



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RADIO TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERS, INC.

PRESS RELEASE

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PRODUCT SAFETY CERTIFICATION “GRANDFATHER” WINDOW CLOSING

NARTE, an international professional credential certification association is in the sixth month of a 12-month grandfather period for Product Safety certification. NARTE initiated a certification in Product Safety for engineers and technicians during August of 2003. The period for current practitioners to qualify by eminence (waiving examination) ends August 31, 2004. Russ Carstensen, Executive Director of NARTE said “It is very important to have one’s application postmarked by August 31, 2004 to grandfather. An application package can be found on our web site at www.narte.org” All applications postmarked after August 31, 2004 will require the full range of experience, education, references and examination.

Traditionally, the electrical safety of a product or system has only been fully understood and implemented by a small number of specialists. The rapid advancement of electronic technology, the increased use of software operating systems and the wide application of Legislative Requirements in the United States of America, the European Union (European Economic Community) and Internationally, has resulted in a shortage of specialists in electrical safety. To avoid a dilution of capabilities in the face of expanding expectations or a critical shortage of electrical safety engineers and technicians it is desirable to establish a career path for professional development.

Product Safety certification targets design professionals and design engineers interested in electrical product safety. The NARTE Product Safety certification addresses safety engineering for equipment and devices used in the scientific, engineering, industrial, commercial and residential arenas. While product safety has been addressed by the EU’s Low Voltage Directive, there has not been a widely accepted professional competence assessment of individual practitioners. NARTE certification fills this void.

Product Safety includes the following area of technology:

Connection to supply
Equipment design
Isolation of supply
Hazard analysis
Mechanical hazards
Risk assessment
Earthing/Grounding
Design review
Types of Insulation
Legislation US, EEC and International

Protection against electrical shock
Resistance to fire
Inter system and intra system design
Fire hazards
Assessment authorities
Limits on fuel
Competent Bodies
Limits on heat
Safety certification

Insulation damage
Declarations of Conformity
Creepage and clearance
Safety tests
Military and Civil Electrical Safety Standards
Operating and maintenance instructions and handbooks

NARTE is an international, non-profit professional association which certifies qualified engineers and technicians in the fields of Telecommunications, Electromagnetic Compatibility/Interference (EMC/EMI), Electrostatic Discharge control (ESD) and Wireless Systems Installation. NARTE also administers FCC Commercial Operator License exams.