

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 Offers Student Essay Scholarship

Students interested in a career in wireless communications are invited to write an essay to win a student scholarship to attend Education Forum at the International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE).

Greencastle, August 25, 2015: In an effort to increase student awareness and bridge the skills gap in wireless communications, one fortunate student will earn a scholarship to attend Electronics Technicians Association, (ETA[®]) International's Education Forum 2016 (EF16) and Penton's International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE), co-locating March 21-25, 2016 at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, NV.

Students interested in a technical career in the wireless communications field are encouraged to submit an essay to qualify to attend EF16@IWCE at the Las Vegas Convention Center March 21-25, 2016 and the opportunity to meet industry leaders and recruiters at the Job Education and Training Center.

This ETA and IWCE student scholarship essay contest includes one short course package conference pass (\$549 value), one coach class plane ticket to Las Vegas, NV (value up to \$400), two nights hotel stay at IWCE's host hotel, access to IWCE's exhibit hall and dinner with ETA representatives.

Last year's winner was Christopher Olejniczak, CETsr of Lemont, IL. With a military background in radio systems, he was a recent DeVry University graduate who was fortunate to start his wireless career with veteran-owned United Radio Communications (URC).

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

At EF13, he earned his first ETA credential, the General Communications Technician, level 1 (GCT1). Olejniczak moved quickly up the career ladder from Student Electronics Technician (SET) to Associate Certified Electronics Technician (CETa) in 2013 along with earning his GCT1, to obtaining his degree from DeVry in 2014. He then went on to earn his Mobile Communications Electronics Installer (MCEI) credential and write the winning essay to win the scholarship to EF15@IWCE, where he earned his FCC General Radiotelephone Operator License and attained Senior Certified Electronics Technician (CETsr) status.

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

Barry Wilk, URC Vice President - Engineering and Service Operations, said he couldn't be more proud of Olejniczak and his accomplishments.

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

ETA will once again host training from top industry experts at IWCE to obtain valuable hands-on training and ETA certification. Training will include Certified Electronics Technician, Distributed Antenna Systems, Fiber Optics Installer, Interference Hunting, Mobile Communications Electronics Installation and Line and Antenna Sweeping from such respected trainers as Dover Telecommunications Services, IWA Technical Services and Light Brigade.

Students interested in applying must submit an essay in 1,000 words or less, along with a recent resume, cover letter and picture no later than January 11, 2016 to ETA at eta@eta-i.org.

To be eligible, the student must have at least a 2.5 grade point average and must be currently enrolled in a school, the military or other technical training program. This essay must describe the student's ideal career in wireless communications, how this scholarship could benefit their future personally and professionally, as well as why they should be considered for this scholarship. Other requirements include double-spaced 12-point type.

As more students, technicians and educators discover the ETA Education Forum at IWCE and the remarkable value it offers, the partners will continue to offer professional development opportunities at a reasonable price. To see the IWCE conference agenda, including ETA-hosted industry training and ETA certification exams, please visit www.iwceexpo.com.

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

About International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE) - Since 1977, the International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE) has been the authoritative annual event for communications technology professionals. IWCE features over 370 exhibitors showcasing the latest products and trends in the industry. Over 7,000 individuals attend from a diverse group of industry professionals including government/military, public safety, utility, transportation and business enterprise. IWCE 2016 will be held March 21-25, 2016 at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, NV. For more information, visit www.iwceexpo.com.

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