The IREB Partner Program is addressed to companies worldwide who place a high value on sound requirements engineering – companies that are aiming to align the qualifications of their employees with international standards and the best practices associated with requirements engineering, thus claiming a decisive core competence. Participation in the IREB Partner Program is an endorsement of this claim.

The IREB Partner Seal is a quality seal, which allows IREB to support partners in how they are perceived by the public. The seal is awarded in silver, gold or platinum and thus reflects the commitment a company has demonstrated with regard to the requirements engineering qualification of its employees; contributing factors to this rating include the number of CPRE-certified employees and the level of qualification attained.
Advantages for participating companies

Use of the IREB Partner Seal on the company’s website and on marketing material

- Participants of the IREB Partner Program clearly illustrate the high priority that they have set concerning the requirements engineering qualification of their employees. They are sending a definite signal to both business partners and employees.

- Companies with a core business in requirements engineering gain a highly valuable marketing tool, which proves their competence in requirements engineering.

Company logo / Link on IREB homepage

- With the publication as a partner on the IREB homepage the company becomes internationally visible. It is now one of the No. 1 addresses for potential customers.

- The company clearly stands out from its competitors.

Advantages for IREB

- The Partner Program represents another direct link between the CPRE certification and the realities of operational practice.

- By becoming an IREB partner, companies highlight the practicality and the additional value of the international CPRE standard, thus helping to promote and reinforce the value of this standard.
Setup of the IREB Partner Program

Partner status

Based on the number of employees with CPRE certification, the companies are accredited one of three partner status:

The classification is carried out according to:

- Company size or optionally size of an organizational unit (branch office, department, etc.).

  When looking at a company, two areas are considered when assessing its qualifying status: Employees’ qualifications are considered on mass meaning the number of employees that are qualified; in addition the depth to which employees are qualified is respected, i.e. the degree of specialization.

- Number of existing certificates in:
  - RE@Agile Primer. . . . . . . . 0.5 points per certificate
  - Foundation Level. . . . . . . . 1 point per certificate
  - Advanced Level. . . . . . . . . . 3 points per certificate
  - Expert Level. . . . . . . . . . . . 15 points per certificate
Status is determined in two steps

1. The total score of the company/organizational unit is determined. To do this, only the highest certificate of each individual employee will be taken into account. Example:

- 1 employee with an RE@Agile Primer certificate:
  1 x 0.5 points = 0.5 points
- 3 employees with a Foundation Level certificate:
  3 x 1 point = 3 points
- 5 employees with 1 Advanced Level certificate:
  5 x 3 points = 15 points
- 1 employee with 2 Advanced Level certificates:
  2 x 3 points = 6 points

This company/organizational unit scores 24.5 points.

2. In addition to the total score a minimum average score per employee is also relevant. It is up to the company itself to determine the base factor for the calculation: The number of employees of the complete company or of a considered organizational unit.

Assignment to the partner status

Calculations made using the outlined formula mean a status that can be identified with the following overview:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner Status</th>
<th>Silver</th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Platinum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Points per employee</td>
<td>0.4 points</td>
<td>0.6 points</td>
<td>0.8 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(at least) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Points in total</td>
<td>6 points</td>
<td>19 points</td>
<td>31 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(at least) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Both, minimum points per employee and minimum total points have to be achieved.

The classification is usually given at the beginning of the year for the whole calendar year, but it can be adjusted in between if necessary.
Participation in the Partner Program

The drawing up of an annual contract between IREB GmbH and the participating company is subject to a 250 Euro administration fee on completion. The duration of the partnership contract is generally the calendar year.

Partners report the number of employees and the number of existing CPRE certificates at contract inception or at the beginning of each new year. These figures form part of the partner information on the IREB homepage so that specific status classification is transparent for interested parties. IREB does not verify the figures reported by the partner, as through the publication on the IREB website they are of course open to public scrutiny.

IREB provides the partner with the IREB Partner Seal for print and electronic usage. In the case of electronic use the partner is obliged to link the Partner Seal with his entry on the IREB homepage and vice versa. IREB will link the partner’s information with the partner’s website.

If interested in participating in the Partner Program, you are kindly requested to contact us:

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Highlight Your Expertise – Become a Partner.