# Bicsi™

advancing information transport systems

# Why Hire a
# BICSI-Certified
# ITS Professional?

## Hiring a telecommunications designer?
## Hiring a commercial ITS installer or technician?

BICSI's internationally recognized credentialing program tests
the knowledge of professionals you need.

# The BICSI®RCDD®—A Professional Credential of Design Knowledge

The Registered Communications Distribution Designer (RCDD) credential is awarded to individuals who have demonstrated knowledge in the design, integration and implementation of telecommunications and data communications transport systems and related infrastructure. The RCDD credential is achieved by passing a rigorous examination and maintained by meeting continuing education requirements and by frequent interaction with other members of the ITS community. An RCDD is uniquely positioned to create the detailed design of new systems and/or the integration of a design into an existing system. The RCDD credential is globally recognized within the ITS industry.

Whether you are a contractor, an architect or a facility owner, having an RCDD on staff offers you important professional advantages:

- RCDD staffing is required or requested by many private and governmental organizations as part of the bidding criteria.

- The RCDD is independently tested. You know the BICSI RCDD has passed a rigorous test; you may need to test the knowledge of the uncertified designer.

- Through BICSI RCDD training, the RCDD receives instruction on both design and project management. You get a designer and a project manager in one employee.

"Our data center was a mess after many years of growth and datacom wiring not installed by professionals. We needed to get it cleaned up, while allowing for the growth of our business. When we first selected our telecommunications company, we didn't know about BICSI certification and didn't know what an RCDD was. All three vendors who we met came in at a similar price level, but there was something about the company we ended up selecting that set it apart from the others. At the time, we couldn't quantify what it was, but this RCDD seemed to go the extra mile compared to the other vendors. He had many good ideas, most of which hadn't occurred to us (or even the other vendors). As the project went on, we learned about BICSI certification and found out that out of the three vendors, he was the only RCDD who came out to meet with us. As it turned out, it was the forward-thinking mindset of an RCDD that provided a well-executed job that would allow us to easily grow in the future while preserving the work the RCDD and his crew performed. I was extremely satisfied with our choice, and I believe that this is largely due to our choosing a BICSI-Certified ITS Professional in which an RCDD was extensively involved in the whole project from start to finish."

— Jason Black

# The BICSI-Certified Commercial ITS Installer and Technician

BICSI-Certified Commercial ITS Installers and Technicians have demonstrated their expertise in the proper installation of cabling systems through both hands-on and written examinations. Specific areas of practical knowledge include conducting site surveys, pulling wire/cable, and terminating and testing copper and optical fiber cable to the highest level of specification. BICSI Installers and Technicians maintain their credentials with continuing education, allowing them to stay up-to-date despite an ever-changing professional environment.

"Being a business owner, I always prefer to hire BICSI Registered ITS Installers and Technicians. Hiring a BICSI-certified employee adds tremendous value to my organization, because almost always, they are competent and well-trained individuals. It is equally important to keep in mind that no matter how great the design, if the job isn't executed well, with high-quality craft, it could reflect on the work of the designer and, certainly, the reputation of the company."
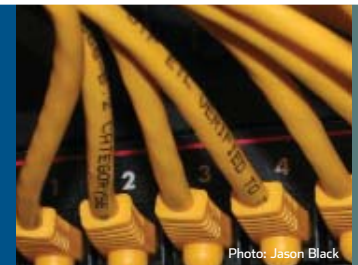
— Ed Donelan, RCDD/NTS Specialist

Cover photos courtesy of Jason Black, Shepherd Electric Supply.

# What Does the BICSI-Certified ITS Professional Have to Offer You?

### Knowledge

Every RCDD has successfully completed and passed an extensive exam on the fundamentals of telecommunications distribution design. BICSI Installers and Technicians undergo both written and practical ("hands-on") testing in the proper installation of cabling systems.

### Continuing Education

BICSI-certified ITS professionals must keep their knowledge current to maintain their credentials. RCDDs are required to renew every three years, earning 45 hours of continuing education AND attending at least one BICSI conference where they share knowledge and experiences with their industry peers, as well as participate in industry updates. Installers and Technicians must earn 12 hours of continuing education every two years. Continuing education can be obtained by attending BICSI courses that focus on the latest techniques in telecommunications cabling installation.

### Compliance

BICSI RCDDs, Commercial Installers and Technicians are tested on their working knowledge of industry codes and standards that are applicable in their region. They are also taught the importance of local and international codes and best practices. By gaining knowledge of standards, codes and proper installation and design practices, BICSI professionals have demonstrated the ability to understand the entire scope of a project and have been tested in the installation and design of vendor-neutral cabling systems.

### Safety

BICSI-Certified ITS Professionals study safety procedures and practices including personal protective equipment, hazardous environments and electrical earthing. This goes far beyond the material presented in many of the local and regional codes.

### Vendor Neutrality

RCDDs and Installers are tested from a vendor-neutral viewpoint and are not inhibited by specific product criteria. BICSI certification encourages innovation, use of advanced industry techniques and big picture thinking.

### Access to Resources

BICSI-Certified ITS Professionals have access to a steady flow of professional, technical and industry information. BICSI's requirements for continuous education minimize the impact of the constant changes, updates and revisions in information transport systems industry standards and practices.

### Preparation for Future

The required continuing education and access to steady flow of the latest industry information allows RCDDs, Installers and Technicians to be knowledgeable about emerging technologies and helps you plan long-term cabling solutions for your organization.

## What You Should Know About RCDDs:

- The BICSI RCDD program is competence-driven with industry credibility.

- RCDDs assist in providing flexible, scalable, future-ready transport systems.

- RCDDs maintain a structured ongoing education program to accommodate new and emerging technology.

- End users/architects/general contractors request RCDDs at the conceptual/design stage.

- RCDDs seek to add value to end users/building owners to leverage their infrastructure assets and maximize their return on investment (ROI).

- RCDDs have regular access to a network of ITS professionals and global resources.

- RCDDs provide project management services for a proper design, seeking to provide a more reliable infrastructure installation.

- RCDDs assess their customer(s) present and future needs and facilitate other appropriate telecommunications specialties/services.

- RCDDs coordinate with appropriate building disciplines (i.e. electrical and mechanical).

- RCDDs have received training to employ "best practices" in this global industry.

## What You Should Know About BICSI-Certified Installers and Technicians:

- BICSI-Certified Commercial Installers and Technicians are advancement-driven, providing industry credibility.

- BICSI-Certified Commercial Installers and Technicians focus on specific installations, resulting in a uniform, durable and high level of system performance.

- BICSI-Certified Commercial Installers and Technicians have received training to employ "best practices."

- BICSI-Certified Commercial Installers and Technicians maintain knowledge with vendor-neutral cabling systems, resulting in high-quality infrastructure installations.

- BICSI-Certified Commercial Installers and Technicians harmonize their installation techniques to the RCDD/project manager's requirements resulting in ease of administration for the end user.

- BICSI-Certified Commercial Installers and Technicians continuously strive to be on the leading edge of rapid changes in technology, installation techniques and connectivity solutions.

- BICSI-Certified Commercial Installers and Technicians maintain a structured ongoing education program to accommodate new and emerging technology.

- BICSI-Certified Commercial Installers and Technicians are taught to have a working knowledge of applicable codes and standards and harmonize these with the local authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).

- BICSI-Certified Commercial Installers and Technicians distinguish themselves from the competition with globally-recognized credentials.

- BICSI-Certified Commercial Installers and Technicians are trained to understand the entire scope of the project and to properly plan and organize the installation process.
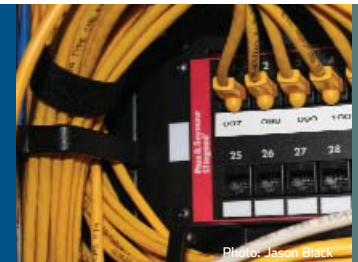
Photo: Jason Black

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## What is BICSI?

BICSI is a professional association supporting the information transport systems (ITS) industry with information, education and knowledge assessment for individuals and companies. BICSI serves more than 25,000 ITS professionals, including designers, installers and technicians. These individuals provide the fundamental infrastructure for telecommunications, audio/video, life safety and automation systems. Through courses, conferences, publications and professional registration programs, BICSI staff and volunteers assist ITS professionals in delivering critical products and services, and offer opportunities for continual improvement and enhanced professional stature.

Headquartered in Tampa, Florida, BICSI membership spans nearly 100 countries.

For more information, contact BICSI at 800.242.7405 (USA and Canada toll-free) or +1 813.979.1991. You may also e-mail bicsi@bicsi.org or visit www.bicsi.org.

## BICSI Vision Statement

BICSI is the worldwide preeminent source of information, education and knowledge assessment for the constantly evolving information transport systems industry.

## BICSI's Mission is to:

- Lead the information transport systems industry with excellence in publications, education and knowledge assessment.

- Advance our members' ability to deliver the highest quality products and services.

- Provide our members with opportunities for continual improvement and enhanced professional stature.