

Starlight Product Certification Program

Executive Overview

Multimedia technology continues to evolve at a blistering pace. In 1995 alone, dozens of new video and sound cards were released into the market. Conversely, industry projections indicate that hardware manufacturers will have difficulty keeping pace with the performance demands of sophisticated users. Because of the increased performance requirements placed on hardware configurations that allow transmission of digital video over local area networks, the quantity of new and/or enhanced products being offered will continue to rise.

In response to this expanding market, manufacturers of hubs, servers, client CPUs, disk drives, and MPEG, JPEG, and other sound/video cards will build and ultimately seek an endorsement of their products suitability in supporting the rigors of tomorrow's networking environments.

Program Description

The Starlight Product Certification Program's objective is to provide a Win-Win solution for Starlight and selected manufacturers of network and multimedia related products.

Three (3) levels of "Starlight Certification" are offered:

1. Silver Certification
2. Gold Certification
3. Platinum Certification

Silver Certification

Starlight owned (purchased) Network and multimedia products

For a Silver Certification rating, a manufacturer/vendor interested in having Starlight certify their products for compatibility with StarWorks would submit to Starlight:

- Unit(s) for testing
- A predetermined fee based on equipment category; or
- Loan to own agreement for the unit(s) under test

A detailed product certification process including stress testing and operational scenario testing would be conducted. Upon completion of the certification process, a detailed report with findings would be published and provided to the customer.

Gold Certification

Fee based/loan to own retention agreement

For a Gold Certification rating, a manufacturer/vendor interested in having Starlight certify their products for compatibility with StarWorks would submit to Starlight:

- Unit(s) for testing
- A predetermined fee based on equipment category; or
- Loan to own agreement for the unit(s) under test

Under the Gold Level of certification, the product certification process including integration testing, stress testing, and operational scenario testing using more robust hardware configurations. Upon completion of the certification process, a detailed report with findings would be published and provided to the customer.

Platinum Certification

Fee based/loan to own retention agreement

For a Platinum rating, a manufacturer/vendor interested in having Starlight certify their products for compatibility with StarWorks would submit to Starlight:

- Unit(s) for testing
- A predetermined fee based on equipment category; or
- Loan to own agreement for the Unit(s) under test, plus reduced fee

Under the Platinum Level of certification, the product certification process including integration testing, stress testing, and operational scenario testing using more robust hardware configurations. In addition, specified performance benchmark testing would be conducted. Upon completion of the certification process, a detailed report with findings would be published and provided to the customer.

Price and Product Certification scheduling information is available by contacting:

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