



PRESS RELEASE

ETA International
5 Depot Street
Greencastle, IN 46135

Release Date: July 7, 2010

2010 SkillsUSA Contestants Rise to Success and Demonstrate a High Level of Aptitude *ETA International continues its Telecommunications/Cabling Sponsorship*



Kansas City, MO. – Once again the SkillsUSA National Competition week concluded with great excitement as outstanding career and technical education students gathered to show-off their skills. The event was held in Kansas City, Missouri, June 21-25, 2010.

Participation increased this year to 5,600 contestants who participated in 96 hands-on skill and leadership competitions. It also marked ETA International’s ninth year as a key supporter of SkillsUSA and sixth year as the National Telecommunications Cabling Championships sponsor.

“Contest day brought excitement and anticipation to each of the competitor’s faces,” said Teresa Maher, CSS, ETA International President and Telecommunications Cabling Contest Chair. “With families, directors, and advisors surrounding the perimeter, the contestants displayed their level of skill in cable troubleshooting, cable construction, telecommunications wiring, fiber optic cabling, and customer service/troubleshooting.”

The Telecommunications Cabling Contest featured 25 state contest winners. They worked against the clock (and each other) while being assessed in technical areas such as cabling construction, installation, troubleshooting, safety and procedures, as well as customer service and professional development skills. The contestants must be prepared to meet a high code of conduct and skills difficulty.

“This year we had an impressive group of contestants,” said Scott Bachrach, CETma, VP of Mobile Training & Education. “The high caliber of skills from different parts of the country reaffirms my belief in a positive future for telecommunications technicians.”

Congratulations to the 2010 winners:

High School	Post Secondary
Gold-Austin Sutton Fitzgerald High School Fitzgerald, GA	Gold-Cagney Slusmeyer East Central Technical College Fitzgerald, GA
Silver-Allison Hassand Weaver Academy Greensboro, NC	Silver-Stuart Meyers Tennessee Technology Center-Knoxville Knoxville, TN
Bronze-Peter Biskauka Tulsa Technology Center-Riverside Tulsa, OK	Bronze-Tyler Foss MN State Community and Technical College- Wadena Wadena, MN

Unique to SkillsUSA, the Telecommunications Cabling Contest utilizes ETA’s Data Cabling Installer (DCIC) and Customer Service Specialist (CSS) certifications. The contests are planned by the Skills Technical Committee and designed to test the aptitude needed for successful entry-level performance in the field.



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ETA International and their partners' contributed nearly \$30,000 in cash and in-kind contributions to sponsor the Telecommunications Cabling Contest. ETA also extended the complimentary use of its numerous electronics and customer service certifications to other competitions at both state and national levels.

The members of the national technical committee for telecommunications cabling include: Chair: Teresa Maher, CSS - ETA, Intl. (IN); Scott Bachrach, CETma – Mobile Training & Education (NY); John Baldwin, CETsr (Minn); Kevin Celata - Communications Workers of America (D.C.); Dick Darnell (Utah); Mike Gleason - Panduit Corp. (Ill.); Matt Humphries - Fluke Networks (Wash.); and Tom Janca, CETsr - POWER Engineers Inc. (Colo.).

The national education team assists the national technical committee. Members include: Chair: Bob Dickerson - Red Education Consulting Services, Inc. (N.C.); Ken Boyd – Panduit (Mo.) Robert Hickey, FOI – North Shore Community College (Mass.); Darryl Ivy – AT&T (Mo.); and Dan Parmer – Stanly Community College (N.C.).

Sponsors of the competition included: AT&T, Cisco Systems, CWA, Delmar/Cengage Learning, eIT Prep, Fluke Networks, KITCO Fiber Optics, The Light Brigade, Kobalt Tools, Lowe's, Marcraft, Mobile Training and Education, Inc., Panduit, Power Engineers, Raytheon, and Wiley Publishing.

For more information on ETA International visit www.eta-i.org or call 800.288.3824. Event information can be found at www.skillsusa.org.

The **Electronics Technicians Association, International**, founded in 1978, is a not-for-profit, professional association committed to providing accredited certifications that meet industry standards. Today, ETA has issued over 100,000 technical certifications in 50 different certification programs. In 2009, these certified individuals were employed by more than 840 businesses/organizations across the world. The association is comprised of over 5,000 members, 700 Subject Matter Experts (SME's) serving on various Industry Advisory Committees and 1,000 Exam/Certification Administrators (CA's).

Telecommunications Cabling Contest is for students interested in voice and data network cabling and installation. The contestants are tested on worldwide standards for data and voice connections, physical/logical networks and signal transmission. Contestants demonstrate skills in reading network design documentation, part list set up and purchase, pulling and mounting cable, choosing wiring closets, patch panel installation and termination, installing jacks and cable testing. The contest stresses safety and working effectively in-group environments.

SkillsUSA is the national organization for students in trade, industrial, technical and health occupations education. It sponsors the SkillsUSA Championships annually to recognize the achievements of career and technical education students and to encourage them to strive for excellence and pride in their chose occupations.

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