

**Contact:**  
**Michele Altman, CSS**  
ETA International  
Phone: (800) 288-3824  
Fax: (765) 653-4287

5 Depot Street  
Greencastle, IN 46135  
www.eta-i.org

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# PRESS RELEASE

## ETA Introduced Training Leading to Certification at IWCE

*Technical and educational professionals from around the world joined colleagues from across the U.S. in Las Vegas to obtain valuable hands-on training leading to ETA certification. Training included Certified Electronics Technician, Distributed Antenna Systems, Fiber Optics Installer, General Communications Technician and Interference Hunting.*

**Greencastle, April 14, 2015:** ETA International recently Education Forum to the next level when it was invited to co-locate with Penton's International Wireless Communications Expo. ETA and IWCE have worked together for several years, with ETA offering certification testing during IWCE.

This March, ETA hosted training from top industry experts at IWCE. Technical and educational professionals from Canada, Singapore and Uruguay joined colleagues from across the U.S. in Las Vegas to obtain valuable hands-on training leading to ETA certification.

"Over 100 technicians attained career-enhancing skills and knowledge during ETA-hosted training and 95 individuals sat for ETA certification testing," said Teresa Maher, CSS, President, ETA International.

Training included Certified Electronics Technician, Distributed Antenna Systems, Fiber Optics Installer, General Communications Technician and Interference Hunting from such respected trainers as Dover Telecommunications Services, Ira Wiesenfeld & Associates and Light Brigade.

"ETA was honored to be a part of an event of this caliber. This type of teamwork will continue to foster excellence in wireless communications careers," Maher said. .

In an effort to increase student outreach, ETA once again partnered with IWCE on the Job Education and Training Center, including an annual scholarship for an ETA student member to attend IWCE. This year's winner was Christopher Olejniczak, CETsr of Lemont, IL. With a military background in radio systems, he is a recent DeVry University graduate who was fortunate to start his wireless career with veteran-owned United Radio Communications.

"This scholarship really helped me in my career at United Radio Communications by making it possible for me to attend the next level of self-improvement that I started back at the 2013 ETA Education Forum," said Olejniczak.

"Without the scholarship and help from ETA and IWCE representatives, it would have not been possible," he said, "I am the newest technician at this company and was looking for a boost to help me move up and this was it!"

Barry Wilk, United Radio Communications Vice President - Engineering and Service Operations, said he couldn't be more proud of Olejniczak and his accomplishments, moving quickly from SET and CETA in 2013, receiving his degree from DeVry in 2014 and receiving the ETA Scholarship and earning the CETsr and GROl just weeks ago.

"The support and encouragement I observed from ETA members was very refreshing. I look forward to further interactions with the ETA staff in months to come," Wilk said.

ETA was thrilled to introduce hands-on training to Penton's annual IWCE expo, one of the industry's largest conventions for two-way radio manufacturers.

"We were delighted to have the ETA Educational Forum co-located with IWCE 2015. It brought technicians and engineers to IWCE who may not have attended in the past, and added to our overall show dynamic," said Stacey Orlick, Event & Content Director, IWCE.

As more technicians and educators continue to discover the ETA Education Forum and the remarkable value it offers, ETA will continue to offer professional development opportunities at a reasonable price.

"The leaders at ETA are consummate professionals who were outstanding partners, and we look forward to a long-lasting relationship," said Stephanie McCall, Brand Director, IWCE and IWCE's Urgent Communications.

Keynote speaker at the ETA annual awards banquet was Lieutenant John D. MacLean III, CET, U.S. Navy Reserve, U.S. Department of Homeland Security and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Civilian Emergency Communications Expert. He spoke on how the events of 9/11 sparked the need to increase cybersecurity preventative measures and how the attacks brought better coordination among regional, state and national public safety communications agencies.

View pictures of the event on ETA International's Facebook page and watch for next year's Education Forum location announcement.

### **Attendee Quotes:**

"Education Forum at IWCE allowed me to learn more about DAS systems in order better understand customer needs and regulations surrounding communications indoors. Highly knowledgeable instructors provided key information on how to design and implement the most efficient system for our customers." *Orhan Avcioglu, Business Development Manager, Telsan, Istanbul, Turkey*

"My experience with ETA was great. I attended the class for the CET associate's test. The new changes that ETA made to the class, which now focus more on the specific material that is on the test, are spot-on. This shortens the class, while still giving you the required information to do well on the test. Overall, I think it was a great success." *Dustin Peabody, Field Technician, Creative Communications Sales & Rentals, Arizona*

"The knowledge and materials provided at ETA training is invaluable in providing excellent communications that our customers depend on." *Eric Rodriguez, Technician, Highland Wireless Services, Florida*

"IWCE 2015 was my first time there and it was an outstanding learning environment for anyone in the RF field. The courses offered are second to none and I suggest sending your people there!" *Martin F. Baker, Senior Telecommunications Technician, Peoples Natural Gas, Pennsylvania*

"Invaluable course material taught by Dane [Brockmiller] with an even exchange of ideas and methods from the class attendees of their past and present DAS projects. This was my 1st IWCE attendance, definitely will not be my last. I hope to see a larger female population in attendance in the coming years with the growth of the industry." *Nicole Lloyd, Senior Telecommunication Services Specialist, University of Central Florida*

"Having been in the electronics and RF communications field for over 34 years, I want to say that the training hosted by ETA is excellent. In a couple of days' time, you are educated in new and existing technologies that allow you to keep pace with the industry. Even if you are a seasoned professional, you walk away with learning something new or refreshing your memory. After training, ETA offers certification exams that validate your knowledge which can enhance your employment situation. An added benefit of having this training coincide with IWCE is the networking opportunities and the ability to see firsthand many of the items which are discussed in class. I highly recommend this program and the ETA/IWCE experience." *Mark J. Hari, Director – Technical Services, Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, New Jersey.*

**About ETA** - Since 1978, ETA has issued over 150,000 professional certifications. Widely recognized and frequently used in worker job selection, hiring processes, pay increases, and advancements, ETA certifications are often required as companies bid on contracts. ETA's certifications are personal and travel with the individual, regardless of employment or status change and measure competencies of persons, not products or vendors. All ETA certifications are accredited through the International Certification Accreditation Council (ICAC) and align with the ISO-17024 standard. [www.eta-i.org](http://www.eta-i.org)

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