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ETA[®] INTERNATIONAL



PRESS RELEASE

Veteran Appreciates Technical Training at ETA's Education Forum

ETA[®] International's Education Forum is one way to ensure there are well-trained workers today as well as a strong pipeline of future electronics leaders for tomorrow with training from leading industry experts that leads to industry-recognized and accredited certification. Technical training workshops, hosted in conjunction with ETA communications certifications, provided attendees with validated knowledge and skills necessary to perform tasks associated with qualified technical professionals to industry standards.

Greencastle, April 26, 2017: This year, ETA hosted more hands-on training workshops and technical sessions from industry experts than ever before during Education Forum, co-located with International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE). Over 120 technicians attained career-enhancing skills and knowledge, coupled with industry-recognized and accredited certifications.

In an effort to increase awareness of the growing need for certified wireless communications professionals, ETA once again partnered with IWCE on the Job Education and Training Center, including an annual scholarship for one student and one Veteran to attend IWCE. This year's Veteran winner was Cody W. Kunze, FOI, RFIM, Traffic Signal Technician, Missouri Department of Transportation.



"The quality and quantity of the people I was introduced to and able to network with was incredible," Kunze said, and added, "the ETA instructors I had the pleasure of learning from are some of the smartest people I've had the pleasure of meeting. Their expert knowledge of the industry is undeniable and their ability to convey that knowledge to someone who is not yet very familiar with the industry was truly appreciated."

Kunze said with his limited training prior to EF17@IWCE, he was able to kick start his knowledge and has already brought some insight back to his workplace. He said there are many details that can be implemented right away that will increase the user satisfaction of MODot's communication system.

As for the venter exhibit hall, he said it was the largest display of products and services he had ever experienced. He had an expectation of which vendors he wanted to visit,

and his expectations were not only exceeded by the vendors but by many new products, ideas and services he was not even aware of beforehand.

"I have spoken with my chain of command and we are already researching many of these companies and products. We have already looked up training dates and are having discussions as to which other employees we can send to new training opportunities."

Kunze said, "The people with the ETA, IWCE, and the vendors were all so very passionate, knowledgeable and helpful. I often caught myself just stepping back and listening to others describe problems or issues they had encountered and how they overcame them, or others offering advice on how they traversed issues they had encountered."

"ETA was honored to be a part of an event of this caliber." said Teresa Maher, CSS, President, ETA International, "and this type of teamwork will continue to foster excellence in wireless communications careers."

Hands-on training workshops included Certified Electronics Technician, Distributed Antenna Systems, Fiber to the Antenna, General Communications Technician, Level 1, Line and Antenna Sweeping, Mobile Communications and Electronics Installation, Microwave Radio Technician, R56 Communications Site Installer and RF Interference Mitigation from such respected trainers as ATRG Technical Services, Bird Technologies, Commdex Consulting, Dover Telecommunications Services, Ira Wiesenfeld & Associates Technical Services, Light Brigade, Radio Systems Analytics and Chris Miller, CETsr, of Heartland Community College.

View pictures of the event on ETA's website at http://www.eta-i.org/education_forum.html or on ETA's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ETAIInternational>. Watch for announcements about Education Forum 2018, which will be co-located again with IWCE, March 5-9 in Orlando, FL.

About ETA - Since 1978, ETA has delivered over 200,000 professional certifications plus nearly 40,000 FCC license exams. 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 portable worldwide, thus travel with the individual, regardless of employment or status change. ETA certifications measure and validate 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

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www.eta-i.org/pr/Veteran_Appreciates_Technical_Training_at_ETAs_Education_Forum.pdf

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HERE'S WHAT ATTENDEES HAD TO SAY ABOUT EF17@IWCE:

Jamin Howell, Wireless Communications & Network Technician, Flathead Emergency Communications Center - I found the networking aspect to be the most valuable aspect of having Education Forum in conjuncture with IWCE. I took the Microwave Radio Technician class because in the county that I work for, we recently installed new microwaves and it became evident that we needed to learn more about them. The instructor was incredibly knowledgeable and engaged the class by asking about our system configurations, which made the material relatable.

Alipio Mondragon, FOI, MCEI, Traffic Manager, Los Alamos County - The Mobile Communications and Electronics Installer instructor was great. He was knowledgeable and engaged the students. He focused on what we asked him to and it has already helped me with troubleshooting some radio problems I was working on here.

Craig Eaton, CET, Flathead Emergency Communications Center - My employer likes its employees to be certified in their field. Plus the information learned will apply to locating the RF noise that we are responsible to mitigate.

Roger Hopp, MCEI, Radio Technician, City of Cleveland (Ohio) – This training taught me new ways to efficiently do my job and will open the door to greater opportunities. It is well worth the money and time!

Cody W. Kunze, FOI, RFIM, Traffic Signal Technician, Missouri Department of Transportation - Overall this experience was incredible, and up to now, the opportunity of a lifetime. I cannot express my appreciation enough for the Veteran scholarship opportunity. The knowledge I acquired in those few short days of RFIM training will serve to be very useful for many years to come.

Vance Parker, CETa, DAS, Senior Technician, White Cloud Communications - Our area is experiencing an increase in DAS installs and we need all of the training we can get! It is a definite necessity for our upcoming jobs...i would call it job security, for sure! Dane (Brockmiller) did an excellent job cramming a week's worth of information into two days. ETA's concerns for the trainers as well as the trainees was very evident.

Nick LoCicero, CETsr, Vice President, Pacific Comm Kauai, LLC – The instructor taught us practical applications of the material and provided me with more knowledge when it comes to installation of DAS systems.