

KAUNAS I.T. SCHOOL IMPROVES STUDENTS' JOB PROSPECTS WITH RED HAT ACADEMY



SERVICES

Red Hat® Training and Certification
Red Hat Academy

Kaunas Information Technology School helps Lithuanians choose a marketable profession in order to develop the skills and qualifications needed to meet market demand and obtain a job in IT. To expand its Linux® and open source curricula, the school decided to offer Red Hat Training and Certification through Red Hat Academy, a partnership program with educational organizations. By offering the Red Hat Certified System Administrator course and exam, students gain hands-on experience with Linux technology, improving their job prospects, while the school improves its reputation and competitiveness in the academic community.



EDUCATION INDUSTRY

500 STUDENTS

BENEFITS

- Provided students with opportunity to earn industry-recognized certification, improving their job prospects
- Improved recruiting and competitive stance in Lithuanian technology sector
- Gained support and best practices from expert Linux training and certification provider

“Red Hat is a company with considerable knowledge of the open source market that we can pass on to our students. Its Linux platform is used by some of the biggest companies in the world, and many are searching for engineers who have Red Hat technology skills. Working with Red Hat Academy means students have a better chance of getting a job in IT.”

EVALDAS ZVINKLYS
HEAD OF PRACTICAL TRAINING,
KAUNAS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL



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“Red Hat Certified System Administrator (RHCSA) certification is not only one of the best ways to start a system administrator career, but it also helps improve the skills needed in other jobs. Red Hat Academy encourages students to learn new things in an exciting way.”

PAULIUS GRIEBLIAUSKAS
FORMER RED HAT ACADEMY
STUDENT AND RHCSA

SKILLS GAP IN LITHUANIAN TECHNOLOGY SECTOR

As its technology market grows, Lithuania is facing a shortage of professionals with relevant IT experience.¹ The Lithuanian Labor Exchange forecasts that the most valued future employees will be those who have technical knowledge and skills.²

One organization working to bridge this gap is Kaunas Information Technology School. A public institution offering educational activities in the Baltic region, it teaches more than 500 students between 14-30 years old. Its courses focus on helping Lithuanians choose a marketable profession, then develop the skills and qualifications needed to meet market demand and obtain a job in IT.

As part of this mission, the school sought to expand its curricula on Linux and open source technology to offer broader education and certification opportunities.

INDUSTRY-LEADING TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

Kaunas found an opportunity to meet this educational goal when an instructor met with Red Hat at an industry conference and learned about Red Hat Academy. After further research on redhat.com, the school decided to partner with Red Hat to offer training from the world's leading provider of open source solutions.³

“Although we knew about Red Hat and its Linux operating system, we did not know about its Academy program. We could not find anything like it that existed in Lithuania. We talked to a Red Hat business development manager, who helped us bring Red Hat Academy to Kaunas,” said Evaldas Zvinklys, head of practical training at Kaunas IT School.

Red Hat Academy is a global training program that partners with academic institutions to transform them into enterprise-ready talent centers with Red Hat Training. Curriculum is offered across Red Hat's most in-demand technologies—specifically platform, middleware, and cloud technologies. A unique delivery approach provides students with practical skills based on actual customer use cases from thousands of enterprise implementations of Red Hat products. These concepts are delivered through hands-on instruction, labs, performance-based testing, and instructor guidance, supported by comprehensive web or print textbooks with select local-language content, integrated tests and quizzes, and student management tools.

In addition, Red Hat Academy partnership includes a 50% student discount for certification exams. Recognizing the demand for Red Hat Certified Professionals, Kaunas is the first school in Lithuania to offer the Red Hat System Administration I (RH124) course and Red Hat Certified System Administrator exam. This foundation course introduces key command line concepts and other enterprise-level tools to students wishing to become full-time Linux system administrators.

To operate the Red Hat Academy program, Kaunas set up a lab of 16 computers, a dedicated server, and an individual exam testing area according to Red Hat's lab guidelines. After student meetings, email invitations, and an opening ceremony, Kaunas began teaching within five weeks.

¹ Skills anticipation in Lithuania. Skills Panorama. April 2017.

http://skills Panorama.cedefop.europa.eu/en/analytical_highlights/skills-anticipation-lithuania.

² “Lithuania: Skills forecasts up to 2025.” Cedefop. <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/country-reports/lithuania-skills-forecasts-2025>.

³ “CIO's alternative.” Red Hat. September 2018. <https://www.redhat.com/en/resources/cios-alternative-red-hat>

RED HAT ACADEMY PROGRAM FEATURES

Red Hat Academy offers effective education programs on Red Hat technologies.

- No-cost membership
- Certification exam discounts
- Multiple course formats
- Robust lab environments

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ENHANCED, HANDS-ON LINUX EDUCATION

IMPROVED STUDENT JOB PROSPECTS

By offering training and certification to students through Red Hat Academy, Kaunas has helped its students become more marketable in the Lithuanian technology industry—for example, by providing access to Red Hat communities and employment contacts, as well as proven, in-demand skills.

“Many of the world’s largest companies are searching for engineers who have Red Hat technology skills. Working with Red Hat Academy means students have a better chance of getting a job in IT,” said Evaldas Zvinklys.

According to a recent IDC study,⁴ Red Hat-certified employees deliver business value to organizations through productivity gains and operational efficiency. IDC research also shows that new employees with Red Hat certifications are faster to achieve full productivity, stay longer at employers, and perform better. The number of hiring managers seeking Linux talent is at 80%, which is the top category for IT managers.⁵

“Red Hat Training and Certification helped me improve skills needed in my job, such as automated task management and file permission management,” said Paulius Griebliauskas, a former Red Hat Academy student RHCSA who now specialized in e-commerce, web design, search engine optimization (SEO), and search engine marketing (SEM).

“I had a job prior to taking the Red Hat Academy course and passing the exam, but my general job opportunities improved a lot and Red Hat certification looks great on my resume. The RHCSA certification is not only one of the best ways to start a system administrator career, but it also helps improve the skills needed in other jobs. Red Hat Academy encourages students to learn new things in an exciting way.”

RECRUITMENT ADVANTAGE

Partnering with a leading Linux training provider has also helped Kaunas differentiate itself within the region as a top provider of in-demand technology training. As a result, the school can recruit top student talent to attend its programs over competing offerings.

“Red Hat is a company with considerable knowledge of the open source market that we can pass on to our students. Its Linux platform is used by some of the biggest companies in the world,” said Zvinklys.

TRAINING RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

Working with Red Hat to establish its new training offering gave Kaunas access to technology and marketing experts that helped successfully launch the program.

Red Hat provided logo and content guidance during the launch, as well as all of the software needed for courses, labs, and exams and specifications for classroom equipment, including projectors, computers, networks, and systems. Multiple student course ware formats include e-book, printed, or HTML and flexible lab options help academies accommodate students. Instructor training is available through no-cost Red Hat Video Classroom Courses and globally standardized materials are available through the new web-based Academy portal and order process.

⁴ “The Business Value of Red Hat Certification.” IDC (sponsored by Red Hat). April 2018. <https://www.redhat.com/en/resources/business-value-certification-idc-infobrief>

⁵ “Best Linux Certifications For 2016.” TomsITPro.com. October 2015.

"At first, we didn't know how to bring Red Hat Academy here. We had a lot of questions on how to set up the labs and an exam kiosk, but Red Hat answered all of them and helped us get everything set up," said Evaldas Zvinklys.

PLANS FOR CURRICULUM EXPANSION

Kaunas IT School has now been successfully offering Red Hat Academy courses for two years. The school plans to continue promoting its existing course and possibly add other Red Hat courses and certification exams to grow attendance. Kaunas also hopes to become a regional advocate for the Red Hat Academy program.

"With Red Hat Academy, we can bring more knowledge for students who are interested in the Linux operating system and give them better opportunities, and we want to share our success. With the Red Hat course, our Linux knowledge became stronger and this helped us to be better known in our field. When students who are interested in Linux are looking where to study, they now choose our school. It helps us attract more talented and motivated students. The Lithuanian Ministry of Science and Education has selected our school to receive new equipment for student training specifically for the Linux OS. The Academy's activity at the school has also contributed to the fact that, for the second year in a row, we have been selected as a leading educational institution in the region," said Evaldas Zvinklys.

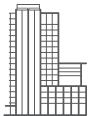
ABOUT KAUNAS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL

Kaunas Information Technology School is a public institution offering educational activities. The aim of the school is to help the citizens of Lithuania to choose a marketable profession by accumulating, processing, and presenting easily accessible information to a wide range of users. Student can study under primary vocational training. If they want to change or improve their qualifications, they can choose a continuing vocational training program. Courses for its 500 students, ages 14-30, focus on helping students to enter the labor market and develop the skills and qualifications they need to obtain a job in IT.

<http://kitm.lt>

ABOUT RED HAT

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to reliable and high-performing cloud, Linux, middleware, storage, and virtualization technologies. Red Hat also offers award-winning support, training, and consulting services. As a connective hub in a global network of enterprises, partners, and open source communities, Red Hat helps create relevant, innovative technologies that liberate resources for growth and prepare customers for the future of IT.



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@RedHat

linkedin.com/company/red-hat

NORTH AMERICA
1 888 REDHAT1

**EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST,
AND AFRICA**
00800 7334 2835
europe@redhat.com

ASIA PACIFIC
+65 6490 4200
apac@redhat.com

LATIN AMERICA
+54 11 4329 7300
info-latam@redhat.com