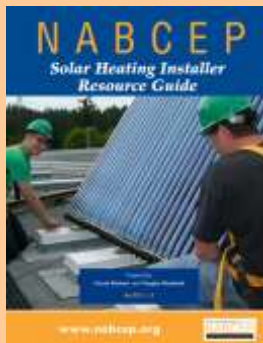


**Next**  
**Installer Exams**  
Application Deadline is  
**July 13th**

[click here](#) to apply



### Preparing for the Exam?

NABCEP offers Resource/Study Guides for candidates that are preparing for the Certified PV and Solar Heating Installer Exams. Both these handbooks were authored by widely recognized subject matter experts and are used as primary resources by their respective exam committees.

[NABCEP resources](#)

### Certification Exam Application Deadline is July 13, 2012

The deadline for applications is July 13, 2012 for the PV Installer, Solar Heating Installer, and Small Wind Installer exams. The exams are on September 22, 2012. As always, we encourage all applicants NOT to wait until the deadline to submit their application. To apply [click here](#).

### Join Us at Intersolar in San Francisco

The North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) is a proud sponsor of Intersolar North America 2012 -

California's largest solar event, taking place in San Francisco from July 10-12. Intersolar North America focuses on photovoltaics and solar thermal technologies. Exhibitors include PV cell, module and inverter manufacturers, components and mounting system suppliers, manufacturing system suppliers, service companies as well as manufacturers of solar thermal applications, including heating and cooling, among others.

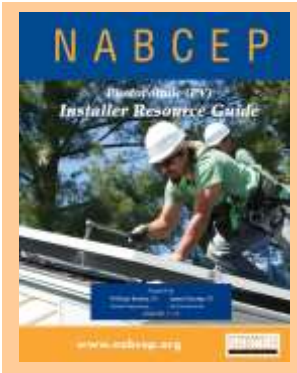
Attend Intersolar's free training programs at the Practical Point Stage. To reflect the growing domestic demand for solar applications throughout the United States and the increasing need to address relevant aspects of the downstream sector, the Practical Point is being introduced in 2012. Here, free workshops will be held for industry insiders, practitioners, installers and system integrators to exchange expertise and experiences. NABCEP will present a seminar: "Company Accreditation - A New Standard of Excellence for Residential PV Installation Companies" on Tuesday, July 10 from 12:15pm-1:45pm. at the Practical Point Stage. Visit NABCEP at booth #8604, Level 2 of West Hall, Moscone Center.



### NABCEP Partners with SolarNexus to Support Solar Industry Best Practices

NABCEP and SolarNexus, the leading supplier of web-based solar business management software, have announced a new partnership that offers special discounts on SolarNexus software to companies that employ NABCEP Certified Installers and Sales





Professionals. [Click here](#) to learn more about the benefits offered through this agreement.

SolarNexus helps solar contractors profitably manage projects, organize client data, and collaborate with team members, accelerating the process of selling, installing and maintaining solar systems. With features like milestone tracking and the ability to document and archive critical information, SolarNexus supports best practices throughout the entire project - from sale to installation, and over the entire life of the system. SolarNexus also helps provide a streamlined system that allows contractors who are interested in pursuing the new NABCEP Company Accreditation a more efficient way of organizing much of the information required.

Ezra Auerbach, Executive Director at NABCEP, expressed his enthusiasm about the relationship. "We're excited to work with SolarNexus. NABCEP is about improving quality throughout the entire solar value chain - not just technical disciplines, but business management as well. SolarNexus helps solar contractors streamline and organize their sales and operations processes, meaning the quality of their operations is vastly improved." He adds, "One of the reasons we partnered with SolarNexus is the level of commitment and service they bring to the industry. A good example is the [SolarHub](#). This site provides a free reference data base of detailed product specifications used by professionals in the solar energy market. You can browse and filter listed products by a variety of attributes specific to each product type, saving a lot of time when compared to accessing the same data via manufacturer websites, datasheets, or printed distributor catalogs. Consistent format further facilitates comparisons."

"We've found that contractors who pursue NABCEP certification tend to be particularly focused on running their operations well. That's why SolarNexus is the software solution that so many NABCEP certified professionals use to manage their businesses," said Eric Alderman, SolarNexus President/CEO. "This partnership allows us to provide even more value to NABCEP certified professionals, and will make it easier for them to prepare for NABCEP Company Accreditation." For further details on the SolarNexus solar business management software, visit [solarnexus.com](http://solarnexus.com).

### **Walt Ratterman Award**

Nominations are being solicited for the [Walt Ratterman Award for Creative Community Energy](#). Nominees for the award must be NABCEP certificants in good standing and may work in any technology that NABCEP offers certifications for. Installations can be domestic or offshore but they must be performed at no charge for a not-for-profit or charitable organization. Considerations such as legacy, local labor and material content, on-the-job-training, and project sustainability will help guide the award committee.

Nominations should include details of the individual nominated, their projects, and the nominator's reasons for the nomination. All nominations should be forwarded to Ezra Auerbach, NABCEP's Executive Director, at [eauebach@nabcep.org](mailto:eauebach@nabcep.org). Nominations for the award will be accepted until August 15, 2012. The winner will be announced on September 13, 2012.

Last year, the first annual Walt Ratterman Award for Creative Community Energy was presented to Wade Andrews of Namaste Solar for his contribution to the Cal-Wood Education Center. The center allows those who otherwise would not have the chance, to connect with the outdoors and Colorado's outstanding natural environment.

### **NABCEP Seeks Input from Small Wind Industry**

NABCEP has begun work on developing a Small Wind Entry Level (EL) Program. The first step in establishing an EL program is the development of Learning Objectives. A volunteer committee of subject matter experts has produced a draft of the Learning Objectives and the next step is gathering input and validation from the small wind industry. To that end, NABCEP invites small wind installers, site assessors, educators and trainers, manufacturers, distributors, sales and marketing professionals, state program managers, and all others with expertise in small wind to sign up to participate in an industry validation survey for the program.



Participants in the online survey will be reviewing and evaluating a set of Small Wind Entry Level Learning Objectives. These learning objectives are designed to describe the fundamental knowledge and skills required for entry level small wind practice in a variety of job settings and roles. When finalized, they will provide guidance for the development of small wind education and training programs, will be used to establish the test content outline for an entry level small wind exam, and will help ensure that entry level small wind practitioners have the requisite knowledge and skills for safe and effective practice. For purposes of this program, "Small Wind" has been defined as systems rated at 100 kw or less.

To sign up to be a part of the survey, please use the following link:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NABCEPSmallWind>

Note: This is not the link to the actual survey-you will be getting an email invitation with a unique password-protected link directly from [NABCEP-SW@proexam.org](mailto:NABCEP-SW@proexam.org) (NABCEP's contractor on the study). To ensure delivery of this invitation, please add [NABCEP-SW@proexam.org](mailto:NABCEP-SW@proexam.org) to your email address book or approved senders list.

## **NABCEP Company Accreditation Program**

NABCEP is accepting applications for its new Company Accreditation Program for residential PV installation companies. The purpose of this program is to provide consumers with a meaningful way to select PV installation companies that have a commitment to clearly show their standards of quality assurance. Companies that attain the accreditation will be able to demonstrate systematic quality assurance throughout the sales, installation, and after-sale process.



The core elements of NABCEP Company Accreditation include: employment of NABCEP certified installation and technical sales personnel, documented and consistent processes, ongoing worker training program(s), and a strong focus on worker safety. Companies seeking accreditation will undergo a thorough and rigorous application procedure that will include independent third-party inspections of previously installed systems.

Don Warfield, Chairperson of NABCEP says, "This program is important for the PV installation industry as it will help consumers find vendors they can trust. This is an important step for NABCEP; it allows the organization to recognize the companies that actively support our mission by employing our certificants. NABCEP holds consumer protection as one of its core values and this is another way we can work with industry to further this goal."

More information on the Company Accreditation Program, as well as an application, can be found on the NABCEP website at <http://www.nabcep.org/company-accreditation>. Or join us at Intersolar in San Francisco for a presentation on Tuesday, July 10, 12:15pm-1:45pm. at the Practical Point Stage.

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### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Solar Power International Conference (SPI)**

Mark your calendar for September 10-13 for SPI '12 at the Orange County Convention Center and plan to join 21,000+ professionals in solar energy and related fields from around the globe.

Visit NABCEP at Booth #2158

**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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