



PRESS RELEASE

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Small Wind Energy Installer Certification Released

Greencastle, Ind. – With future projections in place for small wind energy generation to increase drastically in the next few years, ETA International has released the first level of the Small Wind Energy Installer certification to fill the need for qualified workers.

“America can be the 21st century clean energy leader by harnessing the power of alternative and renewable energy, ending our addiction to foreign oil, addressing the global climate crisis, and creating millions of new jobs that can’t be shipped overseas,” according to Organizing for America (www.barackobama.com/issues/).

Small wind turbines, those that produce less than 100kW, or residential wind turbines are becoming more popular as consumers become more aware of the benefits of switching to clean renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power. These systems can also provide significant energy cost savings for the consumer, when compared to conventional utility providers.

Residential wind turbine installers usually work for companies specializing in alternative energy systems. Job functions of a small wind installer usually include mounting the support structure, raising the turbine into position, verifying proper wiring and operation of the turbine. Wind turbine installations can be stand-alone, grid-tied or grid interactive. The small wind turbine installer usually works with other supervisory personnel, as per state and local codes, and licensed electricians, when necessary.

“Small wind turbines are becoming increasingly popular as the cost of electricity rises, and as the general population becomes more aware of the environmental impact of burning fossil fuels...ETA’s certification in this field demonstrates to employers that the technician has acquired both practical skills and theoretical knowledge in this expanding area of renewable energy,” said Philip Schmitt, CET, FCC ETA Subject Matter Expert, Licensed Broadcasting Engineer and Technical Writer.

ETA International’s Alternative Energy Certifications are intended to be the most comprehensive programs available today. They require a hands-on training component that other certification providers do not require. Other energies to be covered in the program include: Solar Thermal, Geothermal, Micro Hydro, Fuel Cells, and Stirling Technologies. The Photovoltaic Installer Level 1 has already been released. ETA is accredited and its programs follow the ISO-17024 standards.

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“Releasing this certification, further validates the skills of several individuals who are seeking employment in this tough economy,” stated Teresa Maher, ETA International President. “This goes hand-in-hand with what ETA’s mission has been for the past 31 years.

The ETA Small Wind Energy Installer Certification fee is \$150. Learn more about ETA’s Alternative Energy Program at www.certifymegreen.org or call 800.288.3824.

As stated in a recent study by Research and Markets online, “Small wind, traditionally forming a very small part of the US wind market, is expected to grow with an increase in installation... Small wind is being looked upon as an attractive option to achieve energy security especially in regions far from the grid. The opening up of the US small wind market is expected to boost the installed base from 72.2 MW in 2008 to 1,536 MW in 2013.”

About ETA International - Founded in 1978, the Electronics Technicians Association, International is a not-for-profit, professional association committed to providing accredited certifications that meet the industry standards. Today, ETA has issued over 100,000 technical certifications in 50 different certification programs. These certified individuals are employed by more than 840 businesses/organizations across the world. The association is comprised of over 3,500 members, 700 Subject Matter Experts (SME’s) serving on various Industry Advisory Committees and 1,000 Exam/Certification Administrators (CA’s).

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