ETCP moving forward

ETCP Certification

ETCP HAS MADE SOME MAJOR STRIDES since I started over two years ago. With the help of generous donors and selfless volunteers, ETCP has created three successful certification programs. ETCP has also launched the three new ETCP Recognition Programs to recognize companies and labor providers who utilize ETCP Certificants, as well as recognize training that continues to educate these professionals.

To date there are hundreds of electricians and riggers signed up to take the examinations at LDI in October. Why? These technicians are dedicated to their craft, their industry, and to safety. Also, employers instantly recognize this accomplishment. Many employers are searching the ETCP website when hiring, and many ETCP Certificants stated they gained work from the added qualification of ETCP Certified.

"The hotels that I work in use [my ETCP Certification] as a selling point. They like that all of their shows are being advanced by a certified rigger."  
– James J. Smith, ETCP CR-T

"More and more, theatre schools in Canada are inviting me for teaching arena rigging based on the fact that I'm certified."  
– Stéphane Mayrand, ETCP CR-A

The next administrations (for entertainment electricians, arena riggers, and theatre riggers) will be held in October in Las Vegas, NV in conjunction with the LDI 2006 trade show. The electrical certification is designed for highly experienced electricians (including leads, supervisors, and managers of entertainment electrical work). The rigging certifications are designed for highly experienced riggers (rigging supervisors, high steel riggers, fly-persons, etc). Candidates must meet eligibility requirements to apply.

ETCP Certified Entertainment Electrician and Rigger candidate handbooks and application forms are available. If you are interested in becoming one of these elite professionals, submit your application today!

In addition to the examinations in October, the rigging examinations are being held at over 150 testing centers across the US, Canada, and other select locations around the world. The next deadline for computer-based testing for riggers is September 1 for fourth quarter (seating in October, November, and December). Examinations for electricians will be available in early 2007 at these testing centers.

ETCP Recognition

The ETCP’s Rigging Training Recognition Program guidelines, application, and licensing requirements are now available. This program has been initiated to recognize rigging training programs for ETCP renewal credits. ETCP Recognized Programs provide certificants with twice as many renewal credits as unrecognized programs.

ETCP Certified Riggers are required to participate in on-going professional education to maintain their certification. After the launch of the entertainment electrician examination in October 2006,
ETCP will begin recognizing electrical training programs.

ETCP has also released the Employer and Labor Provider Recognition Programs. These programs have been initiated to recognize employers who utilize ETCP Certified Technicians, as well as labor providers who provide ETCP Certified Technicians to job sites. Employers and labor providers who sign the best practices agreement also agree to encourage their employees and workforce to become ETCP Certified Technicians and to promote safety and continuing education and training. Organizations who agree to these best practices show a commitment to the enhancement of safety and reduction of risk in the workplace in our industry. Please view a list of these recognized employers and labor providers on the ETCP website at etcpesta.org.

For more information

If you are interested in having any of the information mentioned (recognition forms, electrical or rigging examination and application information) mailed or emailed to you, please contact Katie Geraghty, ETCP Certification Director, at 212.244.1505, or kgeraghty@esta.org with your contact information. Also, all materials are available online at http://etcpesta.org.

The ETCP Council members are key leaders drawn from entertainment business, labor, facilities, associations, and academia representing the diversity of the entertainment industry. Membership includes AMPTP, CITT, ESTA, IAAM, IATSE, InfoComm, The League, Live Nation, PRG, TEA, and USITT.