



# NETLAB Academy Edition™ Case Study

University of Hawaii – Honolulu Community College  
Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training



*"We [the Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training (PCATT)] take pride in our relationship with the Hawaii public and private schools serving as Cisco Networking Academies®. We have articulation agreements in place awarding college credits for students coming to Honolulu Community College who have completed CCNA 2 or CCNA 4 of the CCNA® curriculum. We provide free NETLAB Academy Edition™ access to Networking Academies in our CATC umbrella; significantly, the Hawaii Department of Education enjoys the use of NETLAB as a means of providing extended hands-on practice with CCNA labs. Many Local and Regional Academies in Hawaii and Pacific Island nations that we serve have limited funding for Cisco® equipment bundles, so our donation of NETLAB time to these Academies makes an important contribution to the students and instructors at these sites."*

Wayne Lewis - PCATT/HCC Lead Instructor

**Q:** Why did you buy your NETLAB Academy Edition™ system?

**A:** We bought it because we believe in distance education as a means of improving student achievement. Also, we wanted to extend lab access for HCC students and Hawaii public school students to 24 x 7.

**Q:** How are Academies utilizing your NETLAB system?

**A:** Public high school students in Hawaii are the primary users of our NETLAB rack. Following that group would be students in private schools and our HCC students. The students use NETLAB to do labs that they may not have finished while in class. Instructors often use NETLAB to demonstrate concepts to students or to aid students while they are in the process of completing labs.

**Q:** Do you find that after hour and weekend access to NETLAB is cost beneficial?

**A:** Once NETLAB was set up, it had zero down time so far. It requires zero maintenance once it is set up. The greatest time consumer related to NETLAB is creating accounts and training instructors. For instructors, time must be devoted to creating classes, adding students, and scheduling time for student usage.

**Q:** Was the NETLAB system easy to install?

**A:** Very straightforward due to the excellent documentation. We had a second-year Computing, Electronics, and Networking Technology (CENT) student setup the entire NETLAB solution from scratch in a period of a few days with almost zero supervision.

**Q:** How easy or difficult is it to maintain your NETLAB system?

**A:** The documentation for NETLAB is the best I've seen in all my years of working in IT education. It is extremely well organized and easy to follow. The support that we have received from the NETLAB support staff has been exemplary and was typically only needed as a result of user error.

Notably, our Version 2.1.4 NETLAB setup (now converted to Version 3.0) was entirely set up by one of our second-year HCC students as part of his internship for the Computing, Electronics, and Networking Technology (CENT) program. He had very little networking background, but was able to set up the entire rack with next to zero supervision, just by following the online administrator and installation documentation accompanying the NETLAB product.



To learn more about NETLAB visit [www.netdevgroup.com](http://www.netdevgroup.com).

