

Ratterman Award goes to domestic PV project



See full story in this newsletter.



Don't miss the great selection of NABCEP branded items that are now available at our online store. Visit the [store](#) and select from pens, hats, shirts, and warm layers.

Installer Exam Application Deadline Approaching

The deadline for applications is July 15, 2011 for the PV, ST, and SW Installer Exams. The exams are on September 24, 2011. We strongly recommend applying during the month of June. It seems that many people wait until the last two weeks to apply and we are sorry to report that some that apply at the last minute don't get accepted because their applications are short critical documentation that they cannot get into the application database in time. Our staff does everything they can to assist applicants but a deadline is just that.

Apply Now
Installer Exams
Application Deadline is
July 15

Those who apply earlier have more latitude with respect to receiving notification that they need more documents or information with their application and, of course, have the necessary time to get the documents or information in to our office before the deadline door closes. Go to our [website](#) now to begin your application.

Similarly those who are accepted to sit for the exams are encouraged to schedule as soon as they can; by doing so they are much more likely to get a seat at their first-choice exam location.

OSHA News

One of the many "volunteer heros" who serve on NABCEP committees sends the following note:

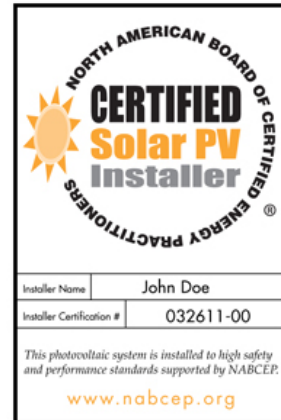
"On December 16, 2010 OSHA issued Directive #STD 03-11-002 titled 'Compliance Guidelines for Residential Construction' with an enforcement date of June 16, 2011. The NRCA (National Roofing Contractors Association) along with four roofing contractors filed a petition for judicial review in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit to push this directive back and was dismissed. The directive and the enforcement date stand. While enforcement is always a grey area, preparation for this new direction on the part of the solar industry should be led by the ranks of NABCEP. Now is a

good time to study up on fall protection, purchase some new safety equipment, test some new field procedures, update your 'Fall Protection Plan,' and do some training."

Visit [OSHA's website](#) for more specific information on the directive.

Time to Bring Back NABCEP Labels?

Years ago, NABCEP produced personalized stickers for installers to use on their completed jobs. They were met with mixed reaction; some loved them and others thought they were a dumb idea. All regretted the fact that we managed to order labels that were not waterproof or UV resistant. Over the past year we've been asked by a number of certified installers if we would bring the labels back.



We have done considerable research and found that we can indeed offer the labels in a waterproof and UV resistant material but they are somewhat expensive, particularly in small quantities. We learned that a minimum of ten installers' label orders must be ordered at the same time to make producing them cost-effective. At that rate there is a \$20 per installer set up charge and the cost for each label (in rolls of 50) is \$.59. If twenty installers order at the same time, the set up charge remains the same, but the individual label cost drops a dime to \$.49 each.

Now we need to know if there is sufficient interest to go ahead with this project. To that end we are asking those that would be interested in ordering labels at the price noted above to please contact Sue Pratt (spratt@nabcep.org) by email with the subject line "Installer Labels" and let her know how many labels you'd want to buy. We strongly recommend a minimum order of 100 labels to lower the per label cost of the set up charge. If we have positive response from at least ten installers we'll go ahead and get the labels made. We will let you all know in the next edition of this newsletter how the responses were. *The image above shows a mock up of what the label would look like. Their actual size would be 3"x 2".*

Walt Ratterman Award is Presented in Colorado

The first annual **Walt Ratterman Award for Creative Community Energy** was presented to **Wade Andrews** of Namaste Solar in Boulder, Colorado. Wade won for a domestic PV project on 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. By awarding this inaugural award to a domestic project, we hope it will inspire others to look around their own communities and see where work close to home can make a positive difference to the lives of their less fortunate neighbors.



Wade Andrews, 2010 Ratterman Award winner and Ezra Auerbach, NABCEP Executive Director

Department of Labor Job Classification Survey

In the last issue we reported that the Department of Labor was working on a job classification for solar engineers. Chris Fine at RTI International, the contractor working on this project for the DOL, is still seeking volunteers. If you have at least five years experience as a practicing or supervising solar energy systems engineer and are still performing in the occupation, you are invited to volunteer to take part in their survey. Qualified volunteers will be asked to complete questionnaires about tasks, required areas of knowledge, and working conditions. Send him an email at cfine@onet.rti.org with the subject line "NABCEP Solar Engineer" along with your: name, title, address, city, state, ZIP code, day time phone number, and solar energy systems engineer area specialty. You may also reach Chris by phone at 877-233-7348, x112.

Company Accreditation

A quick update note, we will be launching a web-based validation survey on this program. Those that have sent in their names will be contacted by email with invitations to participate in the survey. Thanks to those of you who have showed your interest.

Meet the NABCEP Staff

NABCEP welcomes its newest staff member, **Chad Wolf**, our coordinator of Entry Level Programs. Chad comes to us from Wisconsin where he worked for the Mid West Renewable Energy Association as a workshop coordinator. He brings lots of perspective to his job thanks to his experience working with presenters on a wide variety of renewable energy topics, along with his participation in the annual MREA Energy Fair.



NABCEP at Events

NABCEP will have booths at the events listed below. Please come visit us if you will be attending any of these events. As always if you want to volunteer to do some booth duty with our staff please contact Sue Pratt, our Office Manager at spratt@nabcep.org.

July 12 - 14 / Intersolar North America / San Francisco, California
October 17-20 / Solar Power International Conference / Dallas,
Texas

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