

NABCEP CERTIFICANT PROFILE

Richard Stovall



Richard Stovall holds three NABCEP certifications: PV Solar Installer, Solar Thermal Installer, and PV Technical Sales. Richard is the director of operations at ImagineSolar, a solar training and consulting company located in Austin, Texas.

“My first exposure to solar was in high school when I was determined to impress my very tough science teacher, so I built a solar-powered doghouse for the annual science fair with thirty passive and active solar properties.”

“After an early career as a commercial fisherman, and thirteen years in the semiconductor industry, I decided it was time to revisit my interest in solar. I learned about NABCEP right away and realized that becoming NABCEP certified would put me among the best in the industry. My solar mentor, Michael Kuhn, and I established Texas’ first licensed career school dedicated to the study of solar technologies.”

“In 2009, ImagineSolar led a coalition of stakeholders that included the NECA-IBEW Joint Apprenticeship and Training Center in Austin, and Workforce Solutions, a Texas Workforce Commission outreach and workforce training center, to create a public-private partnership that was funded by a grant from the Department of Labor to train electricians and out-of-work individuals for work in the solar industry. Known as C-NEST (Comprehensive-National Electrician Solar Training), this program includes entry-level and advanced PV coursework, three complex PV installation labs, and, for licensed electricians, ImagineSolar partnered with NABCEP to implement the first Alternative Installation Experience Pathway (AIEP).”

“For the AIEP lab, I designed four different installations using state-of-the-art solar technology involving all aspects of a complete installation including all calculations, labeling in compliance with local codes, and industry best practices. We are very proud of what we have accomplished and the validation of the program is in the results of the electricians that have taken the NABCEP PV Installer Exam. The NABCEP certifications that we hold allowed us to pursue this opportunity.”

“In my pursuit to become a leader in the renewable energy industry, I have received three NABCEP solar certifications, and am a LEED AP. I have just submitted my ISPQ Affiliated Instructor Application and when I have met the necessary requirements I plan to pursue the NABCEP Small Wind Installer Certification as well.”

“These NABCEP certifications give our company more credibility in the solar industry and with our customers. Our curriculum is largely driven by the available NABCEP certifications.”

“I let my students know that NABCEP certifications are a path for distinguishing themselves and that NABCEP is truly the guiding light of the solar industry. The students also like that we have a number of NABCEP certified instructors on staff.”

“There is no shortage of people who want to work in green industry. However, there is a significant shortage of qualified people. NABCEP certification is the best available indicator of a qualified installer.”

“NABCEP is the de-facto standard in the solar industry.”