



The SpaceTEC® National Resource Center continuously strives for a "Legacy of Excellence" by working through industry and educational partnerships to provide valid, relevant, error-free performance-based certifications for America's technical workforce.

SpaceTEC® Talk

July 2012

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A Message from the SpaceTEC® PI... by Dr. Al Koller

Summer is in full swing and we're headed to Denver for the 2012 Hi-TEC Conference where we will share the changes we've undergone this year. Many are captured in the brief articles that follow. This edition adopts a new approach providing brief summaries with links for more information. Ask us if you want to know more - that's what seems to work best these days.

Thanks for your continued support. We hope you enjoy the new format. Come and visit us in our new location and keep up the good work in championing the future workforce for America.

Program Activities of Note

- **Commercial Aviation Composites Repair Committee (CACRC).** Steve Kane and Dave Friction traveled to Reno NV in February to attend a workshop hosted by Abaris Training to present the SpaceTEC® and CertTEC® certification programs to a gathering of the Commercial Aviation Composites Repair Committee (CACRC). The CACRC is an industry working group consisting of aviation manufacturers, domestic and international aviation operators, maintenance and repair organizations (MRO's), training organizations, and the military formed in the

Margaret Campos,
Dona Ana C.C.

Eddie Ellegood,
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1990's to create a standard practice curriculum and eventual certification for a Composites Repair Technician. As an outcome, Steve Kane and Dave Fricton were named to the certification subcommittee, which holds regular webinars and meetings as they work toward finalizing the training requirements leading to certification. **Click here** for more information.

Quick Links

[SpaceTEC Website](#)

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[FLORIDA SPACE rePORT](#)

- **SpaceTEC®/CertTEC® combined Composites Subcommittee Kickoff and Examiner Workshop.** Steve Kane traveled to Tulsa OK in June as SpaceTEC® partner Tulsa Technology Center hosted a three-day workshop event in advance of deploying the Composites certification. The newly created Composites Subcommittee, including partner and industry/military representatives, worked through many issues and progress was made laying the groundwork for administration of the Composites certification. In addition, industry, faculty and potential examiners were put through their paces in a 20-hour Composites workshop introducing the certification exam topics. This was an important first step for some who are working toward designation as SpaceTEC®/CertTEC® Composites examiners. A follow-on subcommittee and examination event is under consideration for this September at Thomas Nelson Community College, Hampton, VA. For more Composites information, **click**



here.

- **ETA-I meeting 2/23.** SpaceTEC®/CertTEC® hosted a meeting on February 23, 2012, attended by members of ETA-International to discuss implementation for the CertTEC® Basic Electricity and Electronics performance based certification.

Representing ETA-I were David Bates (Western Technical College), Mark McDougal (Tennessee Technology Center-Hohenwald) and Donald Pierson (ETA-I proctor and marketing). Also in attendance was Kevin Gulliver of NIDA Corp.

- **Boeing Trident Tech Meeting.** Dr. Koller and Steve Kane traveled to Charleston SC to meet with representatives from Boeing and Trident Technical College to explore their needs and interest in performance certifications. Tours of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner factory and TTC facilities were provided and interest was expressed in our performance-based KSIs. Materials and draft agreements were discussed and left for evaluation and follow-up. For more details, [click here](#).
- **AMTEC Maintenance 2020 Academy.** SpaceTEC®/CertTEC® representatives attended the AMTEC Maintenance 2020 Academy in Spartanburg, SC, opening a new relationship with the NSF National Center of Excellence in Automotive Manufacturing. A tour of the BMW plant there provided intriguing insight into the needs for maintenance and repair technicians for the future. Among the many useful presentations was one by Dr. Roy Swift of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) for accreditation of certification programs. See more on the AMTEC Center and its work by [clicking here](#).
- **SpaceTEC NVC Annual Meeting, Newport News, VA.** Thomas Nelson Community College and NASA's Langley Research Center hosted the 2012 annual meeting of the SpaceTEC® National Visiting Committee along with the National Aerospace Technology Advisory Committee and Co-PIs from seven of the eight partner colleges. See results [here](#).



- **National Transportation Workforce Summit.** At the request of Dr. Gerhard Salinger, NSF-ATE, SpaceTEC® participated in a panel session as part of the ***National Transportation Workforce Summit*** in Washington DC. We provided inputs for technician training and certification to industry leaders and policy makers, on credentialing of performance-based competencies. More information can be found [here](#).
- **Tech. Night, 4/28.** Dave Friction and Steve Kane were invited to attend the 2012 North Alabama Regional Aerospace Technician of the Year Awards banquet in Huntsville, AL on April 28, 2012. Calhoun Community College, in conjunction with SpaceTEC® and several local aerospace companies, honored outstanding aerospace technicians during the 5th annual awards dinner. For details of the proceedings, [click here](#).
- **EET Conference, 5/4.** Dave Friction attended the Wisconsin Technical College System - EET/Electronics Instructor meeting on May 4 at Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton, WI. The purpose of the meeting was to present the Cert *TEC*® Basic Electricity and Electronics performance based certification at the state called meeting for Electronics instructors. Dave Bates from Western Technical College was currently running a pilot and was able to share his observations.

Major Changes/Developments of Interest

- **Move to Cape Canaveral.** The Headquarters offices of SpaceTEC® - the NSF National Resource Center for Aerospace Technical Education - its aerospace technician national certification and its affiliated CertTEC® operations have relocated to Cape Canaveral. See a related press release [here](#).



- **Ribbon Cutting at our new location.** A ribbon cutting by the Cocoa Beach and Titusville area Chambers of Commerce was held at our new location, 7099 N. Atlantic Avenue, Suite 300, Cape Canaveral Florida, 32920. We have about 4500 sq. ft. of offices, shops, labs, and classroom areas and are excited to be expanding our operations beyond aerospace. From this location we look forward to championing the cause of training and certifying technical employees wherever needed. For information about our move to Cape Canaveral and our program, [click here](#).



- **New SPI Partner.** SpaceTEC Partners, Inc. (SPI) has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with **Veterans Assembled Electronics (VAe)** of Warwick, Rhode Island, for certification activities of mutual benefit for American veterans seeking technical training and credentialing for employment. See more at the [VAe website](#) and the [CertTEC website](#).

VAe

- **Quality Manual.** The HQ team is nearing completion on the SpaceTEC®/CertTEC® Operations and Quality manuals in preparation for the upcoming International Certification Accreditation Council (ICAC) audit review in August. Documentation of SpaceTEC®/CertTEC®'s Operations and Quality Management processes is a key element in positioning SpaceTEC®/CertTEC® certification products for accreditation to ISO 17024, an international standard governing "organizations certifying individuals." As we begin to receive hardware and expand the activities for our new certification exams, these documents will control how we conduct inspections, calibration, bonded storage, and other activities essential to our operations.
- **VAe Training.** SpaceTEC® hosted Veterans Assembled Electronics, LLC (VAe), a small

electronics manufacturing company headquartered in Rhode Island at the new SpaceTEC®/Cert TEC® Testing Center in Cape Canaveral, FL. VAe is committed to providing military veterans the training, certification, and preparation needed to pursue careers in the electronics industry. VAe has implemented unique transition programs that augment the veteran's military skills to meet the requirements of civilian employers. VAe works together with a network of employers and a professional placement organization to provide direct employment throughout the country for graduates of Skills, Training, and Certification (STRAC) programs. VAe's TOP TECHS program is specifically designed for experienced technicians (not limited to electronics technicians) that are leaving the service and require civilian skills, training, and certification to become attractive electronics technician candidates to employers.



Special Events/Achievements

- **National Center for Advance Technology Centers (NCATC) Partnership.** SpaceTEC® has joined NCATC as a strategic partner, opening the door to more than 170 participating institutions with common interests in advocating and promoting the use of technology applications that enhance economic and workforce development programs and services. See details [here](#).



- **Donation from W.W. Grainger Inc.** A counter discussion while purchasing supplies for BCC's Aerospace Program between Steve Kane and Grainger's Melbourne, FL branch Manager Nick Perkins led to a \$20,000 donation to outfit the Composites Lab in the Cocoa campus' new STEM building with a vacuum oven. This generous gift will greatly enhance the capability of the Lab in the areas of honeycomb structures and pre-impregnated fabrics. In his remarks Mr. Perkins said " "I am really glad to be able to present these funds to your school as it is obvious your programs are helping create jobs for our local workforce at companies like Embraer and others. This should be a great addition to your new composite lab." W.W. Grainger Inc. is a Fortune 500 company supplying over 1 million repair parts and supplies worldwide.



New Developments/Future Plans

- **Corporate Sponsors Sought!** If you have an interest in growing the U. S. technical workforce, you can be part of a national consortium of colleges, businesses, and industry groups working to enhance our nation's capabilities to compete globally. Using lessons learned and best practices from America's space program, we credential

technicians of all types, fabrication and assembly specialists, and equipment operators to confirm not only what they know, but also what they can do! To learn more, click [**here**](#).

- **ICAC Accreditation Application.** SpaceTEC Partners, Inc. (SPI) has applied to the International Certification Accreditation Council (ICAC) for accreditation to ISO 17024, the international standard governing "organizations certifying individuals." The site visit by the ICAC audit committee is currently set for Aug. 20th. The ICAC "is an alliance of organizations dedicated to assuring competency, professional management, and service to the public by encouraging and setting Standards for licensing, certification, and credentialing programs internationally." For more information, [**visit this website**](#).

Awards and Recognitions

- **STARS Awards.** SpaceTEC® has recognized four key individuals with its coveted STARS Award - given to those who provide "Superior Teamwork And Responsive Service". The recipients are: Dr. Sonny Witt, Director of Operations, Det 1 45 MSG; Ms. Toni Bearden, Det 1 45 MSG; Ms. Cathy Bursey, JON Manager, 45 CES/CEZR; and Mr. Patrick (Rick) Blucker, Director of Plans and Programs, 45SW/XP, Patrick AFB/Cape Canaveral AFS.



- **Newly Certified.** Congratulations to the graduates of the **Veterans Assembled Electronics** (VAe) program who recently earned CertTEC® performance certifications in Basic Electricity and Electronics: Croy Goins, Bill Neu, Steven Vaughan, Ron Wiesen, Frank Wouters Jr., and Jonathan Broughman. To learn more, click

here.



To learn more about SpaceTEC® activities or to begin your certification work, contact us:

By Email: Information@SpaceTEC.org

By Telephone: (321)730-1020

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Funded in part by a grant from the National Science Foundation

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