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# Why a Career in Technology Matters for Women

#### Call to Action

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## 1. The Situation

2. At Cisco

## 3. Call to Action

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# The Situation

#### **Opening Doors of Opportunity**

#### STEM for students of all backgrounds

Over the past three decades, there has been a steep decline in the number of female graduates with computer science degrees.

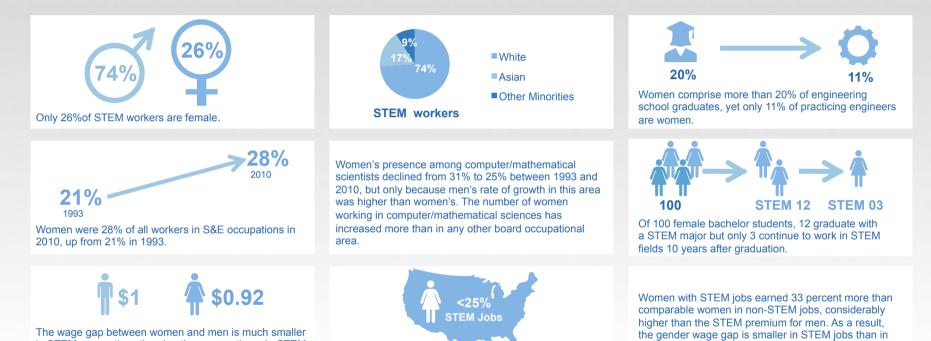
The number of computer science degrees awarded to women peaked at 37 percent between 1984 and 1985. Compare this to only 18 percent of C.S. degrees awarded to women in between 2008 and 2011, and it is easy to see the dilemma employers are facing today.

Cisco is committed to opening doors of opportunities to increase the number of women and girls, members of underserved communities and veterans who go into STEM fields.

We do this through partnerships with incredible organizations like Junior Achievement, Gooru, US First Robotics, Citizen Schools and many more.



## **STEM Facts**



The wage gap between women and men is much smaller in STEM occupations than in other occupations. In STEM fields, women earn \$0.92 for every \$1 earned by the men, compared to \$0.77 for other fields.

Although women fill close to half of all jobs in the U.S. economy, they hold less than 25 percent of STEM jobs.

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non-STEM jobs.

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## **Unprecedented STEM Education Crisis in U.S.**

By 2018, there will be 1.2 million job openings<sup>1</sup> in the U.S. in the fields that make up STEM. There will be an acute shortage of qualified applicants without a major influx of talent.

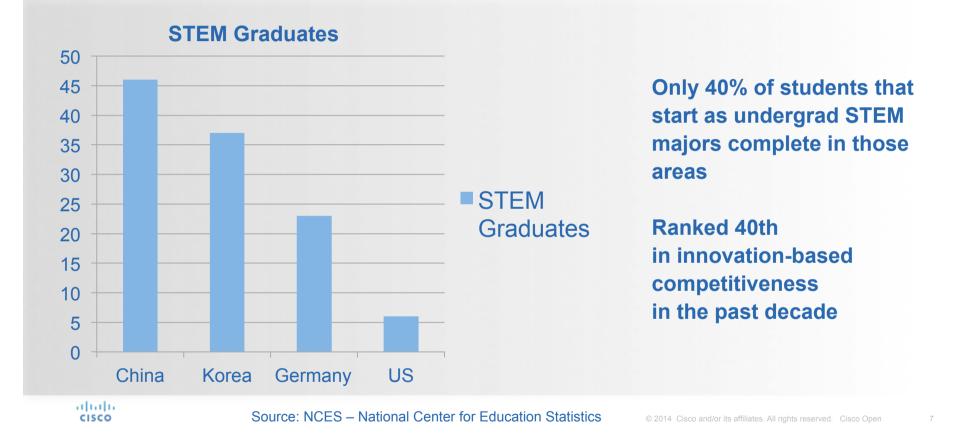


Sources:

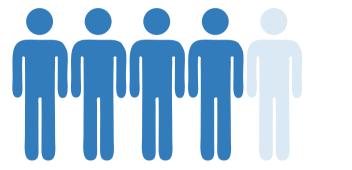
1. U.S. Dept. of Labor 2. U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee 3. Center for an Urban Future 4. Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

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#### The U.S. Ranks Low Among Other Countries



#### **Igniting the Fire**





4 in 5 STEM college students made the decision to study STEM in high school or earlier. 1 in 5 STEM college students decided to study STEM in middle school or earlier. 51% of STEM college students and parents of K-12 students do not feel that preparing students for careers in STEM is a top priority for K-12 schools in the U.S.

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# troubling tr

Summary: There is a severe --Leading industry experts believe



Kamizono / Yomiuri Shimbun Staff Writers

Amid ever-increasing cyber-attacks, a shortage of cybersecurity experts has become a serious problem.

At least 80,000 more information security manufactor and and with

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## "The information security discipline is not evolving fast enough. Most notable, women represent just 11% of this profession."

Agents of Change: Women in the Information Security Profession

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#### Why So Few Women?



October 15, 2013

#### Study: Millennials not encouraged to fill security workforce demand

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Only a meek showing of young people are being encouraged to pursue cyber security careers, a recent study on millennials' attitudes found.

According to the "Raytheon Millennial Cybersecurity Survey Report" (PDF) released on Tuesday, a staggering 82 percent of young people, aged 18 to 26, said that no high school teacher or guidance counselor ever mentioned to them career opportunities in the field.



Study: Among these interested in cancers in IT security, far more were young men than women.

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## **The Faces-Images**











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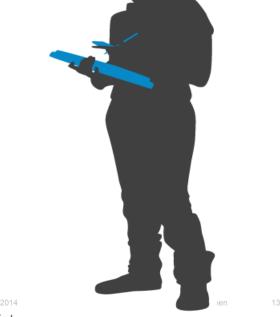
## Women in Tech: The Facts\*



GIRLS COMPRISE 19% of AP CS exam-takers



LEAVE



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\* Next 5 slides from Sr. Catherine Ashcroft NCWIT Sr Research Scientist

at twice the rate of men:

56% by mid-career

TECHNICAL WOMEN

## **Women In Tech: The Facts**



WOMEN COMPRISE 57% of U.S. Professional Occupations



WOMEN HOLD 25% of U.S. Technology Jobs



WOMEN MAKE UP 19% of U.S. Software Developers



Only 5% of TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP Jobs Are Held by Women



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#### **Why Women Matter**



#### **Diversity Enhances Teams**

# Groups with greater diversity solve complex problems better and faster than homogenous groups.

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Scott Page, The difference: How the power of diversity creates better groups, firms, schools, and societies, Princeton University Press, 2009.

## What the Research Says



## Let's Cut to the Chase

- Technical Women Aren't Broken
- Technical Men Aren't The Enemy
- Culprit = Societal Biases We All Share
- We Can Take Action Together



# How Stereotype Threat Shows Up in Technical Environments

Not speak up in meetings

Be reluctant to take leadership positions

Be overly harsh about their own work

Discount their performance



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#### Subtle Dynamics Example: Micro-inequities

Slights: "Actually, Susan has a good idea."

#### Exclusion: "Oops, I

forgot to cc her on the email about the architecture review."

**Recognition**: "No, I'm pretty sure Jane would not have had the idea to use a link algorithm."



**Isolation:** "Dude, let's talk about it over a beer!"

## **Institutional Barriers**

**Hiring** Selecting people "like me"

Task Assignment

Women find themselves in "low status" jobs

**Performance Appraisal** 

Men appraised for effort, skill; women for collaboration, luck

#### **Promotion**

Criteria modeled implicitly on existing senior male leaders

## At Cisco

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### **Cisco Networking Academy: Putting the "T" in STEM**

#### **Technology Skills**



#### What You Learn

- Address the "T" for Technology
- Networking
- Security
- Wireless
- Configuration

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#### 21st Century Skills



#### How You Learn

- Collaboration
- Community
- Communication
- Problem-Solving
- Initiative-Taking

#### **Entrepreneurial Skills**



#### How You Think

- Mindset
- Innovative Thinking
- Personal and Social Responsibility
- Business Management

## **US2020: STEM Mentoring**

#### U.S. 2020: Igniting a passion for STEM

Cisco is a founding partner of US2020, which grew out of a White House initiative to increase STEM mentoring across the country.

Cisco has pledged that 20% of our U.S. employees will provide at least 20 hours of STEM mentoring per year by 2020.

To meet this goal, we host events like Girls in ICT Day and partner with a range of nonprofit organizations, including the Girl Scouts, FIRST Robotics, Million Women Mentors and CyberPatriot.



#### **Cisco Encourages & Trains Individuals in STEM Careers, Diminishing the Talent Gap**

Through nonprofit partnerships and Cisco programs











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Mathematics Engineering Science

White House IT Training and Certification Program



Air Force Association's CyberPatriot The National High School Cyber Defense Competition





### **Cisco Published its Diversity Statistics 2014**



Like most of its peers, Cisco's workforce is overwhelmingly comprised of Caucasian and Asian men.

A full 77% of its employee base is male, with 54% of total workers (male and female combined) identifying as Caucasian and 36% as Asian.

The number of employees identifying as Hispanic and African American was 5% and 3%, respectively.

For the first time, Cisco has also released the gender breakdown for specific roles, and the numbers there are even bleaker.

A full 85% of the company's technical roles are filled by men.

When it comes to managers, just 19% are female.

http://www.cisco.com/assets/csr/pdf/CSR\_Report\_2014.pdf

The worst thing for people to say is that it's going to take time," says Warrior. "In technology, we pride ourselves on the pace of change. Why can't we talk about that same pace of change when it comes to womenoing Cisco and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved. Cisco Open leadership?"

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#### The Men's Pledge

• As a member of Cisco For Inclusion:

I will serve as an Ally to women colleagues in the company through these four vows:

- I commit to building a relationship of trust and respect with you.
- I commit to helping you find and secure opportunity.
- I commit to seeking your feedback and being candid with you.
- I commit to helping other men do the same.

#### The Women's Pledge

• As a member of Cisco Men For Inclusion

I will serve as an Ally to women colleagues in the company through these four vows:

- I commit to building a relationship of trust and respect with you.
- I commit to helping you find and secure opportunity.
- I commit to seeking your feedback and being candid with you.
- I commit to growing relationships of reciprocity with male Allies, so they do these things as well.

# Call to Action

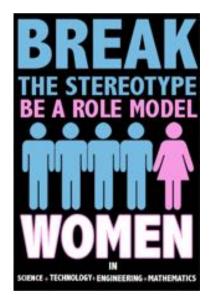
If you don't like the way the world is, you change it. You have an obligation to change it. You just do it one step at a time. – Marian Wright Edelman



## We WANT You!

#### IEEE Women in Engineering:

http://www.ieee.org/membership\_services/membership/women/index.html





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#### What Does Success Look Like?







# WOMEN ENGINEERS IN DEVELOPMENT



#### Call for Action: "You Can't See It, You Can't Be It"!

