

Jose Bogarin

# Smart, Certified, and Successful



## About our IT Professional

**Member name**

Jose Bogarin

**Job title**

Chief Innovation Officer

**Industry**

IT Services

**Location**

Costa Rica

### Summary of Jose's current role

- Jose serves as his company's chief innovator, engineering lead, and team motivator
- He manages both the organization's networking team and its software development teams
- Most of his time, however, is spent on technology innovation initiatives for his customers

### Summary of Jose's Cisco certifications

- Six associate-level certifications across Data Center, Routing & Switching, Wireless, and CCDA, which migrated to the new CCNA in February 2020, as well as Cisco Certified DevNet Associate
- Ten Specialist Certifications
- Four certified specializations across collaboration, security and network architecture
- Four professional-level certifications; CCDP, Data Center, Enterprise, and Cisco Certified DevNet Professional

### Summary of Jose's accomplishments

- Jose is the proud holder of 24 Cisco certifications, a member of the DevNet 500 and of the Class of 2020
- Jose founded his own IT services company that employs 60 professionals throughout Costa Rica
- His company was named the Grand Prize winner of Cisco's Platform Innovation Challenge

### Why Jose chose to pursue Cisco certifications

While studying electrical engineering at his university, he learned about the Cisco Networking Academy. Naturally, he was curious. His brother also happened to be an instructor at the time, so he enrolled. He knew he'd be studying for certifications. What he didn't realize at the time was that his pursuit of knowledge and certifications would take him on a long and rewarding journey. "You prepare, learn new concepts, take a tough but fair exam," says Jose, "then use the certification to validate that you're ready to tackle all of the challenges a particular technology can throw at you." Certifications prove you've studied hard, you've tested your skills, you're committed to learning, and you know what you're talking about. In a highly competitive industry like IT, that matters.

## How Jose views the value of the DevNet community

Before DevNet, finding relevant IT information wasn't easy. Today, it is. Borrowing Aristotle's words, Jose says, "DevNet as a whole is greater than the sum of its parts." And the reason is simple. You can find all the information, resources, and expertise you need in one convenient spot. Jose has made good use of the Developer Sandbox, the Webex Teams space, the documentation section, CodeXchange, and DevNet Express. He even spends time at the DevNet Zone during Cisco Live. When young engineers ask Jose about the best way to prepare for certifications, DevNet is where he points them.

## Why Jose thinks software programming skills are now essential

Things have changed immensely in Jose's time as an IT professional. When he started out, IT involved a lot of hardware implementation. Now, due to the increasing complexity of technology, shrinking IT budgets, and growing business demands, his work involves using software to devise smart solutions that address complex customer needs. Every day, he sees his role shifting as he takes on automation, AI, machine learning, and the impact they're going to have on his customers. Jose likes to point out, however, that with change comes opportunity. "It's going to create a lot of possibilities," he feels, "and offer some interesting challenges certain to keep us motivated." But his team will need to be ready for these opportunities when they arise. Asked how many DevNet certifications he might want to add to his already impressive list, Jose's answer is short and to the point. "As many as I can."

## What Jose's workday looks like

Jose says he spends 90% of his day on software related activities such as recommending existing software solutions, developing custom software, consulting with customers on software implementations, and training engineers on software programming. In his spare time, he thinks about emerging software technologies and how he might use them to innovate. It's a lot of software, and it's important to test and validate code before executing in real-world applications.

Luckily, having 24x7 free access to the Developer Sandbox continues to be invaluable for Jose. It's foolproof for learning and practicing code, and pre-built Sandboxes and step-by-step tutorials ensure he gets the most out of a variety of virtualized environments, simulators and real hardware.

## Unleash the Capabilities of the New Network

Develop, code and configure technology-packed Cisco labs for free with 24x7 access. Dig in and accelerate your skills with the Cisco DevNet community in the [Developer Sandbox](#).

## The greatest lesson Jose has learned along his journey

If you're involved in technology, you have to adapt. There's no way around it. Your skills must evolve because technologies evolve, and more importantly, your job will evolve. Certifications and DevNet have been allies in Jose's journey of adaptation. They can be your allies, too. "What Cisco is doing with DevNet certifications is pretty powerful," Jose insists. "Cisco certifications have always been the gold standard for networking. The new DevNet certifications are now the gold standard in programmability."