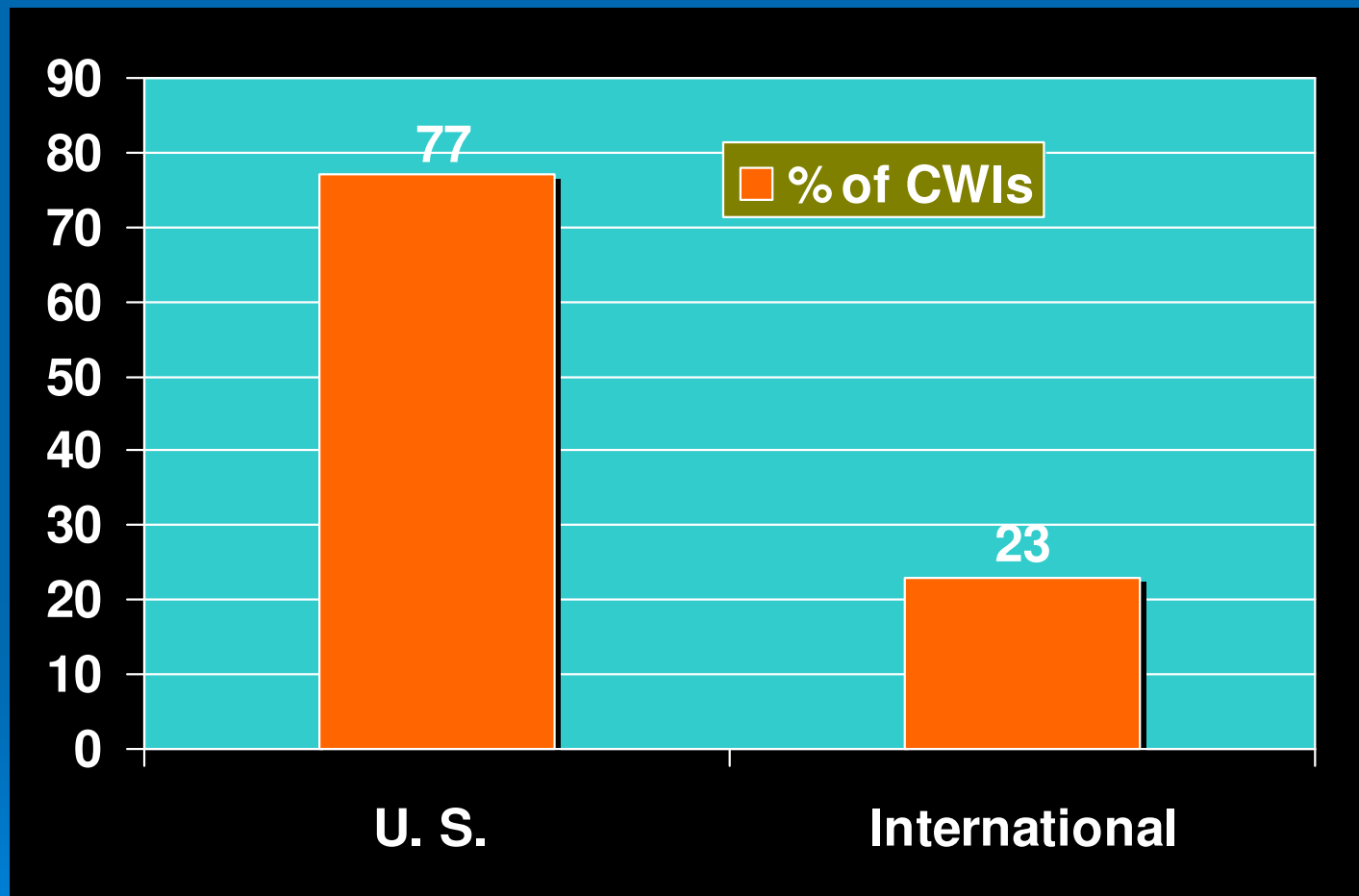


Where is the CWI/SCWI Program Headed?

- The CWI/SCWI program continues to grow at a pace of about 3 to 5% annually.
- International interest in the CWI program is projected to grow significantly.
 - Currently, ~23% of CWIs are international.
 - Largest growth potential is in India and China.



U.S. vs. International CWIs



Where is the CWI/SCWI Program Headed?

- The CWI program has been expanded to include supplemental inspection exams (endorsements).
- Current exams available as endorsements:
 - AWS D1.1, D1.5, and D15.1 (1993 Edition)
 - ASME Section IX + B31.1 + B31.3
 - API 1104, 20th Edition
 - Certified Radiographic Interpreter (separate program)



Where is the CWI/SCWI Program Headed?

- The CWI program will be expanded to include additional supplemental inspection exams (endorsements) to meet industry needs.
- Future exams being developed or considered as endorsements:
 - AWS D1.2 (2003 Edition)
 - AWS D15.1 (2007 Edition)
 - Penetrant Testing
 - Magnetic Particle Testing
 - ASME Section VIII + IX
 - Bolting Inspection and Drawing Reading



New Certification Programs

- Certified Robotic Arc Welding Operator/Technician (CRAW-O/CRAW-T)
 - Good potential for growth.
- Certified Resistance Welding Technician (CRWT)
 - Excellent potential for growth.
- Certified Structural Inspector (CSI)
 - For non-welding attachment processes (bolting, riveting, etc.)
 - Good potential for growth.



What Benefits?

- Certification ensures customers that manufacturers' products have been joined and inspected to industry-recognized standards.
- AWS certification credentials indicate that competence in a specific area of welding has been demonstrated.
- AWS certification may open many doors to better paying jobs.
- AWS certification may make individuals more employable and may lead to opportunities lacking for someone not certified.



Conclusions

- AWS Certification Programs are Essential to the Welding Industry and Are Growing Worldwide
- AWS Certification Credentials are Valued by Many Employers
- AWS Certification in One's Area of Expertise Adds Significant Value to One's Career Potential
- QUESTIONS?

