



The Annual MOA Progress and Planning Meeting With Japan KEC Representatives Was Held at NARTE Headquarters.

## JAPAN EMC CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

NARTE maintains a memorandum of agreement with the Kansai Electronic Industry Development Center (KEC) in Japan to act as the NARTE representative for EMC certification in Japan. Annually, representatives from KEC meet with the NARTE Headquarters staff to discuss program progress and plan for the future.

On April 29, 2004, Mr. Shinji Seto, Chief of Certification Review Committee and Mr. Shin-Ichiro Kudo, KEC Secretariat, met with Executive Director Russ Carstensen and Operations Director Laura Holmberg. Ms. Kimiko Nakashima provided interpretation services.

A large portion of the meeting was given to administrative details. However, two significant issues were brought forth.

KEC has elected to include Product Safety Certification as an element of their certification program. KEC will translate all of the program documentation into Japanese. Because this process may take up to a year, NARTE

has agreed to permit KEC a separate grandfather period that will run from August 31, 2004 to August 31, 2005. Applications and examinations will, of course, be presented in Japanese.

The second significant issue raised was how best to improve the status of certified practitioners in Japan. In the US, individual recognition raises the

status of certified people. We tend to give out certificates, write to the individual's managers, and promote that certificate holders make more money—all actions related to the individual.

We present awards to individuals for the presentation of the best paper at symposiums, etc., peers vote for "the engineer of the year" and so forth.

Japanese culture does not embrace individual recognition in the same way. We have been struggling with this issue for more than a year—attempting to find a common ground for NARTE certified individuals in Japan to be included in the overall NARTE recognition system, if at all feasible.

**"Product Safety Element To Be Added to KEC Certification Program in Japan."**



At the end of the meeting, Mr. Kudo graciously invited NARTE to visit Osaka Japan in April of 2005 to participate in the certification review committee's annual meeting. Mr. Carstensen was invited to present a 30-minute paper on improving the status of Japanese EMC engineers and technicians. Ms. Holmberg was invited to present a history of the NARTE certification. (See "Headquarters Highlights," pp 3-5, for additional Japan EMC certification activities). Ω



(Pictured -from Left to Right)

**Mr. Shin-Ichiro Kudo,**  
*KEC Secretariat*

**Ms. Laura Holmberg,**  
*NARTE Operations Director*

**Mr. Russell Carstensen,**  
*NARTE Executive Director*

**Ms. Kimiko Nakashima**  
*Interpreter*

**Mr. Shinji Seto,**  
*Chief of Certification Review Committee*