Advanced training for more career success!

With the iSAQB® Certified Professional for Software Architecture (CPSA) program

iSAQB®
International Software Architecture
Qualification Board

Software architecture –
key to project success

Why software architecture is so important

A high-quality architecture is a key factor for the success of an IT project. It safeguards operability, the capability for maintenance and long-term investment security. The iSAQB certification program ensures that training measures for software architects are based on a common knowledge base.

Internationally recognised training concept

The International Software Architecture Qualification Board (iSAQB) is an association of technical and consulting experts in the field of software architecture. The iSAQB defines standards for the training and certification of software architects. Different certification levels enable software architects to have the level of their knowledge and skills certified in an accredited process.

With the iSAQB® Certified Professional for Software Architecture (CPSA) program the association has created an internationally recognised multi-level training concept for software architects.

The concept currently comprises 2 training levels:

The **Foundation Level** establishes basic skills on the basis of existing knowledge and experience to enable

> autonomous decision-making with respect to architecture for small and medium-sized systems

> systematically fulfilling the quality requirements for such systems

> adequate documentation and analysis of systems

The modules of the **Advanced Level** provide advanced skills for software architects with respect to technical, methodical and communicative competences.

The **Expert Level** is currently under development.

The curricula and examination questions for the CPSA program are developed and published by the iSAQB. Exams are carried out by certifying bodies commissioned by iSAQB.

Foundation Level

Participants of the Licensed training as a "Certified Professional for Software Architecture – Foundation Level" learn

- the concept and the importance of software architecture
- the tasks and responsibilities of software architects
- the role of software architects in projects
- state-of-the-art methods and techniques for developing software architectures

Students learn on the basis of their existing experience and skills in software development, to derive an adequate software architecture from an existing system idea. The training teaches methodical tools and principles for the design, documentation and evaluation of software architectures, independent of specific procedure models.

The focus is on acquiring the following skills:

- Coordination of architecture decisions with other teams such as requirements management, project management, development and testing
- Understanding the essential aspects in the design of software architectures and independently applying them for small and medium-sized systems
- Documentation and communication of software architectures based on views, architecture patterns and technical concepts

Advanced Level

The Advanced Level, the next iSAQB certification level after the Foundation Level, continues the qualification of software architecture professionals. The iSAQB specifies a modular training program, graduates of which must demonstrate wide-ranging skills and knowledge. CPSA-A graduates can do the following:
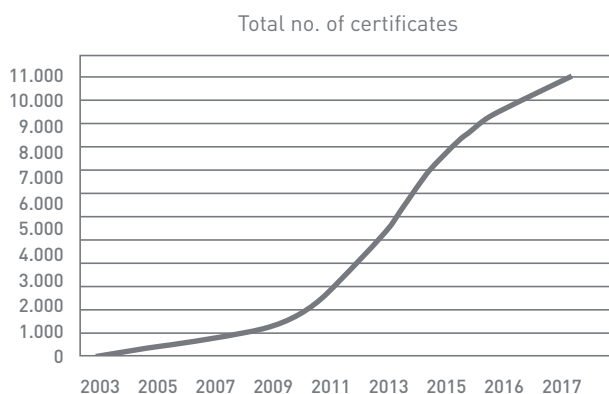
- Design medium- to large-scale IT systems autonomously and method-based
- Take responsibility for technology and content of IT systems of medium to high criticality
- Develop, design and document measures for achieving non-functional requirements
- Support development teams in implementation of these measures
- Guide and implement architecture-related communication in medium to large development teams

Three areas of competence

The iSAQB promotes the following three areas of competence in CPSA-A training programs:

- **Methodical competence:** systematic approaches to architecture tasks, independent of technologies
- **Technical competence:** knowledge and application of technologies for solving design problems
- **Communicative competence:** skills for productive collaboration with different stakeholders - communication, presentation, argumentation, and moderation

iSAQB in Facts and Figures

Total no. of certificates

11.000	
10.000	
9.000	
8.000	
7.000	
6.000	
5.000	
4.000	
3.000	
2.000	
1.000	
0	

2003 2005 2007 2009 2011 2013 2015 2016 2017

The number is growing!

Training as a Certified Professional for Software Architecture is internationally recognised. Meanwhile, in Germany alone there are more than 8,000 software architects with a CPSA certification.

CPSA®
Certified Professional for Software Architecture

CPSA-F®
**Certified Professional for Software Architecture
Foundation Level**

CPSA-A®
**Certified Professional for Software Architecture
Advanced Level**

CPSA-E®
**Certified Professional for Software Architecture
Expert Level**

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LICENSED TRAINING