



Headquarters Highlights

SPRING 2007

by **Brian F. Lawrence, Executive Director**

Board of Directors Meeting

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held at NARTE Headquarters on Saturday, May 5th. We hope to welcome our two new members of the board: Russ Carstensen, our previous executive director, and Mike Violette, president of Washington Laboratories Ltd., a testing and engineering firm.

At this meeting we expect a lively discussion centered around a five-year business plan to be presented by Brian Lawrence to the Board.

NARTE to Cooperate with IEEE Communications Society in Developing New Program

As reported in December 2006, the NARTE Board of Directors approved a plan to cooperate with the IEEE Communications Society in developing a new certification program. The basis for the initial certification is wireless cell phone communications engineering. Phase one of the program development has been the formation of a volunteer task force drawn from a diversity of backgrounds, including industry, research institutes and academia. The task force, which includes a number of NARTE members, held its first meetings in early December and has started a road map to define the critical professional attributes of engineers working in this communications field.

At this time NARTE has received no direct report of progress from the Communications Society, nor have we been requested for assistance in developing their program. We have extended an invitation to the Society to update us on their work and we hope to report this in future NARTE News issues.

IEEE EMC 2007 in Hawaii

To mark the 50th anniversary of the IEEE EMC Society, the 2007 IEEE EMC Symposium is being

held in Hawaii, the 50th state, from July 8th to 14th. NARTE intends to support this event, and as usual we will hold a NARTE certification examination for EMC and ESD Engineers and Technicians at the end of the conference programs.

EMC 2007 will also feature the Global EMC University, a series of tutorials conducted by world renowned experts. The NARTE workshop, which offers information and instruction to prospective examination candidates, will be a part of the first day's Global University event, "An Introduction to the Fundamentals of EMC" on Sunday, July 8th. The Global University tutorials will continue until Thursday, July 12th, and the NARTE Certification examinations will be held on Saturday, July 14th. Friday, July 13th will feature an island tour for all attendees. Alternatively, NARTE examination candidates can forgo the tour and spend the day revising for the task ahead.

NARTE hopes that this schedule will encourage all those attending the Global University to also take this opportunity of achieving certification of their engineering knowledge and skills.

A full listing of the EMC 2007 workshops and the Global University courses will be published in the near future on the event website, <http://www.emc2007.org>.

29th Annual EOS/ESD Symposium and Exhibition

This year the EOS/ESD Symposium will be held from September 16th to the 21st at the Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim, California. The ESD Association has extended an invitation to NARTE to exhibit during the event and to hold our NARTE Certification Examinations on Friday September 21st.

The ESD Association runs its own focused training programs through the year and offer its own certification tests for ESD Project Managers and Designers. These tests will be held on the same day, Friday, September 21st. As a result, all attendees and Association members will have the option to take tests

for the ESD Association certification or for the independent NARTE Certification. It is our strong recommendation that anyone interested in developing their professional standing in this industry should give serious consideration to obtaining certification by both the ESD Association and NARTE. There are clear benefits to both, with NARTE offering the program that is internationally recognized and administered in accordance with the ISO/IEC 17024 guidelines.

2007 IEEE Symposium on Product Compliance Engineering

The IEEE Product Safety Engineering Society, with whom NARTE has a formal Memorandum of Agreement for mutual support and co-operation, sponsors this event. The symposium is set for October 22nd and 23rd, 2007, at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Longmont near Denver, Colorado.

NARTE will be present at this event with a booth in the exhibition area. We will also hold a certification preparation workshop on Monday, October 22nd and a full certification examination on Wednesday, October 24th.

NARTE Examination Sessions For 2007

NARTE is able to provide new examination papers every 90 days, if required, and we can schedule examination sessions at one of our authorized test centers almost upon demand. However, we do encourage all certification applicants for any discipline to attend one of our regular examination sessions, such as those that we link to a symposium or convention.

One of our more popular sessions in recent years has been linked to the IEEE EMC Symposium, which changes location each year. This year to celebrate its 50th anniversary, the IEEE EMC Society Symposium will be in Hawaii. We realize that this might present travel difficulties for many certification applicants. However, as can be seen above, NARTE will hold examination sessions on September 21st at the Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim, and again on October 24th at the Radisson Hotel, Longmont, Colorado.

These exams are linked to ESD and Product Safety Engineering certification, but any applicant for NARTE certification in any discipline may attend. NARTE can arrange to have available examination papers for both Engineers and Technicians in any field that we support at either location.

NARTE Programs in Asia

As reported in the December issue of NARTE News, I will be visiting Singapore and Japan on my way to the EMC 2007 event in Hawaii. I thought this would be the extent of my Asian travel this year, but that is not to be. Since my last report, I have been able to find other highly qualified organizations in China and in Korea that are very interested in offering NARTE certification programs.

So a trip to Beijing is planned at the end of May. Fortunately, this trip can be arranged to coincide with an EMC Symposium at the International Exhibition Center in Beijing, which will be attended by the association I had planned to visit in Korea. So, it looks like all my meetings can take place in China.

The three different organizations I will have discussions with are:

Southeastern University, Nanjing – Already offers EMC training classes and is interested in adding NARTE EMC Certification examinations. This institute will consider Telecommunications Engineering later.

ESD-China/Beijing Municipal Institute of Labor Protection – ESD China is a small organization offering training in ESD design and management. It is teamed with the Beijing Institute which will submit qualifications to be an authorized test center. This group is only interested in ESD certification.

Korea Radio Awareness Promotion Association, (RAPA) – This association has good connections with KEC in Japan. They already offer EMC training and would like to add NARTE certification examinations. Later they would consider adding Telecommunications examinations if our technology is applicable. This group has already provided evidence that has been accepted as suitable for them to be an authorized test center.