

A Cisco Networking Academy

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Top Students Move on to National Qualifying Round

Students waited in anticipation for the news about how they did in the first round of the NetRiders competition. Only the top 5 scores from each academy are allowed to move on to the national qualifying round, and that puts pressure on the students hoping to do well, as opposed to the students who participated more for the experience. The intensity of the competition also increases in round two, doubling the time of round one by being comprised of two 60 minute exams. After the strain of the first round, the students that move on to the next round have over a week to rest and sharpen their knowledge before it all starts up again. So much anticipation and preparation gives way to 120 minutes spend solving complicated networking problems, both in a theoretical and practical setting, and in an instant it is all over. Each student just hopes that when it reaches that point, the effort will be enough to pass to the final round.

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Being a woman in a male

Leaning In in Indiana: Being a woman in a male dominated field.

Of the 63 students from Indiana that competed in round one, 21 will proceed to the round two. Of these competitors, only three are women. Fatemeh Hajizadeh, a second year graduate student in

dominated field

TELMEX Releases
Consolidated Network

Recommended Reading from Cisco Newsroom:

IT Credentials Bring Top Talent to U.S.

Businesses: The White House and companies are working together to connect service men and women with high-paying tech jobs.

[Read the story here](#)

Online Program Seeks to Connect Veterans to Civilian Careers.

Many veterans are facing a daunting task of leaving the military and finding a job out in the civilian world. Qualified in an area of expertise that seems far and removed from the civilian work force, service men and women face a struggle entering the workforce. .

[Watch the Video here](#)

Indiana, spoke about what it is like to be a woman in such a male dominated atmosphere. "We don't believe in ourselves as much as men do," she says, "even if we are better than [men] in some topics." Fatemeh believes that men have more confidence than women, also at times beyond what their own ability is, which is not always a bad thing. In an ideal situation, women and men would find a balance in between too much and too little confidence. Fatemeh says she is trying hard to believe in herself in competition with others, regardless of their gender, but doubt still frequently plagues her. The thing that helps her overcome her doubt best? Having faculty that vocally support and encourage her. "Women need to have this support and someone to push them for going forward," Fatemeh says. "The most pressure on me for this competition is that I want to prove to other women that we can tech too!" Fatemeh says that the most pressure for passing into round two is that she feels like an example for her fellow female classmates, and to be eliminated in round one would be discouraging to them. For Fatemeh, this is not something she has to worry about any longer, as she received an email on Wednesday announcing her advancement to the second round of the competition. Knowing this has given her the energy and empowerment she needed to face the next tests. Even if she doesn't make it past the third round, she says that what is important is that she tried her best and didn't let a lack of confidence bar her way into this male dominated arena. Despite her interactions with people who have told her that this field is not for her, Fatemeh believes that staying positive and powerful is the only way to operate. "I hope for a day that women can believe in themselves, in what ever they are doing, and where ever they are living, because that will help the world to be a better place for everyone."

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TELMEX announced the release of their **Private Enterprise Virtual Data Center** service which is an the crown jewel of their Cloud Services portfolio. Through this data center, TELMEX is able to offer their clients a completely new data center on their existing private network, or simply an extension of their existing data center. The PEVRD service melds four cloud services into an integrated package, which are collaboration, web presence, security, and infrastructure. These are serviced on a whole network and security service that the client has access to. The service somewhat a result of a collaboration between Cisco and TELMEX that started in 2012, but it is aimed not only at large companies but is made for any organization on the market, large or small.

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