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**ETA® INTERNATIONAL**



# PRESS RELEASE

## ETA Reaches 40 Year Milestone of Service to Electronics Industry

*As ETA® International reflects on its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, the trade association appreciates the tremendous efforts made by staff, members, and volunteers of the trade association to improve career pathways for electronics-related vocations. Educators, students and professionals with a passion and talent for electronics continue to turn to ETA for its accredited credentials as a testament to their skills and knowledge in their particular area of study.*

**Greencastle, December 12, 2018:** As businesses continue to struggle with shortages of a skilled technical workforce, ETA International certifications provide valuable tools that validate knowledge and hands-on skills and increase opportunities for success. ETA celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary by highlighting some of the milestones of 2018.

Starting out with one basic electronics certification in November 1978, ETA has increased its certification exams to include over 80 electronics-related programs. A new certification added this year is the industry's first Audio Video Forensic Analyst (AVFA) certification. The need for these professionals to have their knowledge and skills validated with an accredited certification was brought to the attention of ETA by experts working in the field. Together, ETA and Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) developed the stringent competencies that the AVFA must obtain in order to be acknowledged and respected as a courtroom expert in accordance with industry standards and best practices.

As the Internet of Things (IoT) continues to grow, ETA acknowledged that the professional trade association's Residential Electronics Systems Installer (RESI) certification needed a revision to certify electronics technicians in the ever-growing field of Smart Technology Systems (STS). Technicians now have a whole new world of connected devices to control within a home or commercial building and it is essential for technicians to be able to identify the ways that those devices and components within a smart building can be connected. Endorsements for the STS are also being revamped and will be ready for the public after the first of the year. The Audio/Video endorsement will now include closed circuit TV (CCTV) systems, a new endorsement will be added for Environmental Controls (HVAC, automated lawn sprinkler systems, etc.), and once completed, Computer Networking and Security/Surveillance will round out the STS certification endorsements.

Always looking to the future, ETA is planning the release of two new certifications during the first quarter of next year. The association recognizes the new role 5G technology will have on the Information Communications Technology (ICT) sector and wants to help prepare technicians and engineers for its impact on their careers. ETA will host an introductory hands-on 5G for Technicians (5GT) training course at ETA's annual convention, Education Forum, co-locating with the International Wireless Communications Expo in Las Vegas March 4-8, 2019 that will lay the groundwork for success with the accredited certification exam. ETA will also make public the second level of the Photovoltaic (Solar) Installer (PVI2), which will focus on commercial installation, financing options, as well as project management and design.

Speaking of photovoltaics, ETA continues to partner with training provider Blue Rock Station (BRS) to bring hands-on solar training to the association's headquarters. Attendees added two more panels to the now eight-panel array this year. PVI1 workshop attendees at ETA have contributed to saving the association quite a bit of energy consumption and so far this year, the array has produced 2,801.8 KWh. ETA will host BRS to conduct this PVI workshop again next September 9-13, 2019.

ETA worked hard this year to increase the INTERNATIONAL aspect of the association's name by partnering with even more schools outside of the United States and its territories. Jiangsu Vocational College of Information Technology (JSIT) in Wuxi, China was very interested to add the value of ETA certification to their degree program. A delegation from Heartland Community College and JSIT's electronics exchange program visited the ETA offices to discuss the school's application for Certified Electronics Technician Associate (CETA) course approval, Certification Administration procedures, online testing and ways that the language barriers could be overcome. After months of details, translations and fine tuning, an invitation by JSIT was extended to ETA International to visit the campus in China. Previously translated documents were utilized, classes toured, instructors queried, equipment reviewed, curriculum acknowledged and ETA's online testing system was practiced. The idea of JSIT working with ETA's certification program that began nearly two years ago has finally come to fruition! Other new international training partners that began offering ETA certifications include Computer Learning Africa, which offers ETA's Fiber Optics Installer (FOI) certification, and Quality Controllers Company, which offers ETA's Fiber Optics Technician – Outside Plant (FOT-OSP) certification.

Speak with ETA staff to find out about benefits of membership in the trade association. Call today at 800-288-3824. Learn about electronics certifications, test proctoring, course approvals, volunteering, and more at [www.eta-i.org](http://www.eta-i.org).

**About ETA** - Since November 1978, ETA has issued more than 200,000 technical certifications in a variety of electronics fields, including Basic Electronics, Biomedical Technology, Fiber Optics, Communications, Industrial Electronics, Information Technology, Renewable Energy, and Smart Technologies, among others. 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. ETA is a proud member of the National Technical Honor Society. 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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