

NABCEP NEWS



NABCEP Champion

As the lead sponsor of NABCEP's Second Annual Continuing Education Conference, SMA is pleased to support industry safety, compliance and continuing education for NABCEP certified installers. Because we are committed to keeping installers up-to-date on product information, new technologies and installation best practices, SMA is proud to partner with NABCEP on this important event. With dynamic training and presentations and some of the industry's brightest installers in attendance, this conference will be instrumental in elevating industry standards and providing specialized education.

NABCEP Approves Changes to PV Installer Certification

The NABCEP Board of Directors has voted to implement changes to its PV Installer Certification effective February 2, 2013. The changes approved include:

- A name change of the certification to **NABCEP Certified PV Installation Professional**
- Revised language in the Introduction, Scope Statement, and Job Description contained in the Job Task Analysis
- Broadening of the eligibility criteria that is used to qualify individuals to sit for the certification exam
- A new logo (see below for a sample).

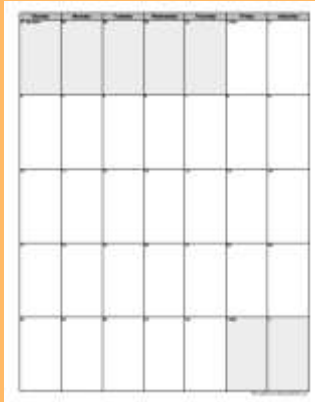
These changes reflect the evolution of the PV Installation industry along with the evolution of installation related careers and allow wider range of PV Installation professionals to attain and maintain certification.

Ezra Auerbach, NABCEP's Executive Director, notes, "The heart of the JTA (the job tasks, criticality ratings, and exam blueprint) remains unchanged. Our extensive public input gathering process clearly indicated that multiple individuals with decision making roles in the installation process all use the full range of knowledge that is delineated in the JTA and tested on the certification exam." He continues, "The changes will not affect the certification status of individuals who already hold the PV Installer Certification. Their certification number will remain the same and they will continue to be listed on the NABCEP website."



NABCEP Chairperson, Don Warfield adds, "One thing that we want to make very clear is that the NABCEP PV Installation Professional Certification will remain as

SMA looks forward to seeing solar professionals in the Sacramento area, the home of SMA's U.S. headquarters, this spring.



**Exam Date
Reminder**

All NABCEP certification exams will be held on **Saturday, April 20, 2013.**

To ensure eligibility for the PV and Solar Heating Installer exams or the PV Technical Sales exam, please submit all required materials and fees by the deadlines.

Deadline for applications:
Friday, February 1, 2013

Deadlines for scheduling: **Friday,**

rigorous, meaningful, and maintain the same high standards as ever before. In order to be successful on the exam all candidates will need to be fully conversant in all aspects of the full range of duties described in the Job Task Analysis. NABCEP prides itself on offering certifications that are based on demonstrated experience, documented training, rigorous testing, and a professional code of conduct, and on that basis will not change."

The eligibility criteria for certification and recertification will expand to include individuals who fulfill job duties that include but are not limited to: lead installer, designer, project manager, quality assurance and commissioning specialist or superintendent/foreman. The common element across the range of eligibility criteria is that individual must document that they perform a job role in which they make decisions that materially affect the outcome of the quality and serviceability of the installation of PV systems.

Individuals that have let their PV Installer Certification lapse because their job duties took them "off the roof" will now have the opportunity to reinstate their certification, providing that they can document that they have remained in a job role that is covered under the revised eligibility criteria and have the requisite number of Continuing Education hours. The "window of opportunity" to apply to reinstate an expired certification will end on August 2, 2013.

Over the next few months NABCEP will be contacting all current Certified PV Installers to provide them with their new Certification Seal and marketing materials. The organization understands that many certified installers have invested in marketing materials that show their existing PV Installer name and logo. There will be a one-year transition period when it will be acceptable to use either logo or wordmarks.

Please visit the NABCEP [website](#) for more information on the Certified PV Installation Professional Certification. You may also contact Ezra Auerbach, NABCEP's Executive Director by [email](#) if you have questions or concerns that you wish to address.

March 8, 2013

Certification exam:
Saturday, April 20, 2013

If you are interested in learning more about applying for the exam or you want to complete an application that you already started, please visit the NABCEP website for information on [how to apply](#).

If you are ready to start an application use the Quick Links below:

[Start a PV Installer Application](#)

[Start a PV Technical Sales Application](#)

[Start a Solar Heating Installer Application](#)

[NABCEP Home page](#)

[Exam Resources](#)

2013 Fee Increases

Due to the increased costs of exam administration the following rates will take effect as shown below:

Application Fees:
\$125 (online)
\$175 (paper)

Executive Director Message



As the year winds down and everyone turns their attention to celebrating the solstice and other seasonal holidays, the staff at NABCEP want to send their best wishes for a great new year. We also want to express our thanks for the support, patience and good will that we have received from the vast majority of applicants and certificants that we have had the privilege to come into contact with during the year. You folks are real stars in our books.

The past year at NABCEP has been busy. We continue to enjoy strong growth in our certification programs. Early this year our Solar Heating Entry Level Exam program was launched. NABCEP Company Accreditation, a program that is designed to allow companies to show customers their commitments to quality assurance throughout the entire sales, installation and post sale experience, was launched this year.

NABCEP held its first Continuing Education Conference in Malta, NY. From all accounts this inaugural conference was a huge success, and we are hard at work getting ready for two more CE conferences in the spring of 2013 (see article below for more information).

This last year has also been challenging for NABCEP. Government funding and support makes up an ever-shrinking portion of our annual revenues -- none any longer from the U.S. Department of Energy and a modest amount, for which we are very grateful, from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). This means that our organization has to be more and more self-supporting.

Revenues from our examination programs do not fully cover the cost of running NABCEP. We absolutely rely on the support that comes from the industries we serve. We would simply not be able to survive without the generous

Effective: 02.02.2013

Exam Retake Fee - \$250

Effective: 03.09.2012

Other exam related fees remain unchanged.

Having Your Say...



NABCEP Certified PV Installers are reminded of the Market Survey Invitation that was sent out earlier this month. The survey is still open and those of you who have not responded are urged to do so. Click the survey invitation link in the previously sent email or contact Ibolya Tarsoly directly at i.tarsoly@eupdresearch.com or by phone at 1 415 867 7843.



NABCEP Store

contributions from companies like: SMA (a NABCEP Champion), Inter Solar, Renewable Energy World, Solar Nexus, Solar Pro, Mitsubishi Electric, Schneider Electric, Trojan Battery, Zone 5, OnGrid Solar, Renewable Energy Associates, Rolls Battery Engineering and Solar World.

We need more industry support to continue to operate and promote our existing programs and develop new ones that are relevant to an every changing and evolving industry. You can help by "talking up" the value of NABCEP Certification programs with your industry suppliers. If their name is on the list above, thank them for helping support **your** certification. If not, they are prime candidates to become corporate supporters of NABCEP. There is no better way for them to get the message that NABCEP needs their support than directly from you, their customers.

NABCEP Continuing Education Conferences



NABCEP is hosting two Continuing Education Conferences in the first half of 2013. The first [Continuing Education Conference](#) is focused on PV Installation and Technical Sales, and will be held in Sacramento, CA.

In April the focus will shift to solar heating with NABCEP's first [Solar Heating Continuing Education Conference](#) in Malta, NY.

Both events offer certificants a great opportunity to attain NABCEP Continuing Education Credits, meet with vendors, network with peers, and, of course, have a good time.

CONFERENCE SPONSORS

Want to show off your support of NABCEP? Get a last minute gift for your favorite certificant? The [NABCEP Store](#) is the place to go.

With fall and winter weather here we are pleased to introduce our new Long-sleeve Thermal Tee. This extremely soft cotton/poly blend shirt is sure to become a "warm cozy" favorite in your wardrobe.

CALENDAR

We will be exhibiting and presenting at PV America East, Philadelphia, PA; February 5 - 7, 2013.

Put this important East Coast event in your calendar.

Platinum Level: SMA



Gold Level: Intersolar



Silver Level: Schneider Electric



Bronze Level: SolarWorld and Rolls Battery Engineering



Exclusive Media Sponsor: Solar Pro Magazine



To learn more about the conference visit the [NABCEP website](#).

[Register for the conference here](#)

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

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