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**ETA<sup>®</sup> INTERNATIONAL**



# PRESS RELEASE

## How Sensors, Drones and Data Impact ROI for the Infrastructure Inspection Industry

*Sentera CEO will give the keynote address at ETA<sup>®</sup> International's Education Forum during the awards banquet in Las Vegas, NV. Key points will include tower safety, security, data integrity and complete site-imagery management.*



**Greencastle, November 19, 2015:** Eric J. Taipale, Chief Executive Officer and Cofounder of Sentera, LLC will give the keynote address during the annual awards banquet at ETA<sup>®</sup> International's Education Forum March 24, 2016. Taipale will emphasize how climbers, tower owners, and carriers are conducting inspections and managing site information today, as well as the trends the industry is adopting which will enable organizations to convert inspection imagery into ROI.

Taipale will discuss how drones are enhancing the way infrastructure inspections are conducted, and the way in which big data collected during site inspections is managed. By using drones, climbing safety can be improved while simultaneously increasing operational efficiencies. Infrastructure inspections produce thousands of images, and every image contains metadata such as date, time, location and asset type. When this metadata is accessed, given context, managed and shared, operational efficiencies are realized.

**About Education Forum** - Co-located with International Wireless Communications Expo, ETA hosts approved hands-on training courses leading to ETA certification with some of the industry's most respected training providers. ETA is proud to host training through outside vendors in popular technology areas related to ETA certification, such as basic electronics, fiber optics, mobile communications, distributed antenna systems, line and antenna sweeping, radio frequency interference mitigation and more. ETA will provide opportunities to test in each area to earn ETA industry certification and will also offer a series of Short Courses.

ETA will conduct its annual membership meeting and an annual awards banquet during Education Forum in Las Vegas, NV March 20-25, 2016. Find out more about the co-located event and register at

[www.iwceexpo.com](http://www.iwceexpo.com). To register for ETA's annual awards banquet, please contact ETA at 800-288-3824 or [eta@eta-i.org](mailto:eta@eta-i.org).

**About the Speaker** - Eric J. Taipale, Chief Executive Officer and Cofounder of Sentera, LLC has over 20 years of experience successfully leading teams and organizations that advance drone, sensor, and software technologies. Taipale has a broad range of experience in the design, production, and sustainment of sensors, mission systems and platforms, which spans a number of manned and unmanned airborne, surface and subsurface platforms.

At Sentera, Taipale leads a talented team of business and technical professionals who deliver affordable, high-precision data and knowledge products into the infrastructure, agriculture, and public safety markets.

Preceding the formation of Sentera, Taipale was the Chief Technology Officer of FourthWing Sensors LLC. He joined FourthWing from Lockheed Martin where he held a number of senior technical, business development, and program management roles, most recently serving as Chief Engineer of the Unmanned Solutions business area, with operations in Alabama, California, New York, and Utah. Previously, he served as Director of Engineering at Goodrich, now UTC Aerospace Systems.

Taipale holds a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree in Systems Engineering from the University of Arizona.

**About Sentera** - Sentera, LLC is a leading designer, developer and manufacturer of drones, sensors, and software for the infrastructure, mining, agriculture, security, and public safety industries. Sentera's forward-thinking engineers are continually advancing innovation and establishing industry standards to improve safety, increase agricultural efficiencies and provide customers the data control needed to make timely decisions.

The company has over 200 years of combined experience with drones, sensors, software, and data management solutions. In 2014, Sentera's equipment captured 16 million images over 15 million acres, and 175 terabytes of data.

**About ETA® International** - Since 1978, ETA has issued over 170,000 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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