



# PRESS RELEASE

## Wireless Professionals Explore New Industry Insights

*Communications technology continues to evolve rapidly and ETA International has gathered a group of dynamic speakers with great stories and insights about what's new and relevant in the industry. Join them at Education Forum 2017, co-located with Pentons' International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE) in Las Vegas March 27-31.*

**Greencastle, November 22, 2016:** People passionate about wireless communications and the electronics industry will gather with over 7,000 peers from a diverse group of industry professionals to learn and network with colleagues. [ETA<sup>®</sup> International](#) will host [Education Forum 2017](#) (EF17), co-located with Pentons' [International Wireless Communications Expo](#) (IWCE) in Las Vegas March 27-31. EF17@IWCE is a place where people can connect to information about a technology, product or policy that is crucial to success.

ETA International is proud to host subject matter experts from a diverse group of industry professionals including government, public safety, utility, transportation and business enterprise.

Technical sessions include:

- **Air Blown Fiber Is It Just Hot Air?** by *Dennis Brown, Ericsson Inc.*

The process of air blown fiber is a technique that has been used in Europe for years and is now starting a buzz in the US market. Air blown fiber offers a faster and less stressful delivery of fiber optic cable in a network. The special ducts used in air blown fiber can be installed in existing ducts of the network because of the smaller size of the cable and duct used in the process. The proper planning will be covered to insure better installations.

- **Ethernet in Modern Telecom, Including Service to Cell Sites** by *Tommy Bonner, Vivai Solutions*

Ethernet has changed the entire communications world. The role Ethernet has played in communications has allowed us to expand all forms of communications. Without Ethernet the ability to transmit voice, video and data over wireless communications would be severely limited.

- **Fundamentals of Signal Modulation** by *Dr. William C. Bailey, Jr.*

Advances in digital technology have revolutionized wireless communication and increased the complexity of information coding. Wireless communication systems now incorporate both analog and digital principles in ways that provide a seamless flow of information (both voice and data) between transmitter and receiver. In this session a non-mathematical overview of modulation techniques and their application will be presented.

- **IP Voting & Simulcasting** by *Bruce McPherson, Teltronic*

This session will describe the current technology in IP-based voting and simulcasting techniques to provide wide-area land mobile radio coverage. A description of legacy systems, voting & simulcast theory, propagation, equipment, and interference considerations will be included.

- **Integration of Communications into Every Aspect of How We Run our Businesses** by *Douglas Hubert, University of Akron*

The responsibilities of IT are shifting, workforces are diversifying and exciting things are on the way in the area of communications, enabling business processes through the use of innovations such as Application Program Interface (APIs) and Web Real Time Communications (WebRTC). The way we work is changing and the way we interact with our customers is changing, as 2016 is set to bring another wave of innovation.

- **Lightning and Grounding** by *Mark Pallans, Pallans Associates Communication Consultants*

Protecting facilities from the effects of lightning requires good grounding. This session explains what causes lightning and how its effects impact facilities. Rather than telling you what to do per the standards, it explains why the standards are needed and why they were developed.

- **RF & Laser Safety at Wireless Sites** by Tom Dover, President of Dover Telecommunications Services

This session covers four areas aimed at training the worker and general public including regulation of this industry, recognizing potential hazards and mitigating those hazards. With an increase in the amount of RF energy in our environment, the importance for those installing and maintaining wireless to understand the potential dangers is growing. Most carrier and integrators require this training on an annual basis.

- **Robust Talent Pipeline for the Communications Industry** by Tracy Ariel, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities

The Connecticut Early College Opportunities (CT-ECO) initiative serves the needs of individual students while providing a robust talent pipeline for the community and its employers. The programs are designed to prepare thousands of students for high-skill technology jobs. This model bridges high school, college and career training in one seamless educational experience, designed to meet the requirements for entry level positions in growth industries and launch students into middle careers.

- **SDN, NFV & Fiber Optics for IOT** by Raka Biswas, Ericsson Inc.

As we see in current Telecom network trends, more and more traffic will pass across telco networks in 2020 than in the last 135 years added together. Traditional network architectures are ill-suited to meet the requirements of today's enterprises, carriers and end users. The future of connected society is the Internet of Things (IoT). With IoT, we need to do the networking differently or virtualize the network to scale network function better. At the same time, we need greater physical capacity in the backhaul to transport high amount of data.

- **What do I Need Decibels for Anyway?** by Karl Eilers

Decibels are as basic to signal level measurements as volts, amps and watts, but not nearly as widely understood. This session will demystify decibels and teach you how to roughly calculate gains, losses and levels in your head.

- **Why is PIM Testing Important? Why Are so Few Doing It?** by Tom Dover, President of Dover Telecommunications Services

Passive Intermodulation (PIM) has been with us since the beginning of radio; so why is it now important? Simply put the answer is NOISE! Radio noise often called the noise floor puts ear muffs on radio receivers reducing their ability to capture small signal levels. With the rapid move to LTE and other data rich wireless applications the impact of noise has received a great deal of attention. This presentation will provide a short overview of why PIM at long last is getting its due attention. The primary sources of PIM, along with a detailed discussion of internal vs. external PIM will be defined. How we can test for it in all radio bands? More importantly, how can it be mitigated?

Learn more about hands-on training workshops relating to ETA certification, see networking opportunities and register for Education Forum at IWCE, at [www.iwceexpo.com](http://www.iwceexpo.com) or call ETA at 800-288-3824.

**About ETA International** - Since 1978, ETA has delivered over 200,000 professional certifications. ETA certifications are widely recognized and frequently used in worker job selection, hiring processes, pay increases, advancements, and 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)

**About International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE)** - Since 1977, the International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE) has been the premier annual event for communications technology professionals. IWCE features over 380 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 2017 will be held March 27-31, 2017 at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, NV. For more information, visit [www.iwceexpo.com](http://www.iwceexpo.com)

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