

Bring ETCP exams to your door

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BRINGING THE ETCP EXAMS to you? If you have as few as ten candidates interested in taking the test, ETCP can bring the test to you for a fee. We can schedule a proctor to come to your company or organization, and your technicians can take the exam all at once. There are a few key points that you should be aware of when applying to schedule a paper and pencil exam.

The first step to take when thinking about hosting on-site testing is to call the ETCP office and you will be sent more information to guide you in making decisions about what to offer your group. To qualify for an on-site administration, your group must have at least ten candidates, and it does not matter whether the candidates all take the same exam or are split between multiple exams.

All three exams are available for on-site testing, and may be offered concurrently or consecutively. You may choose to offer one, two, or all three exams. If candidates wish to take more than one exam, different times can be set up to accommodate them. ETCP's testing company, Applied Measurement Professionals (AMP) charges \$675 per test administration; so offering two of the exams would cost your group \$1,350; and offering all three would be \$2,025, plus application fees.

The ETCP On-Site Testing Agreement must be submitted a minimum of 12 weeks prior to the date of the requested examination. Submitting the request to ETCP as early as possible will help ensure that there are proctors available on your requested date. Although most requested dates can be accommodated, it is important to submit at least one alternate date.

All candidates wishing to take the examinations must fill out applications and submit them to ETCP at least six weeks before the scheduled examination. It must be noted on the application that the candidate wishes to take the exam at your on-site location. ETCP uses a points system to determine eligibility to sit for all examinations. Points are awarded for various work experience, training (i.e. internships and apprenticeships), and education. Rigging and Electrical applications and handbooks are available online at <http://etcp.esta.org>. If you would like multiple handbooks mailed to you, please contact certification@esta.org or call 212.244.1505.

Your organization may provide a location for testing, but the site must meet the specifications set forth by AMP. If you do not have a room or hall that is large enough to accommodate your group, a testing site can be provided by AMP, but additional fees will apply. All examinations require a standardized testing environment. The proctors from AMP will provide the test-takers with all supporting materials such as formula sheets, exam booklets, and scratch paper. ETCP will send calculators and architect scale rules.

Once your on-site testing date has been secured and the candidates are accepted, ETCP will send out notices with the location and time of your on-site administration. When reporting to the site, the candidates must be on time and will be asked to show two forms of identification, and one of these must be a picture ID.

ETCP must receive digital images of the certificants to print ID Cards after a candidate passes the exam. Photos may be submitted by email by the certificants after the exam, a representative from your organization may take photos the day of the exam, or ETCP can assist in hiring a portrait photographer in the area for an additional fee.

ETCP and AMP will send out notices to the candidates with examination results within six weeks of the exam date. Passing candidates will receive an ID card, certificate, patch, pin, and sticker, and will be added to the list of certified technicians on the ETCP website.

Please direct all questions concerning ETCP on-site administrations to Meredith Moseley-Bennett at 212.244.1505 or certification@esta.org. ■



ETCP Council adds Cirque du Soleil and MGM Mirage

In August, Cirque du Soleil and their Las Vegas partner MGM MIRAGE accepted seats on the ETCP Council. Martin Crawford, Technical Manager, Technical & Show Support—Cirque du Soleil Resident Show Division and Tony Galuppi, Head of Rigging for KÀ, were appointed to represent the new Council members.

"The initial release of the exams has set a high standard and we look forward to participating with the continued growth bringing the unique perspective that our organizations have. Cirque, with its complex challenges with acrobatic rigging and the MGM MIRAGE with the traditional and non-traditional need of skilled technicians, believe we can contribute to the Council bringing a slightly different perspective to the group. Both organizations strongly recognize the need that the certification programs fulfill and look forward to participating on the Council," says Martin Crawford.

Cirque and MGM MIRAGE are interested in exploring ways they can help foster the growth of certification for management, assistants, and technicians filling lead positions. They believe this step will help fuel the momentum the ETCP Certifications have gained since the program's inception. Both groups are currently evaluating certification as a prerequisite to employment and are seeking ways to support their current technicians towards certification, including providing the educational resources to aid employees in attaining ETCP Certification.

With that in mind, Martin added, "We are encouraged by the recent announcement of the ETCP Trainer Recognition Program and look to support the program by using Recognized Trainers within our internal training programs and by developing our current trainers to become officially recognized. This is an exciting time within the entertainment industry and we look forward to assisting in the success of the Entertainment Technician Certification Program."

The Council is the governing body which manages the development and implementation of ETCP. Cirque du Soleil and MGM MIRAGE join BASE Entertainment, Live Nation, and Production Resource Group on the Council, who are major employers of entertainment technicians across a wide spectrum of venues and events.

ETCP Recognized Trainer Program Update

ETCP continues to accept applications for the Recognized Trainer Program. ETCP's newest Rigging Trainers are Mike Garl and Ron Muise, and Electrical Trainer Tony Giovannetti. For a complete list of Recognized Trainers visit http://www.etcp.esta.org/cert_recognized/trainers.htm.

ETCP Training Program Recognition recognizes courses which meet specific criteria that ETCP Certificants may count towards certification renewal, earning twice as many credits as unrecognized courses. The Crosby Group's Fundamentals of Rigging and Rigging Trainer Development courses have recently achieved ETCP Recognition. For a complete list of Recognized Training Programs visit http://www.etcp.esta.org/cert_recognized/training_program.htm.

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