

AIDC CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME

Welcome to the AutoDigitID AIDC Certification Programme

From deployment competence to enterprise delivery leadership

AutoDigitID Africa | Version 1.0 | 2026-08-02 | Vendor-neutral | Standards-led | Africa-ready

Welcome

Welcome. You are about to join a profession that most people never notice and every modern economy depends on. Every parcel scanned at a doorstep, every medicine verified at a hospital bedside, every pallet that finds its way through a dark warehouse at 3 a.m. - all of it works because someone made automatic identification and data capture (AIDC) work: barcodes, RFID, machine vision, voice, sensors, and the mobile computers and networks that carry their data into enterprise systems.

This is also a field in the middle of its biggest shift in a generation. Retail is migrating from 1D barcodes to 2D codes at point of sale. GS1 Digital Link is turning every identifier into a gateway on the web. EPCIS 2.0 traceability events, RAIN RFID, Digital Product Passports, digital identity and AI-assisted capture are moving from pilot projects into regulation and daily operations. The people who can deploy, integrate and assure these technologies are scarce - and Africa's supply chains, hospitals, factories and public services need them now.

The ladder in three sentences

The programme is one ladder with three rungs, each a complete qualification and each a step to the next.

CERTIFIED AIDC PROFESSIONAL - 'I can deploy and support AIDC environments reliably.' You master the technologies themselves: how barcodes, RFID, vision, devices, printing, connectivity and device software actually work, and how to commission, secure, troubleshoot and support them in the field. Primary verb: DEPLOY.

CERTIFIED AIDC SPECIALIST - 'I can connect AIDC technologies to secure, observable enterprise workflows.' You make captured data mean something: APIs, events, standards-based traceability, edge and cloud synchronisation, testing and observability. Primary verb: INTEGRATE.

CERTIFIED AIDC EXPERT - 'I can lead and assure complex AIDC implementations in production.' You carry delivery responsibility: security, resilience, cutover, operations, governance and vendor management, proven against a supplied reference architecture and defended before a panel. Primary verb: ASSURE.

Beyond the ladder sits a protected boundary: original enterprise architecture, research and policy design belong to university study (the DESIGN verb), which this programme deliberately feeds but never replaces.

Who these certifications are for

Professional: students, entry technicians, field support and presales/postsales staff. No prior AIDC experience is required - only basic digital literacy. 120-160 guided hours over roughly 3-4 months.

Specialist: solution engineers, systems analysts, automation engineers and mid-career upskillers.
Entry: the Professional award or verified equivalent deployment competence. 180-240 guided hours over roughly 5-6 months.

Expert: senior integrators, implementation leads, platform owners and delivery assurance leads.
Entry: the Specialist award plus verified integration experience. 220-300 guided hours over roughly 6-9 months.

Why take the whole ladder

Each award is designed to be hired on its own: Professional graduates work as AIDC technicians, device configuration specialists and support engineers; Specialists as solution and integration engineers; Experts as implementation leads, technical delivery managers and platform owners.

But the ladder compounds. The Professional's device fluency is what makes the Specialist's integrations trustworthy; the Specialist's integration evidence is what makes the Expert's assurance credible. Employers read the progression as a career story: deploy, then integrate, then assure.

Certification renewal also stacks: earning a higher award renews everything below it, so climbing the ladder is the most efficient way to stay current. After Specialist, industry concentration badges (logistics, healthcare, retail, manufacturing, public sector, banking, energy) add sector depth without a fourth level.

What you are getting yourself into

This is an evidence-first programme. No award is earned through multiple-choice testing alone: every level demands authentic work - configured environments, working integrations, failure drills, documentation - and a final assessment that combines a written exam with a hands-on practical lab.

The mastery bar is 80%. Every module ends in an assessment you must pass at 80% before moving on, and the final certification assessment requires 80% in aggregate across exam and lab, with minimum floors in every domain. Knowledge checks along the way are ungraded practice - use them freely; the bar applies where it counts.

Expect to work with your hands. Labels will misprint, tags will not read, networks will drop, and syncs will conflict - deliberately. Recovering from injected faults, and documenting the recovery so a colleague could replicate it, is the skill being certified.

How the programme works

Each certification is a sequence of modules; each module a set of topics. Every topic ships the same toolkit: a learner guide, a narrated presentation, a short animatic that shows the mechanism in motion, worked examples, practice tasks and knowledge checks. Every module

opens with an introduction stating its objectives, structure and pass requirements, and closes with an assessment and an applied challenge.

Each certification ends with a capstone module - your format-identical rehearsal for the final assessment - and then the final assessment itself: a written exam built to a published blueprint, and a practical lab where the tasks state the end state and your evidence pack carries marks.

Credentials are issued as secure, verifiable digital badges with transparent level and capability metadata, valid for three years, renewable by continuing education, re-examination, or - best of all - by earning the next rung.

Ready? Start with the Certified AIDC Professional introduction. Welcome aboard.

The ladder at a glance

Level	Certification signal	Verb	Entry	Duration
Professional	I can deploy and support AIDC environments reliably.	DEPLOY	None. No prior AIDC experience is required.	120-160 guided hours over 3-4 months
Specialist	I can connect AIDC technologies to secure, observable enterprise workflows.	INTEGRATE	Certified AIDC Professional award, or verified equivalent deployment competence.	180-240 guided hours over 5-6 months
Expert	I can lead and assure complex AIDC implementations in production.	ASSURE	Certified AIDC Specialist award plus verified integration experience.	220-300 guided hours over 6-9 months

Every certification introduction, module introduction, exam blueprint and lab guide in this programme derives from the approved AutoDigitID Certification Framework 2026. Where this document and the framework differ, the framework governs.