



International Fluid Power Summit

Thursday, March 13, 2008

7:30 AM to 10:30 AM

International Fluid Power Summit

Fluid Power Television Program

- Fluid Power: A Force for Change
- 30-minute documentary, produced by Twin Cities Public Television
- 16 sponsoring and supporting organizations
- 45 contributing associations and companies
- Three key messages
 - Fluid power makes modern life possible
 - Through research and advancing technology, fluid power is changing the world for the better
 - Careers in fluid power are rewarding and successful
- Debuting at NFPA booth – South Hall, 2nd Floor

Fluid Power Television Program

- DVDs en route to sponsoring organizations
- Airing on American public television beginning in April
- Posting on NFPA website and YouTube
- Sending to NFPA members and network of educational partners
- Creating a shorter, high-energy version
- Sponsors free to distribute in their home countries

Global Fluid Power Certification

- **Objective:** Establish a program for fluid power certification that is recognized and transportable across the globe.
- Explored at January 16 meeting of BFPA, CETOP, CFPA, JFPA, IFPS and NFPA representatives
- Similarities in European, Japanese and American certification systems were noted
 - All were backed by industry
 - All were based on competencies
 - All include tests to demonstrate the competence of applicants
 - All included educational resources to help applicants prepare for tests
 - All defined different competencies for industry applicants with different levels of responsibility
- Can a “harmonized” certification program be built?

Comparison of Certification Programs

Competency Levels

CETOP	JFPA	IFPS
	Special Grade Advanced grade skills required for managers or supervisors.	Engineer A Certified professional Engineer, or degree equivalent (BS from ABET recognized university,) may apply for this Certification. Must have eight years work experience, and have successfully passed the Hydraulic Specialist Test as well as the Pneumatic Specialist Test
Level 3 Imply a wide and complex range of activities, using one's initiative and making decisions on certain technical aspects (specifications, resources, processes). The ability to carry out a plan of operation, to identify and remedy errors is an important attribute. For these positions, taking responsibility (work quality, results) is expected.	First Grade Skills required for advanced-skilled workers.	Specialist Analyzes and designs systems, selects components, instructs others in operations and maintenance. This certification requires a three-hour written test. IFPS Fluid Power Specialist - requires HS and PS certifications, no additional tests required.
Level 2 Carrying out various actions which need an understanding of technical factors. These could lead to an interpretation (tolerances, operating methods) or the application of various and non-repetitive instructions. This can imply checks, simple diagnoses and an ability to react to changes. Team work is often essential.	Second Grade Skills required for middle-skilled workers.	Technician Troubleshoots systems, tests, and modifies systems, prepares reports. This certification requires a three-hour written and a three-hour Job Performance test.
Level 1 Doing activities according to an established procedure. These activities are repetitive or of short duration. If faced with a problem, then calling for assistance or following a set procedure.	Third Grade Skills required for learners.	Mechanic fabricates, assembles, tests, maintains and repairs systems and components. This certification requires a three-hour written and a three-hour Job Performance test.

Comparison of Certification Programs

Certifications Offered

	CETOP	JFPA	IFPS
Fluid Power			Engineer
Hydraulic	Level 1	Special Grade First Grade Second Grade	Specialist
Mobile Hydraulic	Level 2 Level 3		Technician Mechanic
Industrial Hydraulic	Level 2 Level 3		Technician Mechanic
Pneumatic	Level 1 Level 2 Level 3	Special Grade First Grade Second Grade	Specialist Technician Mechanic

Global Fluid Power Certification

- **Objective:** Establish a program for fluid power certification that is recognized and transportable across the globe.
- Can a ***new*** certification program be established that does not replace country-specific programs but which additionally provides certificants with global recognition?
- Can ***reciprocity agreements*** be sought between country-specific certification bodies, recognizing each other's certifications in each other's countries?

Association Exchange Program

- A proposal to have individual staff members of interested international fluid power associations exchange places and work for another association in that association's home office for several months.
- It is hoped that such a program would foster a more global understanding of the issues facing the fluid power industry by the staff members of our various associations and foster additional synergy and working relationships among them.