

**Contact:**  
**Michele Lawson, CSS**  
ETA International  
Phone: (800) 288-3824  
Fax: (765) 653-4287

5 Depot Street  
Greencastle, IN 46135  
www.eta-i.org

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# PRESS RELEASE

## **New ETA Inside Plant Certification Prepares Technicians for Successful Fiber Optics Careers**

*Qualified to lead America's workforce, ETA-certified Fiber Optics Technicians – Inside Plant professionals have validated knowledge and skills required for working with local area networks, enterprise networks and data centers.*

**Greencastle, September 19, 2017:** ETA<sup>®</sup> International's new [Fiber Optics Technician – Inside Plant \(FOT-ISP\)](#) is ideal for technicians working in data centers, local area networks and enterprise networks. This accredited certification addresses the technical knowledge and skill requirements for today's fiber optics technicians.

"With today's trends to higher speed networks using fiber optics, the need to demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to install, test and maintain these systems are critical as provided by ETA's FOT-ISP certification," said Larry Johnson, Founder, Light Brigade.

An FOT-ISP must be able to properly install, terminate, test and troubleshoot fiber optic communication systems used in premises, enterprise and data center installations. Included are various techniques applicable to gigabit multimode and single-mode systems consisting of unique test requirements in Ethernet and Fiber Channel, but also applicable to FTTx, security systems and CATV networks.

As many inside plant installations use multimode fiber, the FOT-ISP technician must recognize the various types - IEC defined OM2, 3, 4 & 5 multimode and OS2 single-mode fibers along with the various proper launch conditions used when testing fiber spans as defined by the TIA 568 standard. Technicians must also comprehend various fiber optic cable and connector types used in these networks, using best practices for installing, testing fiber links.

An FOT-ISP technician has the knowledge and skills required for proper installation, preparing optical loss budgets, splicing, repairing, terminating, connecting, testing and troubleshooting of multimode and single-mode fiber optic links. Additional knowledge and skills include identifying the roles of attenuation, dispersion and reflection by optical loss testing of transmission equipment along with an understanding of OTDRs including acceptance testing and troubleshooting fiber optic elements and spans. The FOT-ISP should have a basic understanding of the National Electrical Code (NEC<sup>®</sup>) and all safety conditions specific to the inside plant and campus applications.

There are no prerequisites, but prior networking and fiber optic knowledge and skills are suggested. While multimode fiber optics installations are the bulk of the knowledge and skills, single-mode fiber and networking integration will be addressed in inside plant applications.

Based on current industry standards, the ETA International FOT-ISP certification competencies, skills testing and knowledge examination were developed by affiliated industry training providers, subject matter experts, educators and working fiber optics technicians.

ETA extends a special thanks to all the members of the Fiber Optic committee who participated in the development of the FOT-ISP competencies and exam: Committee Chairman Bill Woodward, P.E., FOD; Warner Robins AFB; Rich Agard, FOI, RESIma Philadelphia Fiber Optic Training; Richard Booth, FOI, FOT; Empire High School; Chuck Casbeer, FOD, Infotec, ECPI University; Scott Dadaian, Fiber Optics; David Engebretson, ESNT, TTT, Slayton Solutions, Ltd; Ed Forrest, Jr., Race Marketing Services; JB Groves, FOI, FOT, Wharton County Junior College, Ft. Bend Tech. Ctr.; Larry Johnson, Light Brigade; Chuck Keller, CETma, RCDD; APT College; Greyson Knapp, FOT-OSP; APEX Optics; Dr. Ron Milione, CETma, FOD, PSEG-Wireless Communications; Paul Neukam, FOI, FOT-OSP, RCDD, SiteWise Systems; Kenneth Rivera, FOT, JM Fiber Optics; Brian Shirk, Amphenol; Phil Shoemaker, FOT-OSP, Light Brigade; Dede Starnes, Corning Cabling Systems; Don Stone, SAEFAB,FOT,CFODE; Kitco Fiber Optics; Robert Stover, DCI, FOT, Advanced Technical Ctr.; Khalid Taha, FOD, ECPI University; Brian Teague, FOI, FOT, DCI; Advanced Tech. Ctr.; Boon Kwee Thiam, FOT, FiberOpto Asia Pte Ltd.; Larry Wheeler, FOI, FOT-OSP, Light Brigade; David Ricke, FOT, FOT-OSP, Fiber Network Training and Phil Barone, FOI, ECPI University.

**About ETA** - Since 1978, ETA has delivered over 200,000 certification examinations successfully. Widely recognized and frequently used in worker job selection, hiring processes, pay increases, and advancements, ETA certifications are often required as companies bid on contracts. ETA's certifications are personal and travel with the individual, regardless of employment or status change and measure competencies of persons, not products or vendors. All ETA certifications are accredited through the International Certification Accreditation Council (ICAC) and align with the ISO-17024 standard. [www.eta-i.org](http://www.eta-i.org)

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