



Get the Most Out of iNARTE Certification

By Brian Lawrence, Executive Director, iNARTE, Inc.



I can report that we ended 2008 in a stronger position than when the year began. In a most difficult period for our industry, we were gratified that so many of our Certificate holders appreciated the value of this credential, and made the positive investment in their future by renewing their Certification.

We were particularly encouraged by the new candidates who came forward to be examined during the IEEE EMC Symposium in Detroit. This EMC community has been badly hit, particularly by both the recession and the effects of global industrialization, yet we had a greater number of applicants than we have seen at these events for more than five years. We heard from several Detroit examinees that they had invested part of their severance packages in text books, extra training, and finally in iNARTE Certification as a way to validate their skills and experience. The iNARTE credential is an endorsement of general EMC knowledge and experience and could make the difference in getting that all important interview, that critical factor that gets the new career opportunity, and potentially even an increased salary.

Since our formation in 1982, iNARTE has Certified more than 17,000 engineers and technicians in different technologies. Through the years new members have joined while others have left the fields, and today we have just over 6,000 active members, of which some 2,000 are EMC Certificate holders. Currently 60% of iNARTE EMC Certificate holders are in the

USA, 30% are in Japan and the remaining 10% are from 25 other countries. Asia is our fastest growing EMC Certification region today where we expect more than 250 new candidates will present themselves for examination in 2009.

To meet these regional challenges, iNARTE established almost a dozen new Test Centers and Regional Training Partnerships across China, India and other Southeast Asian countries during 2008. In 2009 we will be concentrating on promoting the values of iNARTE Certification in order that these regional partners understand and share the iNARTE vision to help us achieve our goals and meet the needs of our new members.

The benefit of iNARTE Certification might be different for each of our members. But what is certain is that the benefit will be commensurate with the effort invested in its promotion. Achieving iNARTE Certification requires a significant commitment, so a successful application in itself is very satisfying. For many this alone may be sufficient reward. However, we think that Certification should be made to work for our members, and to make it work, it needs to be promoted and appreciated. Each Certificate Holder needs to play their part in this promotion.

Each time a member renews, iNARTE offers to notify their employer of that person's renewed achievement and commitment, yet less than 5% take advantage of this service.

We suspect that many Certificates are simply placed in a desk

iNARTE and ACLASS Announce Joint Cooperative Program

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was executed between the International Association for Radio, Telecommunications and Electromagnetics, Inc. (iNARTE) and the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board LLC (d.b.a. ACLASS). The MOA provides a framework for both organizations to cooperate in the development of training and professional certification programs intended for managers and staff responsible for preparing laboratories for assessment and maintenance of laboratory quality.

Under the agreement iNARTE will be inaugurating a certification for Certified Laboratory Auditors. This certification is targeted at internal laboratory auditors and will insure that they have the training, skills and expertise to help prepare and maintain laboratories in compliance with accreditation requirements.

The MOA allows the parties to share technical and procedural information, to conduct training classes, workshops, examinations and similar activities intended to broaden the appreciation and understanding of ISO and other relevant standards and the value of professional certification. iNARTE and ACLASS will provide opportunities to make presentations at conventions, symposia and workshops. Both groups will cooperate in the development of educational workshops, educational programs and the body of knowledge required for examination of candidates.

Brian Lawrence, Executive Director of iNARTE said that one of the first projects to be executed under the terms of the MOA will be the development of a training program, workshop and examination to run in parallel with iNARTE's EMC Certification Workshop and Examination at the 2009 IEEE EMC Society Symposium in Austin, Texas, during August 17 - 21.

iNARTE and ACLASS are planning to provide regular training programs and examinations, in order that Certified individuals can stay current with the standards and maintain their certification status.

iNARTE is a leader in professional certification programs that recognize the credentials and achievement of individuals in the telecommunications, EMC, ESD and product safety communities. ACLASS is a member of and signatory to each respective MRA of the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC), Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) and International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and is recognized for exceptional expertise in ISO/IEC 17025, ISO/IEC 17020, and RMP accreditation.



drawer or in a file cabinet, where they could perhaps be found if someone should ever ask. These Certificates need to be framed and proudly displayed in a prominent position at the workplace.

Every Certificate holder is entitled to use the iNARTE logo on business cards, letterhead and other forms. Every time anyone asks what that logo means, it provides an opportunity to promote this unique credential. It is a badge of distinction and a means to differentiate oneself. Having the credentials is of little use unless people know that you have them and understand what they mean. In addition, members should always use their NCE or NCT titles on business cards, correspondence and forms. To promote awareness, iNARTE sells a range of merchandise, including specially made embossers and stampers that feature each member's Certificate number (visit <http://www.narte.org/h/merchandise.asp> to see what you could use).

Even though we hear of so many positions being eliminated, companies are regularly posting job openings on the iNARTE web site. Employers see these postings as a way to solicit applications from a particularly qualified group. But how many of our members regularly scan these pages? Members seeking new opportunities and offering consulting services should also post their resumes on our site, but again not so many are using this service. Be aware of what iNARTE Certification can offer and take every advantage. Visit <http://www.narte.org/h/jobs.asp#resumes> to see what is out there and to expose yourself to every opportunity.

You are the advertising manager for Yourself, Inc. You need to make use of all the weapons in your arsenal. iNARTE gives you some valuable ammunition to use, don't leave it idle.

For more information, contact us at phone 1-800-89-NARTE, or e-mail: lawrence@inarte.us. EMC

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iNARTE, Inc.
840 Queen Street • New Bern • NC 28560
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esa

ESA Workshop on Aerospace EMC

30 March - 1 April 2009

**Palazzo dei Congressi
Florence, Italy**

IEEE EMC-5 Italy Chapter

We are pleased to invite the EMC community to the fascinating Florence to promote knowledge transfer across the aerospace industry and to create a unique opportunity for networking with professionals from industry and academia.

This workshop will represent an open forum to address advances, recent developments and innovation in

- Measurements Techniques
- EM Environment and EMI Effects
- EMI Analyses, Predictions and Control
- EMC Management and Standardization
- EMC in Communication Systems.

Details on the ESA Web site
<http://www.congressi.nl/09c03/>

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