Testimonial | AINDT and Carestream NDT Advanced Industrial Radiographic Training Academy

Enhancing Digital Radiography Techniques Through Learning

When restrictions and mandates from the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Jose Caprarulo had to reinvent himself at work– he needed to deepen his knowledge of non-destructive testing (NDT).

For his entire career, Mr. Caprarulo has worked in the fields of mechanical inspection, welding, NDT, corrosion, coatings and cathodic protection. As an independent inspector in Argentina, he stays on top of industry trends while exceeding clients' expectations.

Still, Mr. Caprarulo was on the hunt to build on his strong base to include direct digital radiography techniques. He found that while many people knew of the method, only a few could provide information in a clear, technical and professional manner.

An exhaustive search led Mr. Caprarulo to Carestream NDT's training offerings.

"I searched the internet intensely," said Mr. Caprarulo, "but did not find anything serious until my search led me to Carestream NDT's advanced radiographic training."

Diverse Opportunities to Learn

The Advanced Industrial Radiographic Training Academy, from Carestream NDT and the American Institute of Nondestructive Testing (AINDT), offers specialized training programs designed to meet the needs of industrial radiographers. Aimed at teaching skills for success in digital imaging, the academy's courses help industrial radiographers and companies looking to make the transition from film radiography to digital radiography.

Each course provides students with a technical toolbox of understanding to evaluate, qualify and implement digital technologies into production environments. From hands-on laboratory exercises, instructor lectures and quizzes to confirm knowledge transfer, students are immersed in the subject matter.

Even then, Mr. Caprarulo wasn't certain if the Carestream NDT/AINDT Training Academy would be a good fit. "I had reservations when deciding to carry out the virtual course," he said. Mr. Caprarulo began an online conversation with Carestream NDT staff, whose advice made him more comfortable about his decision to enroll in the Digital Detector Array course.

"The doubts and questions that I had prior to and during the course were extensively and quickly resolved by the Carestream staff," he said. "I was surprised by how quickly they responded, it's like having an advisor permanently online."

Building a Bench of Expertise

Carestream NDT/AINDT's self-paced, 40-hour Digital Detector Array training program is designed specifically for technicians like Mr. Caprarulo, transitioning from conventional film to digital radiography. The course includes in-depth, instructor-led lectures and training. Topics include understanding the difference between various digital radiography techniques, digital detector array technology, digital radiography system components, digital detector array properties, digitization of film, image acquisition and digital imaging and processing. The course also reviews industry standards and requirements, and complies with the required training hours for CP-189, SNT-TC-1a, NAS410, ASME BPVC Section V and DIN EN ISO 9712.

"One of the great strengths of the course is that one has the possibility of delving into different topics; that is, for some it may be a basic course and for others a more specialized one," Mr. Caprarulo said. "I value the technical honesty in the development of the different topics, showing the reality of digital industrial radiography as it is, with its pros and cons, and clear marketing messages."

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Before he signed up for the training program, Mr. Caprarulo used his basic knowledge and drew on support from the factories he represented to meet clients' needs. During the course, he took special note of concepts, statements and definitions—not only because they were new to him and groundbreaking, but also because they amplified a valid technical philosophy of practical application in the real world.

Quickly, Mr. Caprarulo was able to participate with confidence in formal and informal talks as well as technical opinion forums.

"I realized my technical level had increased a lot and I could debate as equals with other colleagues of greatest respect." He said.

Mr. Caprarulo added: "I recommend the course to learn a little or a lot more about this digital technique that appears as a great integration into the '4th industrial revolution' and from which there is still much to learn and develop in the industrial field."

Reaping the benefits of knowledge

Mr. Caprarulo believes he made the best choice by turning to the training program offered by Carestream NDT and the American Institute of Nondestructive Testing.

Gaining insight from internationally recognized and valued leaders in the field has been beneficial. Learning and finding practical applications for the technique has helped Mr. Caprarulo broaden his expertise. The training helps him serve as a reliable professional advisor to his clients.

"After having completed the course and professionally advising clients/companies on learning about digital radiography, it is much easier for me to answer questions and reaffirm the decision of clients who do not see this transition as inevitable and extremely positive, and who need the boost that only clear and objective explanations can give." he said.

The course information proved to be essential as soon as Mr. Caprarulo sought his certification as Level II in digital radiography as per ISO 9712 standards.

Mr. Caprarulo fervently recommends Carestream NDT/AINDT training. "The course exceeded my expectations, dispelling doubts and any questions I had, in addition to showing me the digital technique in its real and practical dimensions at all times," Mr. Caprarulo said.

Mr. Caprarulo lists the following as big benefits of the Carestream NDT/AINDT training:

- Gaining technical knowledge
- Clarifying myths, preconceptions, and misconceptions about digital radiography
- Building confidence as an advisor
- Achieving personal and professional recognition in the market
- Improving the ability to meet customer needs
- Developing a new interest in learning and growing expertise
- Becoming a subject matter expert

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