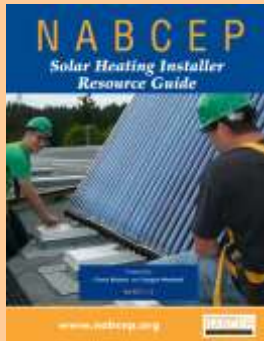


## Important Exam Information

**Apply Now**

*PV Tech Sales*  
Exam Application Deadline is  
**May 11th**

[click here](#) to apply



## NABCEP Resource/Study Guides

The [PV Installer Resource/Study Guide](#) that was released last fall has been very well received -- since the beginning of 2012 it was opened on our website over 175,000 times. We are weeks away from releasing a companion document that covers Solar Heating. Chuck Marken and Vaughn Woodruff authored the new guide. Both Chuck and Vaughn are widely respected as leading educators and

## CE Conference a Success

At the end of March, NABCEP hosted its first Continuing Education Conference. The event was a resounding success. Over 175 NABCEP Certified Professionals took part in two and a half days of training. Certificants who attended the entire weekend of training obtained fifteen Continuing Education hours towards recertification requirements.

In addition to a wide range of manufacturers who offered training on their products, invited presenters covered fall protection, roofing for non-roofers, crane signals, and the NEC (National Electric Code). Many of the sessions were standing room only. (For more photos [click here](#).)



One of the most rewarding parts of this conference was the feedback we received from the presenters concerning their feelings about having the opportunity to train NABCEP certificants. Here are a couple of examples of post-conference notes we received:

Greg Smith from SMA America, LLC, who presented a training session on the Sunny Island, wrote and told us, "It [the conference] was first class all the way and the level of knowledge we encountered was incredible."

Ryan Mayfield, Renewable Energy Associates, LLC, who offered two full-day presentations on the NEC to standing-room-only audiences, told us, "As a trainer, I have to say that was hands down the best audience I've had the opportunity to present to. In part that is due to the excellent conference you provided but even more so, I think it is a reflection of the NABCEP certifications."

Ezra Auerbach, NABCEP's Executive Director says, "This event lived up to and exceeded our highest hopes and expectations. It was such a success thanks to: the knowledge and enthusiasm that our certificants brought with them; the quality of the technical sessions; the efforts of our staff; and,



experienced Solar Heating practitioners. Keep an eye on our website for the release of this great addition to our resource library.



### Marketing Materials

While on the topic of resources...We often hear from certificants that they wish NABCEP could or would do more to help build consumer awareness of the importance and value of hiring certified personnel. We make [free brochures](#) available to certificants and now we are introducing a new print-your-own marketing piece for certificants. It is a one-page Consumer Guide to why NABCEP Certified personnel-installers and sales professionals are an important part of ensuring that the system they bought will offer long term reliability and value. This document is intended for use as a handout at shows, conferences, and sales calls. We have produced it as a fillable PDF so certificants can enter their own contact information. We hope that it will prove to be useful to our certificants -- if it is we will produce more similar documents.

last but by far not least, the commitment of our sponsors. Special thanks goes to NYSERDA (New York State Energy Research Development Authority) for being the lead sponsor of this event, Hudson Valley Community College for their awesome venue, and SolarPro for their efforts as our exclusive media sponsor. Additionally we owe special gratitude to Mike Holt Enterprises for contributing an NEC guide to each attendee, and Solar Energy International and Power-One for their sponsorship contributions."

Given the strong positive response we received from our certificants and presenters, NABCEP intends to facilitate more Continuing Education events. Stay tuned for more news on the dates and location of at least one more conference next year.

### PV Technical Sales Deadline

The application deadline for the July-August round of PV Technical Sales Certification Exams is fast approaching. As always, we strongly encourage applicants to beat the last-minute rush and get their applications in as soon as possible.

**Apply Now**  
*PV Tech Sales*  
Exam Application Deadline is  
**May 11th**

Certified PV Installers automatically qualify to take the PV Technical Sales Exam (providing they have a construction related OSHA 10 card). Don't miss this opportunity to distinguish yourself by attaining this fast-growing certification.

### Burnham Energy

Burnham Energy is a company that specializes in conducting independent quality assurance inspections of PV Systems. The ever-increasing demand for their services has made it necessary for the company to expand their pool of qualified PV system inspectors. Burnham Energy recently announced that they were seeking journeyman electricians that also hold NABCEP PV Installer Certification to join their network of inspectors. The work is occasional and can be preformed by inspectors who hold "day jobs."

Burnham tells us that they are particularly interested in NABCEP Certificants for two primary reasons: 1) They see a consistent trend when they inspect installations that were installed by NABCEP Certified PV Installers there are fewer quality deficiencies and 2) NABCEP Certified PV Installers are perfect inspector candidates because of their comprehensive knowledge of PV Installation. Contact Burnham Energy directly by emailing David Inda at [dinda@burnhamnationwide.com](mailto:dinda@burnhamnationwide.com).



## **Intersolar North America**

NABCEP is pleased to announce our partnership with Intersolar North America 2012 - California's largest solar event, taking place in San Francisco from July 10-12. Through this partnership, NABCEP Certificants and supporters are invited to visit the exhibition and its complimentary programs in Moscone Center. Please [click here](#) for free visitor registration with the Promotion Code ISNAGP206 and save up to \$150.

Visit NABCEP at booth #8604, Level 2 of West Hall, Moscone Center - Intersolar North America and attend our free seminar "Company Accreditation - A New Standard of Excellence for Residential PV Installation Companies" on Tuesday, July 10, 12:15pm-1:45pm at Moscone Center, West Hall, Level 3, Practical Point.

Intersolar offers over 20 years of experience in the world's most dynamic solar markets. Be part of the booming international markets and visit their 5th successful show in North America. Intersolar North America, the premier solar industry exhibition and conference in North America for solar professionals to exchange information and develop business opportunities in the U.S. solar market. Co-located with SEMICON West, the event is expected to draw approximately 950 exhibitors and registered visitors from more than 80 countries to provide a true global perspective of the solar industry."

## **World Renewable Energy Forum**

If you are going to attend the joint American Solar Energy Society/World Renewable Energy Congress conference in Denver from May 13-17, please be sure to stop by the NABCEP Booth (#916) and say hello to our staff and volunteers. We will be presenting in a panel discussion on how NABCEP Certifications help drive career advancement and there will be ample time for comments and questions from the audience. Come by and add your perspective and experience to the mix. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Certification Exam Schedules

We are considering changes to our exam schedules and administration methods and we'd like to get your collective opinions before we make any final decisions. First comes the matter of installer exams; presently we administer two exams per year, one in the March and one in September. We have been asked on a number of occasions to consider three exams per year. We'd like to know if this would be desirable to potential candidates and when during the year these exams should be delivered.

Secondly, we are evaluating the value of our current practice of offering the PV Technical Sales Exam via computer-based testing (CBT) format. An alternative is to offer the PV Technical Sales Exam at the same time as the installer exams in a paper and pencil format.

To get your input we have established a very brief online survey. Please [visit this link](#) and give us your opinions and suggestions.

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### Coming to Your Inbox Soon

**COMPANY ACCREDITATION** - We will be officially launching our Company Accreditation program by the end of April and will send the announcement and links to more details to all of our stakeholders at that time. We hope to have a strong positive response to this initiative and look forward to receiving Company Accreditation applications from many companies who employ NABCEP Certified personnel. This program will offer an additional way for those of you who excel in business practices, installation quality, and quality assurance to distinguish your company with recognition by NABCEP.

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**PV, SOLAR HEATING AND SMALL WIND INSTALLER EXAM RESULTS** - The results of the March 24 exams will be mailed to all candidates the week of April 30. NABCEP will be issuing a press release that provides an update to the number of individuals that hold certified installer credentials. We fully expect to break the 2,000 mark in certified PV installers. In perspective this means that the ranks of certified PV installers has doubled in the past couple of years.

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**About NABCEP:** The North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) is the most respected, well-established, and widely recognized national certification organization for solar professionals in the field of renewable energy. NABCEP is a volunteer board of representatives who are chosen based on their experience and involvement in the solar energy industry. NABCEP's mission is to develop and implement quality credentialing and certification programs for practitioners by supporting and working closely with

professionals and stakeholders in the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries. To learn more visit [www.nabcep.org](http://www.nabcep.org)

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