

# *Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional Program Rules & Agreement*

**IF YOU DO NOT ACCEPT THE TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT, YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HITACHI VANTARA CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM AND WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO TAKE A HITACHI VANTARA QUALIFICATION TEST OR CERTIFICATION EXAM.**

## **1. DEFINITIONS**

In this Agreement the following terms will have the meanings set forth below:

1.1 “Certified” means an individual who has successfully met the Certification Requirements and has received written confirmation of such from the Hitachi Vantara Certification Program Office. “Certification” has the same meaning.

1.2 “Certification Requirements” means any one of those sets of requirements established by Hitachi Vantara that an individual must meet to become Certified and must continue to meet to maintain Certified for the associated Track. The Certification Requirements are set out on the Program Website.

1.3 “Designation” means any one of the titles established by Hitachi Vantara which you may become authorized to use after becoming Certified by Hitachi Vantara for the Track associated with that title. Designations currently include Hitachi Vantara Qualified Associate, Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional, Hitachi Vantara Certified Specialist, and Hitachi Vantara Certified Expert.

1.4 “Logo” shall mean any one of the Program logos established by Hitachi Vantara which you may become authorized to use by becoming Hitachi Vantara Certified for the Track associated with the Logo.

“1.5 “Badge” shall mean any one of the Program digital badges established by Hitachi Vantara which you may become authorized to use by becoming Hitachi Vantara Certified for the Track associated with the Badge.

1.6 “Program” means the Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional Program.

1.7 “Program Website” means the website located at <https://www.hitachivantara.com/en-us/services/training-certification.html>. The Program Website provides additional tools and information about the Program, including the Certification Requirements for each Track, as well as any other Program and operational requirements.

1.8 “Track” means any one of the then current tracks established by Hitachi Vantara under the Program in relation to which an individual may become Certified. Tracks currently include Basics and Fundamentals, Installation and Support, Implementation and Integration, Administration, Presales (employees and partners), and Sales.

## **2. CERTIFICATION**

2.1 Certification. Each Track has an associated set of Certification Requirements. Current Certification Requirements for the Tracks are available at the Program Website. To become Certified you must meet the requirements of the Program, including the Certification Requirements for the relevant Track. You are allowed to become Certified for more than one Track.

2.2 Maintaining Certification. To maintain Certification for a Track, you must maintain compliance with your obligations under this Agreement and with the current Certification Requirements for that Track, as may be specified or modified by Hitachi Vantara from time to time. You agree to meet the Certification Requirements and other Program requirements, as updated from time to time, as a condition of obtaining and maintaining your Certification.

2.3 Certification Revocation. Hitachi Vantara may, at its sole discretion revoke any and all Certifications, and permanently ban you from earning future Certifications, under any of the following circumstances: (a) if you fail to maintain compliance with the Certification Requirements, as well as any other Program requirements; (b) you breach the terms and conditions of this Agreement; or (c) Hitachi Vantara determines, in its sole discretion, that you have taken any action that compromises the integrity and confidentiality of a certification exam or the Program.

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## **3. RIGHT TO USE LOGO, BADGE AND DESIGNATION**

3.1 License. Subject to your compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, upon your successful completion of the Certification Requirements for a Track, Hitachi Vantara grants you a non-exclusive, non-transferable, non-assignable, royalty-free license to use the Logo, Badge and Designation associated with the Track for which you are Certified solely in connection with publicizing that you have met and continue to meet all Certification Requirements for that Track only as long as you maintain Certified status in relation to the relevant Track(s).

3.2 Limitations on Use. You agree not to use the Designation, Logo or Badge in a manner that (a) damages or infringes Hitachi Vantara' rights in the Designation, Logo or Badge, (b) reflects negatively on Hitachi Vantara or otherwise injures Hitachi Vantara' reputation, (c) misrepresents your relationship with Hitachi Vantara or gives the impression that Hitachi Vantara endorses or recommends your business or services, or (d) gives the impression that the Designation, Logo or Badge applies to your employer or to any other individual other than yourself.

3.3 Compliance with Guidelines. You agree that you shall use only Hitachi Vantara-supplied Designation, Logo and Badge artwork and that your reproduction and use of the Designation, Logo and Badge shall be in strict compliance with the Usage Guidelines which shall be made available to you upon your Certification. Upon request, you agree to promptly provide Hitachi Vantara with representative examples of your materials using the Designation, Logo or Badge.

3.4 Reservation of Rights. You acknowledge the value of the goodwill associated with the Designation, Logo and Badge and acknowledge that such goodwill exclusively inures to the benefit of and belongs to Hitachi Vantara. Hitachi Vantara retains all rights not expressly conveyed to you by this Agreement, and shall have the right to grant licenses to others to use the Designation, Logo and Badge.

3.5 Protection of Mark. If necessary to aid Hitachi Vantara in the protection of Hitachi Vantara' rights in or to a Designation, Logo or Badge, you agree to provide reasonable cooperation and assistance to Hitachi Vantara.

3.6 No Challenge of Rights. You agree not to challenge, interfere with, or bring any kind of action or legal or administrative proceeding in relation to the rights and title of Hitachi Vantara in or to any Designation, Logo or Badge.

3.7 No Unauthorized Use, Registration. You agree not to use any Designation, Logo or Badge except as specifically authorized under this Agreement, not to file any application to register, in any class and in any country, any trademark or service mark for any Designation, Logo or Badge or any other mark confusingly similar to any Designation, Logo or Badge. You agree to immediately cease all use of all Logos, Badges and Designations upon the termination of this Agreement.

## **4. CONFIDENTIALITY AND OWNERSHIP**

4.1 Hitachi Vantara Confidential Information. You understand, acknowledge and agree that the certification exams and all information provided to you or obtained by you related to the certification exams, including, but not limited to, the specific questions and the content, structure, and organization of the exams, shall be deemed to be the confidential information of Hitachi Vantara ("Confidential Information").

4.2 Your Confidentiality Obligations. You agree that you will, both during and after the term of this Agreement, (a) hold all Confidential Information in confidence and take all reasonable measures to protect the Confidential Information, (b) make no use of the Confidential Information except as expressly allowed under this Agreement, and (c) not disclose, reproduce, disseminate or transmit in any way any portion of the Confidential Information to any third party in any form, including without limitation, written, electronic or verbal.

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4.3 Intellectual Property Ownership. Hitachi Vantara retains all rights, title and interest in and to all Program and related information, content, data, exams, materials, and all copyrights, patent rights, trademark rights and other proprietary rights therein. All rights not expressly granted by Hitachi Vantara to you are expressly reserved to Hitachi Vantara.

### **5. CERTIFICATION INFORMATION**

5.1 Third Parties. Hitachi Vantara is entitled, but is not obligated, to make information concerning your Certification status available to third parties in writing or electronically. Hitachi Vantara has certain partner programs that require employment of a minimum number of Hitachi Vantara Certified employees. For this reason, the revocation of any Certification may result in loss of partner benefits to such employers. You agree that if Hitachi Vantara revokes your Certification pursuant to Section 2.3, Hitachi Vantara shall have the right to notify your employer and respond to any inquiry by your employer about changes in your Certification status. You have the responsibility for ensuring that your information is accurate and that Hitachi Vantara is kept aware of your current relevant information. Hitachi Vantara shall have no liability for providing incorrect information to third parties in response to a proper request to verify your Certification status.

5.2 Information Processing. You agree and consent that Hitachi Vantara and the Program contractors and testing vendors may process and exchange your information in connection with the operation of the Program.

### **6. BUSINESS CONDUCT**

You agree that all business you conduct and all services you provide in your capacity as a participant in the Program, or in connection with the promotion or selling of which you use or display a Designation, Logo or Badge, shall be performed in a manner that (a) does not reflect negatively on Hitachi Vantara or in any way harm Hitachi Vantara's reputation, (b) avoids unethical, illegal, misleading or deceptive practices, (c) does not make or appear to make any warranties, representations or guarantees on behalf of Hitachi Vantara or related to Hitachi Vantara products or services, (d) complies with all applicable governmental laws and regulations and (e) protects Hitachi Vantara's confidential information, copyrights and other intellectual property rights.

### **7. TERM AND TERMINATION**

7.1 Term. The term of this Agreement shall commence upon the date of you accept this Agreement and will continue until terminated in accordance with this Section 7.

7.2 Termination by Either Party. Either party, with or without cause, may terminate this Agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice of termination to the other party.

7.3 Termination by Hitachi Vantara. Hitachi Vantara, in its sole discretion and without prejudice to any rights Hitachi Vantara may have under this Agreement of in law, equity or otherwise, may terminate this Agreement at any time upon the occurrence of any one of the following events: (a) you fail to comply with the requirements established by Hitachi Vantara for maintaining your Certification for at least one Track, (b) you misrepresent your Certification status, (c) you use a Logo, Badge or Designation in a manner that Hitachi Vantara believes could injure Hitachi Vantara's reputation or rights in the Logo, Badge or Designation, (d) you misappropriate or disclose without authorization any Hitachi Vantara trade secret or confidential information including, without limitation, any Confidential Information as identified in 4.1 above or (e) you fail to comply with any of the material terms of this Agreement.

7.4 Effect of Termination. Upon termination of this Agreement, the license and all rights granted hereunder shall terminate completely. You shall immediately discontinue all use of Designations, Logos and Badges. Except as specifically provided herein, you shall have no further rights or obligations under this Agreement after termination.

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7.5 Survival. Rights and obligations under Sections 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 4, 5, 7.3, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of this Agreement shall survive termination of this Agreement.

### **8. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

IN NO EVENT SHALL Hitachi Vantara BE LIABLE FOR ANY INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL OR INCIDENTAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO LOSS OF BUSINESS PROFITS) ARISING FROM THIS AGREEMENT OR IN ANY WAY RELATED TO YOUR CERTIFICATION, YOUR FAILURE TO ACHIEVE OR MAINTAIN CERTIFICATION, YOUR USE OR INABILITY TO USE THE DESIGNATIONS, LOGOS OR BADGES, OR THE TERMINATION OF YOUR CERTIFICATION, WHETHER IN AN ACTION IN CONTRACT OR TORT, EVEN IF HITACHI VANTARA HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.

### **9. INDEMNIFICATION**

You agree to indemnify and hold Hitachi Vantara harmless against any loss, liability, damage, cost or expense (including attorneys' fees) arising out of any claims or suits, whatever their nature and however arising, which may be brought or made against Hitachi Vantara arising out of or in any manner connected with: (i) any breach by you of this Agreement including, but not limited to, your use of the Designations, Logos and Badges in any way that is inconsistent with this Agreement; (ii) any claim alleging that your services were promoted, sold or performed in a deceptive, incomplete, illegal, negligent, improper or unauthorized manner, (iii) Hitachi Vantara termination of this Agreement pursuant to the terms of this Agreement or (iv) your use or misuse of the intellectual property or confidential information of Hitachi Vantara or any third party.

### **10. CHANGES TO PROGRAM**

10.1 Right to Change. Hitachi Vantara reserves the right to terminate the Program or to make changes to the Program at any time. Such changes may include, but are not limited to: (a) changes to the number, scope, organization, objectives and content of the exams, (b) additions, deletions or other modifications to the Certification Requirements, (c) addition of new Tracks, Designations, Logos and Badges, and (d) deletion, modification or replacement of any Track, Designation, Logo or Badge.

10.2 Notice of Changes. Hitachi Vantara will post a notice of any Program changes on the Program Website. If Hitachi Vantara records indicate that you are certified for a Track and any change to the Program affects the Certification Requirements for that Track, Hitachi Vantara intends, but is not obligated, to send an email notification to you at the email address on file with the Program Office, however it is your responsibility to monitor the posted Program information and Certification Requirements for any changes potentially affecting your Certification status.

10.3 Effect of Changes. If Hitachi Vantara changes the requirements for maintaining certification for a Track for which you are Certified, you must comply with the changed requirements within six (6) months from the effective date of such requirements change. If you have not fully complied with the new or modified requirements within the six-month period, your Certification for that Track shall terminate and you shall cease all use of the Designation, Logo or Badge associated with that Track.

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## **11. OTHER PROVISIONS**

11.1 No Joint Venture or Partnership. This Agreement shall not create a joint venture, partnership, principal-agent, employer-employee, or similar relationship between the parties. You agree that you will not represent yourself as an agent, employee, consultant, contractor or legal representative of Hitachi Vantara or any subsidiary thereof based upon this Agreement.

11.2 No Warranties by You. This Agreement does not give you any right or authority to make any representation, warranty, or promise on behalf of Hitachi Vantara or Hitachi Vantara' products or services.

11.3 Injunction. You recognize and acknowledge that a material breach by you of any of your covenants, agreements or undertakings hereunder will cause Hitachi Vantara irreparable damage, which cannot be readily remedied in monetary damages in an action at law. Therefore, in addition to its rights and remedies otherwise available at law, upon an adequate showing of material breach, and without further proof of irreparable harm other than this acknowledgment, Hitachi Vantara shall be entitled to immediate equitable relief, including, but not limited to, both interim and permanent injunctions, to stop such damage.

11.4 Governing Law and Jurisdiction. This Agreement shall be governed and construed and enforced in all respects in accordance with the substantive and procedural laws of the state of California and the venue for any litigation will be the appropriate courts in Santa Clara County, California. Both you and Hitachi Vantara submit to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of such courts, and specifically disclaim the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods.

11.5 Waiver and Severability. The waiver by either party of any default or breach of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of any other or subsequent default or breach. In the event any provision of this Agreement is determined to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, then the other provisions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

11.6 No Assignment. This Agreement may not be assigned by you in whole or in part. Any attempted assignment shall be null and void.

11.7 Notices. All notices required by this Agreement to be sent to Hitachi Vantara must be addressed to Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional Program at 2535 Augustine Drive, Santa Clara, California 95054, USA. All notices to be mailed to you will be directed to the most recent email address for you in the Certification Program Office files. It is your responsibility to ensure that the Certification Program Office has your current email and postal address.

11.8 Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the complete agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous agreements or representations, written or oral, concerning the subject matter of this Agreement. This Agreement may not be modified or amended except in writing signed by a duly authorized representative of each party; no other act, document, usage or custom shall be deemed to amend or modify this Agreement.