



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR CERTIFICATION IN ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIES®

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### VIDEO SECURITY SYSTEMS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM REACHES IMPORTANT MILESTONE

The National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET) has just released three new exams in the **Video Security Systems (VSS)** suite.

CCTV Technicians and Designers who work on Types A and B systems can now demonstrate their qualifications with a NICET certification. NICET's system types (A, B, and C) were defined by a group of subject matter experts as a way of relating each level of certification to a type of CCTV system. This matching of qualifications to system type will bring value to integrators and to buyers, and will allow experienced VSS designers and technicians to advance their careers with nationally recognized credentials. VSS designers can apply for Level I now. VSS technicians can apply for Levels I through III now. NICET's career track philosophy provides a valuable credential for the entry-level person to the most experienced designers and technicians in the VSS industry.

Certification at particular levels is achieved by demonstrating knowledge and experience working with video security systems classified as type A, B, or C. VSS Designer I designs types A and B, and Designer II designs all three. VSS Technician I is in training and assists on projects. VSS Technician II installs Type A, Technician III installs Type A and B, and Technician IV installs all three. (The Type C certifications, Designer II and Technician IV, are now in beta and will be available in 2007.)

**Type A Systems** are basic systems with standard components, low bandwidth transmission, and menu-driven set-up:

- Multiplexer/VCR
- Quad/VCR
- Digital video recorders with time/date, play/record, and anti-tamper functions
- Sequential switch
- Single keyboard
- Indoor/outdoor
- Standard cable runs not requiring repeaters or amplifiers (less than 800 ft. for coaxial; less than 1500 ft. for twisted pair)

**Type B Systems** can include specialized components, programmable controls, and high bandwidth transmission:

- PTZ
- Multiple keyboards
- Matrix interfaced with alarms, A/C, or intercom (GPI or dry contact)
- Digital video recorders with programmable, alarm-based resolution and frame rate
- Fiber transmission systems
- Low light
- Long cable runs
- Covert or portable systems
- RF modulators

**Type C Systems** can include PCs, serial communication, and wireless transmission:

- Integrated systems/serial communications/GUIs
- LANs/WANs
- Remote systems
- Microwave and IR transmission
- Digital video recorders with remote interface

The Security Industry Association (SIA) requested NICET to create this new credential due to the combination of NICET's reputation as the leader in providing certification for engineering technicians and the security industry's need for a skilled and knowledgeable workforce. NICET worked hand-in-hand with leading organizations such as SIA, National Systems Contractors Association (NSCA), and PSA Security Network; and companies such as Pelco, Bosch Security Systems, Tyco Fire & Security, Panasonic System Solutions Company, Dedicated Micros, and many more. This coalition of subject matter experts identified industry needs and designed a certification program that promotes technical knowledge and skills. The resulting program lays out career paths for VSS technicians and designers and helps supply industries and employers with a credentialed workforce.

*"As I scan the post 9-11 horizon of the low-voltage industry, including CCTV, I see certified products, interoperability, and certified installations by certified technicians as being the key issues. Certification – proof of knowledge and skills – is imperative."*

**Richard Chase**

Executive Director of SIA

*"The systems integration industry has needed a certification in the area of video surveillance for some time. NSCA is excited about the new opportunity this will provide individuals to set themselves apart as an industry leader. I am confident this new certification program will set the bar and quickly become the industry standard."*

**Chuck Wilson**

Executive Director of NSCA

Since its founding in 1961, more than 115,000 technicians and technologists have met NICET's rigorous certification criteria. That number is growing as more employers, and local and state governments rely on NICET certification to measure the qualifications of their workforce. Technicians and technologists, seeking to advance their profession, can validate their knowledge and experience. Employers and governments can provide their customers higher quality goods and services. This ultimately provides end-users with a higher degree of satisfaction and the public enjoys a higher degree of safety and protection.

NICET is a non-profit division of the National Society of Professional Engineers.

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