



# NETA Continues Its 35-Year Tradition of Quality

In 2007, the InterNational Electrical Testing Association celebrates its 35<sup>th</sup> year. From hopeful beginnings in 1972 with seven contractors who saw the need for assurance and quality in the emerging industry of electrical testing to today's consistently superior standards. These 35 years have been a journey marked with dedication, hard work, and significant celebrations.

The following accomplishments have emerged in just the past two years....

- The *Maintenance Testing Specifications* manual, first published in 1975, is in the final stages of being recognized as an American National Standard.
- The *Acceptance Testing Specifications* manual, first published in 1973, is initiating the process to be recognized as an American National Standard.
- To better serve the entire electrical and maintenance industry, the NETA conference has been reborn as PowerTest — Electrical Maintenance and Safety Conference. A record number of attendees and exhibitors participated in the four-track conference and twelve seminars. The first conference was held in 1979.

NETA has provided speakers and educational booths at two conferences and tradeshow in the past 12 months — bringing the NETA name to the forefront of the electrical industry. These venues include the October 2005 Power Quality and Reliability Show in Baltimore with Rod Hageman of PRIT Service, a NETA Accredited Company; *The Physical Aspects of Harmonic Data Collection* and the Doble Conference in Boston, April 2006, with Rick Youngblood of American Electrical Testing, a NETA Accredited Company; *Testing of Vacuum Interrupters*. NETA will participate in the October 2006 FinePoint Conference, February 2007 IEEE —IAS/ESW show, and April 2007 Doble Conference.

- NETA serves its constituents by continually updating its full-service, on-line bookstore which features the best-of-the-best in industry-wide publications as well as NETA-produced literature and products. Over 10,000 NETA specifications, standards, and Association publications are sold annually throughout the world.

- Accredited Companies, International Associates, and Affiliates now receive a quarterly on-line newsletter, *NETA NoteBook*.
- The stringent examinations for NETA's three levels of technician certification are now offered in a computer-based format. The certification program has been in effect since 1975.
- NETA is now producing complete on-line programs to provide NETA technicians with quality testing-specific training covering each section of the *Specifications*.
- Volunteers are researching formats for an on-line, easily assessable technical library so that Accredited Companies can have immediate access to the most current reference literature as well as to out-of-date equipment manuals.
- NETA Full Members have become NETA Accredited Companies.
- NETA continues to serve the industry with technical expertise by providing representatives to the following Code Panels and committees:
  - ANSI C-37 — Switchgear
  - ANSI C-57 — Transformers
  - ANSI C-62 — Surge Protection Devices
  - CSA Z462 — Electrical Safety in the [Canadian] Workplace
  - IEEE/NFPA RTPC — Arc-Flash Hazards Work Group
  - IEEE/PES Insulated Conductor Committee
  - NCSCB — National Cable Splicing Certification Board
  - NEMA AB4 — Molded Case Circuit Breakers
  - NFPA 70B — Electrical Equipment Maintenance
  - NFPA 70E — Electrical Safety in the Workplace
  - NFPA 110 — Technical Committee on Emergency Power Supplies
  - NEC Code Panel 10 — Overcurrent Protection .
  - NEC Code Panel 11 — Motors and Motor Control
  - NEC Code Panel 15 — Occupancy/Healthcare

- NEC Code Panel 99 — Electrical Equipment
- NEC Code Panel 99 — Electrical Systems

NETA has the following continuing programs to provide customers with the assurance of quality testing services:

- By regularly reviewing its NETA Accredited Companies, customers know that these companies continue to meet and exceed the high standards required for Membership.
- NETA Certified Technicians continually increase their knowledge base as they meet the Association's requirements for Continuing Technical Development.
- After being approved as an ANSI Standards Developing Organization in 1996, NETA has produced three American National Standards with more in the review process.
- ANSI/NETA ETT-2000 *Standard for Certification of Electrical Testing Technicians* continues to provide assurance that their electrical equipment and systems are examined by qualified individuals.
- *NETA World* technical journal continues to lead the industry with quality, readable, articles. Its readership exceeds 80,000. *NETA World* began in 1986 with eight pages, replacing *NETA News*, an in-house mimeographed newsletter.
- The International Associates program encourages international participation in the Association.
- The NETA Affiliates program continues to expand, providing knowledge and interaction between NETA and those with an interest in the electrical testing industry such as those who require or specify electrical testing.
- The web site, [www.netaworld.org/](http://www.netaworld.org/), is a user-friendly forum for information about the Association members, services, and products. It is a convenient vehicle for purchasing industry publications.
- NETA continues to provide *Minimum Safety Guidelines* to its Accredited Companies. The first *Guideline* was produced in 1990.
- The NETA logo signifies quality to all who see and use it.

Thad Brown, an Honorary Lifetime Affiliate now deceased, was coordinator of the third annual technical conference. His comment in 1981 continues to sum up NETA's contributions to the industry, "You ain't seen nothin' yet!"