

General Industry Aptitude Survey (IAS)

What is it? The Cert*TEC*® General Industry Aptitude Survey (IAS) is derived from the SpaceTEC® aerospace certification program for technicians and inspectors funded by the National Science Foundation. It is an index summarizing aptitude in five key areas – Applied Mechanics, Basic Electricity, Industrial Safety, Materials & Processes, and Tests & Measurements. It covers hands-on skills essential for shops, labs, and operations used in many industries. IASs can be customized for individual companies or specialized groups where needed.

How does it work? You sit for a 60-minute, 70-question survey measuring what you know. You may do that at a hosting Center using your own computer or one provided by the host. When you finish, you receive a certificate showing a five-number "Index" that displays results on a scale of 0-9 for each of the five topics, with 9 being the highest. On the back of the certificate is a listing of the general competencies used in each area of aptitude.

Is it accredited? The IAS is NOT a certification and therefore it is not accredited – YET. Cert*TEC*® national certifications are <u>accredited through the International Certification Accreditation Council (ICAC). The CertTEC® IAS's are</u> a spin-off of the national performance-based aerospace certifications begun by SpaceTEC® in 2002, now accepted by the aerospace industry and recognized by NASA, the Air Force, the Navy, FAA, the VA, and many others.

What are the costs? The IAS is being offered to individuals at a cost of \$19.95 each. This includes the administration of the survey, the electronic report provided immediately upon submission of the IAS, and a certificate providing the results in an index format. Quantity discounts are available for organizations that provide help in administering IASs to groups of ten or more people at sites where proctors are provided via HR or approved supervision.

What's in it for me? That depends on your needs. The general IAS is adapted from certification examinations to provide an objective, third-party verification of your aptitude in five areas. It is intended to strengthen your resume' where appropriate. It is entirely personal and the results are confidential. The results will be retained in our records for your future use and released to you and you alone.

How can I use the results? That depends entirely on you, but the intent is to provide a useful product plus the experience of sitting for the survey. If you don't find the IAS useful, you can discard the results after you receive them. Your experience may be limited or your interests may be beyond the scope of the IAS. However, even if hands-on work is not your goal, you will (1) gain insight into the technical areas included in current jobs, (2) get first-hand experience in taking the IAS, and (3) renew your personal aptitude of the basics you studied in preparing for your technical career.

<u>Are there other benefits</u>? The use of IASs for these competencies will improve skills transportability for those seeking to broaden their careers to other technical areas. It will also demonstrate the usefulness of STEM-related work skills in other technical career fields.

What do I need to do next? Contact the Cert*TEC*® staff at 321-730-1020 and provide your name, location, email address, and telephone number so we can register you for the IAS. Once we receive payment, we'll schedule a session to conduct the IAS at a mutually agreed time and place. When possible we implement the IAS at a public library, community college, or other testing center providing a proctored environment and Internet access.

For more information, visit the web sites at: <u>www.spacetec.org</u> and <u>www.certtec.com</u>.