That’s according to Nikki R. Probert, CPD, GPD, one of the hundreds of plumbing engineers who has recognized the professional benefits of the Certified in Plumbing Design (CPD) credential offered by the American Society of Plumbing Engineers (ASPE). Yet the CPD credential doesn’t just boost your career—it also brings value to your company by reflecting the leadership and advanced design skills of the firm’s employees.

SET YOURSELF APART
The CPD is the only international certification program in the plumbing engineering field, and those who maintain the designation are considered to have the highest level of skills in the design and specification of plumbing systems. Employers, clients, and your peers in the industry will immediately appreciate your achievements when they see the CPD designation after your name.

With CPD on your LinkedIn profile, business card, or resume, employers instantly know that you are in the top tier of plumbing engineers, and many employers are quick to reward employees for their accomplishments in achieving and maintaining the credential. Layne Andrew Micek, CPD, GPD, says that “the CPD has allowed me to progress in my company in a rather short time.”

Also, the professional recognition afforded by the CPD can help accelerate your career, compared to those without the credential. “The CPD reflects competency in plumbing design and professionalism, and sets one apart from others in the industry, whether it is competing for a project with an owner, architect, or contractor, or competing for promotions in your employment,” says Bradley T. Gettel, CPD, GPD, LEED AP. Sarah A. Balz, PE, CPD, GPD, LEED AP, has had a similar experience. “Clients would see ‘CPD’ on my business card and ask what it was. It gives me more credit as a designer,” she says.

THE GREATEST HIDDEN BENEFIT
Why are CPDs known to have the most advanced skills? Due to the program’s recertification requirements, CPDs are continually attending training so they are always the first to know about new techniques, methods, and products. “The continuing education requirement for my CPD recertification keeps me on a monthly schedule of training to stay fresh and up to date on new plumbing technologies,” says Probert.

In fact, many CPDs say that the recertification requirement is one of the greatest hidden benefits of the program, in that it forces you to stay at the forefront of the industry through continuing education. “It is worth the time and effort for how it impacts my career,” Gettel says.

ADD VALUE TO YOUR COMPANY
In addition to the CPD credential enhancing your career, it also strengthens your company’s image in the increasingly competitive MEP industry. When potential clients see the CPD after your name, they know your company is dedicated to hiring and supporting the best talent in the profession. When you study for the CPD exam and stay educated through ongoing training, you bring more value to the services your company offers.

“Just studying for the exam itself is a great way to get exposure to all of the many aspects of the plumbing design industry,” Probert says.

Micek agrees: “The CPD shows that you are knowledgeable in the industry and can make the decisions necessary to provide the client with a great design for their building.”

HOW CAN YOU JOIN THE ELITE?
The CPD exam is held at online testing centers around the world every year. To take the first step toward unlimited career potential, visit aspe.org/CPD.