



HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

Russ Carstensen Retires

This may be my last editorial for NARTE News. I have been honored to lead the organization for the past 6+ years but I have reached the point that I must retire. I have had the opportunity to report to you some of the funny things that have happened to me (see "Getting out of Calcutta" in this issue) as well as serious concerns for the organization. For me, it has been the greatest job I could have ever imagined but it is time for me to pass the baton to another player. I have volunteered to continue to support NARTE and I continue to believe in its mission.

It was my dear friend, Dick Ford, who pushed me into a concern for quality in the EMC arena that led to my involvement with NARTE certification. For Dick, it was just one part of an overall program for excellence in EMC. For the EMC community, it was a significant step toward professional recognition.

Much remains to be done both internally at NARTE and in professional relationships. The U.S. military needs to re-energize its efforts for hiring and contracting certified personnel. When the EMC certification process first started there was a lot of intertribal warfare related to the decision to participate. We have an opportunity to rethink those positions. The EMC program has been a continuing success.

NARTE will see competition from other organizations interested in providing certification services. For example, the IEEE Communications Society is currently looking into establishing such a certification program. The ESD Association has established a program manager certification in ESD control that compliments NARTE's technical certification. Only time will tell if their approach returns quality and value competitive with NARTE.

The NARTE Board is working on my replacement. At this point, a selection has not been made. When it is, I pledge to support that individual by providing the

benefit of my experience and by continuing to write for NARTE News. To all of you who hold NARTE certificates, I would like to express my appreciation for your support and your patience. Your dedication to your profession has sustained me in my efforts. It has been a hell of a ride, but this is my stop and I must get off. I wish you the very best.



A tear comes to Russ's eye as he contemplates retirement

Good News!

The month of December is traditionally quiet and 2005 was no exception. However, due to the press of members to expense their renewals to 2005, revenue exceeded expenses for the second year in a row. Please understand that appreciation needs to go to the NARTE Medway staff for their ability to hold down costs in the face of an ever-increasing cost base. Careful management of our resources and attention

to outlays is a key to holding down expenses and fee increases.

NARTE Attends WCAI Symposium

NARTE staffed a booth at the 12th Annual Wireless Communications Association International Symposium and Business Exposition January 18-20, 2006, at the Fairmont Hotel in the San Jose, California. The show was at record size in every respect. The exhibition space was oversold so NARTE was moved into a smaller booth. If you are familiar with intelligent design you know that problems create opportunities. In this case, we were moved to the area around the front entrance. More than half of the attendees had to walk by our booth. And who could resist the balsa wood airplanes that NARTE gave out as souvenirs. As a consequence we had excellent booth traffic.

NARTE News Wants to Hear from You

What a great way to let off steam and build your ego at the same time. NARTE News readers want to hear about the work that you do. We are looking for individuals who would like to contribute articles for the newsletter. Readers have shown a preference for articles dealing with everyday project work. The News is just that; a newsletter not a refereed journal. Articles can be about anything in the fields in Telecom, EMC, ESD, Product Safety, or Wireless. If you are nervous about content, layout or structure, we will help with the editing. We would like any stories, letters, contributions, feedback, or anything you think would be of interest for other NARTE members. Send your stuff to nartenews@narte.org.

Office Technology Upgrade Progress

SalesCTRL is integrated with Microsoft® Office and helps manage our company and multi-contact information, account relationships, business opportunities, sales forecasting, lead tracking, automated marketing, sales cycle analysis, mailing list names, report generation, appointment scheduling, data synchronization, internet broadcast email, and customer service functions.

Your operations director, Terri Marinucci, has been working directly with the company that develops Sales Control and she has had a major breakthrough! The current version of Sales Control will now print certificates that are satisfactory for NARTE directly. We

have been conducting demonstrations with the vendor to prove their claims. When we install the upgraded version, we will eliminate dependence on DOS and allow us to migrate to a windows environment.

Technician Pass/Fail Rates

We recently did a quick look at pass/fail rates for EMC engineers and technicians taking the NARTE EMC examination. What we discovered was curious. Engineers passed at a rate of about 69% (which is very close to our target rate of 70%) and technicians had a pass rate of 60%. The last issue of NARTE News carried an article about the difficulty of technicians getting an even break because of the great variety of experience in their background.

NARTE is looking for technicians who sat for the certification examination who are willing to talk about their experience. We would like to know what you studied, how you studied, what you encountered in the examination and where your weak points are so that we can raise the pass rate closer to 70%. Please provide your contact information to NARTE staff by email at narte@narte.org or by calling (toll free) 1-800-89(NARTE). We will interview you over the phone at your convenience.

New NARTE Test Centers for 2005

Don Bosco Technology Center Cebu City, Philippines	08/03/2005
Advanced Solutions Institute Tunapuna, Trinidad	10/06/2005
NC Elite Career Service Center Cary, North Carolina	04/21/2005
Craven Community College New Bern, North Carolina	04/07/2005
Individual Proctor White Bluff, Tennessee	05/12/005