



Achieving Sustainable Productivity  
Meeting Customer Demand in an Unpredictable World

Volunteer Leadership  
Workshop at  
**2011 APICS International  
Conference & Expo**



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## Understanding APICS Exam Scaled Scoring

- Ann Gatewood, CFPIM, CIRM, CSCP
- Susan Neff, CPIM, CIRM, CSCP



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## Exam Items

- CPIM exams: 75 questions (BSCM is 105)
- CSCP exam: 175 questions
- 15/25 questions on every exam are Pre-test
  - Not used for scoring
  - Gathering statistics to ensure quality items
- Each item has a set of statistics to rate difficulty



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## Exam Scores

- Exam scores are based on the number of questions answered correctly = raw score
- Raw score = score before any statistical techniques are used to refine or summarize.
- Each exam has a different difficulty, and a different passing raw score




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## Passing Cut Score Study

- Determines the minimum raw score required to pass a particular exam
- Conducted when changes occur to module
- Panel of committee members, instructors, newly-certified individuals, international
- Each member analyzes each question to determine difficulty for candidate
- Two methods used




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## Passing Cut Score Study

- Each question calibrated to scale at which the minimally qualified candidate has a probability of correctly answering the question.
- Estimates are averaged, and then summed to determine the passing cut score.
- Passing cut score is assigned to a point of difficulty instead of a number or % of correct responses.




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## Scaled Scoring

- Multiple versions of the exam are not equivalent due to variations in difficulty level.
- Technique for equating scores where the degree of difficulty varies from one exam to the next.



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## Equating

- Adjusts the minimum raw passing score to compensate for these variations.
- Statistical process is used to convert the raw score to a scaled score.
- Equivalent passing standard for each exam is maintained.



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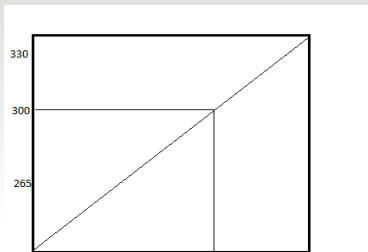
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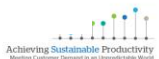
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## Scaled Scoring Example



Exam Passing Cut Score



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