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PRESS RELEASE

SAE Remains Devoted to Facilitating Aerospace Fiber Optics and Photonics Training and Certification

The Aerospace industry has always required the highest standards of workmanship to be maintained. Hence, SAE International introduced Aerospace Recommended Practice (ARP) 5602 to serve as a guideline for aerospace platform fiber optic training and certification.

Greencastle, August 18, 2014: Maintaining aerospace fiber optics and photonics industry best practices means adapting to the rapid evolution of those technologies. In order to do so, educators and employers must train and certify personnel to manufacture, install, operate, and support the current technologies in a timely way. They must also be able to keep up with the evolution of these technologies.

According to a market research study devoted to [Military and Aerospace Fiber Optics in Avionics by Information Gatekeepers, Inc. \(IGIC\)](#), it is estimated that the total fiber optic market for both military and commercial aircraft will be \$775 million in 2015. This intensifies the need for personnel to be trained and certified. In addition, personnel must receive continuing education and recertify as required to ensure their skills are current with industry best practices.

One difficulty with providing the most up-to-date technical training to individuals within the aerospace fiber-optics and photonics industry is the intellectual property. It is typically exclusive to a small cluster of subject matter experts. Consequently, the specialized information from these subject matter experts often takes years to trickle down to educators in the form of published material. Fortunately, the greatest concentration of aerospace fiber optics and photonics subject matter experts can be found within the working groups of AS-3.

To independently recognize that a person has been properly trained, evaluated, and tested, [SAE International](#) forged an alliance with the [Electronics Technicians Association[®], International \(ETA\)](#). Through this cooperative effort, [a certification infrastructure was formed that aligns with](#)

[the training standards](#). The objective is to create a workforce that meets the current and future needs of the aerospace fiber optics and photonics industry.

AS-3 will persist in raising education, certification, and recertification awareness by imparting its extensive industry knowledge into training standards that lead to certification as it did for the last decade. The goal remains the same: ensure the workforce is properly trained, evaluated, tested and certified so the aerospace fiber optics and photonics industry can continue to maintain the highest standards of workmanship.

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 certifications are accredited through the International Certification Accreditation Council (ICAC) and align with the ISO-17024 standard. 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. www.eta-i.org

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