NEWS

SETTING THE STANDARD







Clockwise from top left: High-Tech QQ 206 Classroom Ready for Students; New LBCC PCC QQ Building — Home of NETA EPTT Program and Lifetime Learning Center; LBCC Pacific Coast Campus

NETA UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM UPDATE

BY NENAD PASIC, Tony Demaria Electric, Inc.

In November 2016, the InterNational Electrical Testing Association (NETA) and Long Beach City College (LBCC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) regarding the adoption of the NETA-developed Electrical Power Testing Technician (EPTT) curriculum.

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The MoU was preceded by several meetings between NETA, represented by Bob Sheppard, NETA Training Committee Chair at that time; Nenad Pasic, NETA Training Committee Member and NETA Accredited Representative for Tony Demaria Electric, Inc. (TDE); and LBCC, represented by now retired John Hauck, LBCC Electrical Technology Instructor, and Scott Fraser, LBCC Trades and Industry Department Chair and Electrical Technology Professor.

Since the MoU signing, LBCC has worked hard to get EPTT courses approved by the State of California and the LBCC Trades and Industry Department, and the courses were successfully approved and integrated into LBCC's Electrical Program in December 2016. On October 4, 2017, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at LBCC Pacific Coast Campus (PCC) to inaugurate a new QQ building and the renovated RR building, which will house the EPPT program as well as the new High Voltage Technician Program based on the NETA EPTT curriculum at LBCC.

The EPTT curriculum includes a series of courses designed to provide graduates with a strong grasp of the educational requirements specified for a Level 2 NETA Test Technician per ANSI/NETA ETT, Standard for Certification of Electrical Testing Technicians. The new program, which will be offered as a California community college program, is designed for individuals interested in a career in the power systems industry or for electrical testing technicians seeking advancement.

Successful participants will graduate with a certificate of achievement or continue with additional credits to earn an associate degree. By the end of the program, graduates will have



Mike Paik, PE, Tony Demaria Electric and LBCC instructor (left), with Scott Fraser, LBCC professor and LBCC Trades & Industry Department Chair (right), in front of one of the teaching/training modules that will be used in the NETA EPTT classes.

PHOTO COURTESY TONY DEMARIA ELECTRIC,

completed OSHA 30 training and numerous hours of electrical safety training and achieved first aid and CPR certifications.

To implement this curriculum, LBCC relies on instructors who will teach courses per NETA's developed EPTT curriculum. Courses will be listed in LBCC's class schedule once instructors are hired for each course. Meanwhile, to allow enough time for instructor search, LBCC offers a ELECT 256 High Voltage Safety Awareness course during Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 semesters. This single-unit, 18-hour class focuses on safety procedures, PPE, NFPA 70E, and similar topics. It will be used to properly prepare students for the follow-on NETA classes and to build a significant number of adequately prepared students for the remainder of the classes.

The remainder of the classes will be modified to use ELECT 256 as a prerequisite class for entry. This path should ensure a better student success rate and give LBCC time to gather up the necessary hardware from the industry and properly build up the lab rather than rushing to put something together.

HIGH-VOLTAGE SAFETY AWARENESS COURSE

Mike Paik, PE, CESCP, was hired as the instructor for a High Voltage Safety Awareness course in August 2018. The class, which includes eight session sstarted on October 24, 2018. Currently, 16 students are registered for the class; the outline, agenda, test equipment, and instrument needs are planned for a class of 20. A second ELECT 256 High Voltage Safety Awareness course is slated for the Spring 2019 semester.

NETA EPTT COURSE

Hiring instructors to teach the NETA EPTT courses remains a challenge. Instructor requirements are as follows:

- Associate degree in any discipline
- Completion of an electrical training program
- Minimum six years journeyman experience (typically 20 years are required)
- Teaching credentials are not required, but a person who has them receives increased pay.
- Pay is \$65-\$72 per hour, typically 3-4 hours per week per class, 16 weeks per semester (with an optional third summer semester)
- Benefits such as an option to pay into retirement and pay for health benefits at a group rate are included.

Assuming instructors are hired, LBCC will offer four EPTT courses in the Fall 2019 semester:

- 1. ELECT 265 Conductors, 2 units
- 2. ELECT 266 Circuit Breakers, 2 units
- 3. ELECT 267 Switchgear and Switchboards, 2 units
- 4. ELECT 268 Transformers, 2 units

Each course is four hours per week (one hour lecture and three hours lab), 16 weeks per semester. The total cost of the program to the student is approximately \$4,000.

If you are interested in teaching any of the NETA EPTT courses at LBCC, please contact Nenad (Neno) Pasic at (310) 872-6865 or email neno@tdeinc.com or Eric Beckman, eric.beckman@natlfield.com, (469) 312-1235, for more information and to start the process.



Nenad Pasic (Neno) is a NETA Accredited Representative and IT Manager for Tony Demaria Electric (TDE), where he has worked for over 15 years. He serves on the NETA Training Committee and the NETA Promotions and Marketing Committee. Neno earned his BS in computer information

systems, business administration from California State University Dominguez Hills, as well as project management and information technology management certificates from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA).