

Newsletter February 2012
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This is the fifth RMRoberts.com Newsletter for the 2011-2012 school year. As always, we are providing new content to support instructors and students using Computer Service and Repair, Networking Fundamentals and Electricity and Electronics textbooks and materials.

The school year is moving very quickly. Soon, we will be preparing for summer and for some, graduation. Can you believe it? Here at RMRoberts.com, we are busy creating more **new** material for you to use in your courses until our new editions are available.

We hope you find the practice questions, labs, links and additional information helpful. If you like the information included here, please pass it along to colleagues, or direct them to www.RMRoberts.com to view all available content.

Computer Service and Repair

This month's newsletter will feature the Security Section for the CompTIA A+ certification test. Since the study guide and practice test cover basic security principles, you can use it for the Network+ Certification examination, as well as any other certifications which contain security type objectives.

Link here for a new [CompTIA A+ Security Domain 5 - Study Guide](#).

Link here for a new [CompTIA A+ Security Domain 5 - Practice Test](#).

Do you need a copy of the NEW Windows 8? Check out this link:

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/apps/br229516>

You can download an ISO and then install it using the virtual PC software to create an isolated copy on your PC. Developer software packages are also located at the same link if you wish to write your own applications for Windows 8.

Have fun!

Networking Fundamentals

Recently introduced on January 18, 2012, there is a new CompTIA Storage+ Exam, which is sponsored by *Storage Network Information Association*. The new Certification Test is designed to evaluate your ability to support a storage network environment. To learn more about the SNIA and the Storage+ exam, visit the following two websites:

The SNIA association website.

<http://www.snia.org/>

The CompTIA Storage+ website.

<http://certification.comptia.org/getCertified/certifications/storage.aspx>

The CompTIA Cloud Essentials is also a new Certification that evaluates your ability to work in a cloud environment. This certification is directly associated with CompTIA Storage+, but is much less technical. The Cloud+ Certification objectives appear to be geared more toward a sales person, rather than a technical support position. Look at the certification objectives and see if you agree.

<http://certification.comptia.org/getCertified/certifications/cloud.aspx>

An excellent resource for preparation for the Cloud+ Certification can be found at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) website.

<http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/sp/2011/sp800-144.pdf>

Also check out other publications at the NIST website.

Check out our newest Network + Domain 5 Study Guide and Practice Test.

[Network + Exam - Domain 5 - Tools - Study Guide](#)

[Network + Exam - Domain 5 - Practice Test](#)

Electricity and Electronics

Recently, we received an e-mail, which served as a nice compliment to our website. Tracy Cole, a Science Technology Instructor, wanted to let us know that she has found our Helpful Links- page in the Electronics and Electricity section of our site, and has been using it as an instructional tool for research with her students. We are always happy to receive such great feedback from Instructors as this is the entire purpose of our site - helping you make your classes more interesting and keeping you up-to-date. Also, we would like to thank Tracy and her students for providing us with some additional helpful links for use in your Electronics and Electricity Courses. We hope you will find them helpful as well. Thanks for your effort Tracy.

The two sites are:

Invention of Radio

<http://www.clemson.edu/caah/history/facultypages/pammack/lec122/radio.htm>

and

Television, Radio and More - The History of Great Inventions!

<http://www.specialcabledeals.com/history-of-tv-radio.html>

I find that learning is more fun for students and they will have better knowledge retention when learning is achieved through the class-project approach. Below are three projects I recently viewed on the Internet that I thought might work well in your electronics class.

Traffic Light Project - This project is an excellent second semester project that utilizes a 555 timer, LEDs, and a 4017 counter to construct a traffic light circuit.

<http://www.kpsec.freeuk.com/projects/trafficlight.htm>

Simple Motor Principal Project – This is a very simple motor project that demonstrates the electromagnetic relationship of motor windings and polarity. It is simple to build and very inexpensive.

<http://www.mymotor.org/>

Wind Powered Generator -How about building a wind powered generator to demonstrate alternative energy approaches?

http://www1.eere.energy.gov/education/pdfs/wind_basicpvcwindturbine.pdf

Please visit our website www.RMRoberts.com and Goodheart-Willcox website www.G-W.com to learn more about our training materials .

As always, we would love to hear from you to see if you appreciate the newsletter series, or if you wish to offer suggestions on topics you would like more information about. Also, please feel free to correct any errors you may find.

Contact us at <mailto:webmaster@rmroberts.com> We sincerely hope you find the material useful in your program of study. If there is a topic or area of course study you would like to see supplemented, please contact us by email at technical@RMRoberts.com, or contact your textbook representative at Goodheart-Willcox G-W.com.