



www.emcs.org



Jan 10, 2023

IEEE Electromagnetic Compatibility Society Moving to Improve Professional Certification

An objective of the IEEE EMC Society is to “promote literary, educational and professional aspects of [electromagnetic compatibility] that benefit members, the profession and humanity.” Toward that end, in 2022 the EMC Society Board of Directors discussed members’ views about the ongoing value of the iNARTE EMC Engineer certification program.

Since its inception in 1990, the program offered EMC professionals the title of Certified EMC Engineer or Technician by virtue of years of EMC experience, letters of recommendation, and successful completion of a written exam to demonstrate technical knowledge. Annual certification renewals were issued after submitting a summary of the individual’s ongoing EMC work, professional stature, and continued education in the previous year, along with payment of a processing fee.

From the beginning, the EMC Society saw value to its members and the industry and supported the National Association of Radio and Telecommunications Engineers (NARTE) by supplying technical expertise in crafting exam questions and recommending qualification requirements.

NARTE (later iNARTE) merged with the Registrar Accreditation Board and Quality Society of America (RABQSA) in 2012. RABQSA later changed its name to Exemplar Global, and the certification program continued with the EMC Society’s curriculum support. In 2016, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was established between Exemplar Global and the EMC Society, in which Exemplar Global would endeavor to maintain the technical quality of its program and the EMC Society would provide support in ongoing examination updates and other qualifying parameters.

The EMC Society Board of Directors voted in August 2022 to withdraw from its MOU with Exemplar Global. The Board appointed an ad hoc committee to review how a certification program could be most valuable to the EMC Society membership, all EMC professionals, and to the industry that depends on their skill. The committee’s work is ongoing and will submit recommendations for the Board’s consideration in 2023.

Vignesh Rajamani
President, IEEE Electromagnetic Compatibility Society

Thomas Braxton
Chair, IEEE EMC Society Ad Hoc Committee on EMC Engineer Certification