

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Region 20 to Offer Cutting Edge IT Certification Testing System

ESC, Region 20 Joins Global Pearson VUE Testing Network

San Antonio, Texas – October 10, 2003 – Region 20 today announced that it has signed an agreement with Pearson VUE, an electronic testing business of Pearson Education, to provide Information Technology certification test delivery using the Pearson VUE™ Testing System. The Pearson VUE advanced computer-based testing system administers exams for leading IT certification programs such as Microsoft, Cisco® Systems, CompTIA, IBM and others through a global network of quality test centers.

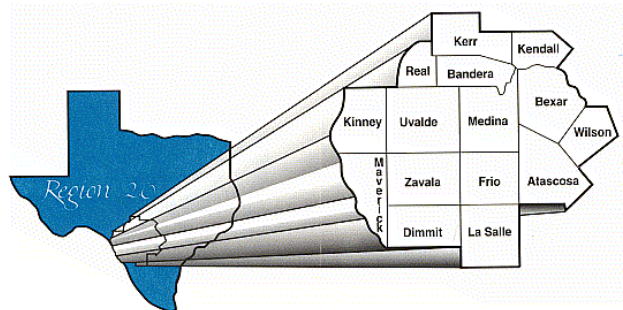
“We’re very excited about our new partnership with Pearson VUE,” said Harriett Jackson, Component Director of Infrastructure and Network Services. “The Pearson VUE Testing System is the most powerful available. We’re pleased to partner with a company whose breakthrough technology and passion for service will allow us to provide even greater service for our districts.”

Among the technological advances of the Pearson VUE system is the ability of test candidates to register and reschedule their tests at the test center, on the Pearson VUE Web site or through a Pearson VUE call center, all in real time via the Internet. “The Pearson VUE Testing System gives us unparalleled control and flexibility over our ability to manage our business our way,” added Ms. Jackson. “We will be free to experiment with testing hours and number of testing stations. We can easily offer same-day testing with the Pearson VUE *TESTNOW™* capability, or bring testing to our classroom locations. Everyone benefits.”

The growing list of IT certification tests accessible through the Pearson VUE system are delivered directly from the test sponsors. Test results are quickly transmitted back, ensuring the candidate’s certification status is promptly updated.

Randy Trask, vice president of Pearson VUE channel sales, said, “We are proud to welcome Region 20 to the rapidly growing global network of Pearson VUE Authorized Centers, providing candidates with an opportunity to participate in a positive, rewarding test experience. We are confident that they will find our service partnership with Region 20 is outstanding.”

Pearson VUE (www.pearsonvue.com) is the electronic business of Pearson Education. From operation centers in the United States, the Netherlands, Australia, Japan, India and China, Pearson VUE provides a variety of services to the professional licensing and certification markets. Currently serving 130 countries, there are more than 3,300 Pearson VUE Authorized Centers in its rapidly expanding network.



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