

# **Tool-Box Talk**

## **CMRT Exam Recommendations**

**By Ricky Smith CMRP, CMRT**

**The Certified Maintenance & Reliability Technician (CMRT) program is the leading credentialing program for the knowledge, skills and abilities of maintenance and reliability technicians.**

**The certification assesses the knowledge and skills of those responsible for preventative, predictive and corrective maintenance – multi-skilled individuals who play a critical role in the success of organizations worldwide.**

**Earning the CMRT credential indicates that you have achieved a level of ability consistent with the requirements for competence on the job as a maintenance and reliability technician.**

**The CMRT exam tests competency and knowledge of specific tasks within four (4) domains:**

- **Maintenance Practices**
- **Preventative and Predictive Maintenance**
- **Troubleshooting and Analysis**
- **Corrective Maintenance.**

**The benefits of certification are apparent for many fields and extremely attractive to maintenance technicians in many organizations. The following is a short summary of the benefits:**

- **Clearer direction for career development and education**
- **Improved visibility and recognition within your current organization**
- **Differentiated pay scales**
- **Portable job skills and knowledge between plants and companies**
- **Assists in job promotion**
- **Greater job effectiveness**
- **Improved ability to differentiate between candidates in the promotion process.**

## About taking the CMRT Exam:

- The Examination for certification as a maintenance and reliability technician consists of 175 multiple choice questions. Examinees are allowed three (3) hours to complete it.
- The examination is closed book with no reference materials allowed in the examination room (except strict translation dictionaries for candidates whose native language is not English, under conditions specified in Section II of this guide).
- A hand-held calculator with arithmetic functions is provided for use by those sitting for the exam. No other personal calculators, computers or electronic devices are permitted.
- Testing in Languages Other than English Currently, SMRPCO offers the certification examination in English. Other languages may be added. The use of translators during the examination will not be permitted.
- The examination score reports will reflect only PASS or FAIL. Failing candidates and Certificants will be given diagnostic, non-numerical information indicating their overall performance for each domain of the exam.

## Recommendations:

Step 1 – Join SMRP ([www.smrp.org](http://www.smrp.org))

Step 2 – Download and study the “CMRT Candidate Guide for Certification and Recertification”

Step 3 – Join one of the SMRP Chapters or Special Interest Groups and Participate, meet other CMRTs

Step 4 – Download the “SMRP Glossary” and Study the definitions

Step 4 – Purchase and Study “Industrial Machinery Repair” by Keith Mobley and Ricky Smith and study

---

## On the day prior to the CMRP Exam:

- Minimize alcohol intake
- Study 2-4 hours every other day using the material recommended above
- **Study – take a 30-minute break every hour, walk around outside and clear your head, no TV while studying.**
- Study with someone else is good
- Get plenty of uninterrupted sleep (minimum of 6 hours)