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PRESS RELEASE

ETA Participates in SAE Aerospace Standards Summit

The panel discussed how the rapid evolution of fiber optic and photonics technologies places great challenges on educators to administer hands-on training and certify personnel in these technologies in a timely way.

Greencastle, September 30, 2016: [ETA[®] International](#) was asked to participate in the Advanced Fiber Optics Panel at the [SAE International](#) Aerospace Standards Summit in Washington, DC Sept. 20-21, 2016. The panel discussed existing SAE standards and certifications, new standards under development; and more importantly, new areas of fiber optics and photonics applicability. New areas include unmanned aircraft systems, passenger seat entertainment systems, weigh and maintenance costs savings on existing aircraft along with better coordination with outside standards organizations.

The panel discussed how the rapid evolution of fiber optic and photonics technologies places great challenges on educators to administer hands-on training and certify personnel in these technologies in a timely way. The panel reviewed the cooperative effort between SAE and ETA that pioneered a new approach to meet the challenges of evolving technology education. Working together, ETA and SAE created the [SAE Fabricator \(SFF\)](#), a certification infrastructure that aligns with the SAE fiber optics and photonics training standards.

Audience participation with the panel was exceptional with many ideas and questions going back and forth. Unfortunately, the panel was limited to 90-minutes, which was not nearly enough time to fully cover these exciting technologies and entirely answer all the audience questions.

The needs of the world are highly dependent on the supply of trained personnel to install, operate and maintain these emerging technologies. As technology rapidly evolves, the intellectual property associated with that technology typically can only be found within a small group of subject matter experts located in various parts of the world. The greatest concentration of subject matter experts can be found within the working groups of international standards organizations. ETA has been working with SAE and other international standards organizations to create a certification infrastructure that meets the challenges facing educators to train and certify personnel in evolving technologies in a timely way.



Photo - SAE Aerospace Summit 2016, Advanced Fiber Optics panel: Daily Moderator Andy Pickard, Rolls Royce (not pictured); Panel Moderator, Chair: Bill Woodward, FOD, PE, Director of Engineering Products, Geodesicx, ETA International Board Secretary (not pictured); Panelists: Rick Stevens, Principal research scientist, Lockheed Martin, (middle left seat); John Mazurowski, Chief Tech.-Photonics, Penn State Electro-Optics Center; Mark Beranek, Head of NAVAIR Photonic and Electronics Systems Branch; David Weaver, ETA International, Research and Test Development.

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

About SAE International - SAE International is the global leader in technical learning for the mobility industry supporting the personal and professional growth of over 4,000 technical professionals annually. SAE organizes and/or administers more than 25 international meetings and exhibitions each year covering all aspects of technology related to design, manufacture, and service life cycle for the automotive, aerospace, off-highway and other related mobility industries. SAE standards are internationally recognized for their role in helping ensure the safety, quality, and effectiveness of products and services across the mobility engineering industry. The more than 10,000 standards in the SAE database now include historical standards. www.sae.org

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