

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



SpaceTEC Newsletter

February 2011



#### In This Issue

[Annual NVC Meeting](#)

[Technician Recognition Event](#)

[Certification Updates](#)

[Facility Update](#)

[DACUMs](#)

[BCC Update](#)

[SpaceTEC Website](#)

[Quote From Former Student](#)

[Annual NVC Meeting](#)



## A Message from the PI

Welcome to the new look for *SpaceTEC Talk* as we continue the development of our NSF National Aerospace Resource Center. Most people resist change, and we're no different. In fact, we are caught up in the same flood of change that is sweeping the country.

Our annual NVC meeting will be held in Decatur, Alabama on April 14th and 15th. The Co-PI meeting will be on the afternoon of the 14th. A working dinner will follow. On the 15th we will have a joint meeting of the NVC and NATAC. This will include a working lunch and an outbriefing.

The Aerospace Technician Recognition Event is scheduled for the evening of the 15th at Davidson Space Exploration Center.



### Quick Links

[SpaceTEC Website](#)  
[FLORIDA SPACErePORT](#)

The saying: *"When the going gets tough, the tough get going"* applies to just about everything in aerospace today. Uncertainty and a lack of direction have resulted in confusion and distress, but no one will argue that major changes are coming in how we do business for the future. Our job is to help keep up and make sense of those changes.

The articles in this newsletter are clear indicators of some of the major changes we see already in the work around us and the technologies that will drive change for the near future. Of particular note are emerging new interests in broadening technician skills to include more than one discipline and the value of skills transportability in a shifting job market that requires life-changing decisions in career paths and work locations. Take a look and let us know what you like and what you want to see added here.

We welcome your comments and suggestions as we continue to broaden our own bases of interest and outreach. If you have topics or questions we can address, please contact us directly using the email link at the bottom of this newsletter or on our new blog at <http://blog.spacetec.org/>. **GO SPACE!**



## Technician Recognition Event

The Fourth Annual Aerospace Technician Recognition Night will be hosted by Calhoun Community College and sponsors from local Aerospace industry in the Davidson Center for Space Exploration located at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama on April 15, 2011. Last year 440 participants sponsored by 11 Aerospace companies registered for the event. The evening includes keynote speakers from industry, recognition of regional SpaceTEC certifications, presentations of each company's Technician of the Year, and announcement of the Regional Technician of the Year selected by a committee of managers and lead technicians from the sponsoring companies. A special addition to this years' event will be participation by SpaceTEC partner college representatives, the National Visiting Committee and the National Aerospace Technology Advisory Committee which will be involved in SpaceTEC's annual meeting being held at Calhoun's Robotics Technology Park on April 14-15, 2011.





## Certification Updates

- The review and update of the entire question bank for the Core Written exam was completed using a review board composed of four industry SMEs and two educators. Version 2.1 is now available and ready for release.
- The online Prep Course to replace the online Readiness Course is nearly complete. This is a total revision of all six modules for the Core exam.
- SpaceTEC is offering a free retake of the Core exam to all candidates who have taken but failed to pass the written before 2011. A requirement for the retake will be successful completion of the new Prep Course.
- A panel composed of five industry SMEs and four educators completed a review of the Composites concentration written examination. Version 2.1 of the Composite written exam is now available and ready to use pending completion of a Prep Course for the exam.
- The Knowledge/Skills Inventory continues to evolve in conjunction with changes in the core test bank and specific industry requirements. A customized version was produced for use by Embraer as a new hire screening/training tool in the Brevard County, Florida area.





## Facility Update

We have completed the remodeling of our building to support new initiatives in Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems (UAV/UAS) and small payload processing. Layoffs have begun at several NASA Centers, including KSC, and our focus remains on skills transportability and workforce career development.

Click  to edit

Double-click to  
**insert** an image

Right-click to  
**format** image

100 x 100 pixels



## DACUMs

In partnership with Nida Corporation and in support of their new Nida 360s System Trainer, we co-sponsored a DACUM for a System Technician - acknowledging the shift in emphasis to more broadly based backgrounds and multi-skilled people.

To promote additional skills transportability and broaden the base of available career fields, we sponsored a DACUM for a Facilities Technician who can assume a very broad spectrum of activities in a variety of skills areas.

Copies of these DACUMs are available to share upon request.



**NIDA Corporation**

Excellence in Computer Based Training

Click  to edit

Double-click to  
**insert** an image

Right-click to  
**format** image

100 x 100 pixels

## BCC Update

To address the changing landscape of space program initiatives, BCC is considering programs in advanced technology built upon the SpaceTEC model for the first year and adding specific career field specializations for the second year. As a party to that work, we will identify opportunities for credentialing using performance-based testing similar to our current SpaceTEC Certification Exam.



## SpaceTEC Website

We continue to develop our website and related pedagogical support elements. We have added links to an aerospace blog and a new forum to open discussions on current and future aerospace program visions, goals, and strategies. Log on at [www.spacetec.org](http://www.spacetec.org) and join in the discussion.

## Quote from Former Student

The following is a quote from a former student of SpaceTEC's Composites Workshops, "I want to thank you for the opportunities you provided with your teaching at SpaceTEC. Because you were

such a good teacher, I was able to refresh and learn new skills and that helped me to receive an offer of employment with Boeing Charleston. I will be working in the structural section in the final assembly plant." Steve Kane, a BCC adjunct faculty member with the Aerospace Program, taught the workshops.

## About SpaceTEC

SpaceTEC, the National Resource Center for Aerospace Technical Education, provides the only national performance-based certifications for aerospace technicians in the United States today. In the face of increasing competition in the job market, obtaining nationally recognized professional certifications has become a focus for many new graduates and transitioning aerospace workers. In response to this need, SpaceTEC has expanded the availability of readiness course materials and increased the use of both the core certification exam and exams covering advanced concentrations.

To learn more about SpaceTEC activities or to begin your certification work, contact us:

By Email: [Information@SpaceTEC.org](mailto:Information@SpaceTEC.org)

By Telephone: (321)730-1020

By Mail: SpaceTEC Headquarters,  
Mailcode: SpaceTEC,  
Kennedy Space Center, Florida 32899

Funded in part by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

### [Forward email](#)



This email was sent to parisec@brevardcc.edu by [parisec@brevardcc.edu](mailto:parisec@brevardcc.edu) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

SpaceTEC | Mailcode: SpaceTEC | Kennedy Space Center | FL | 32899