



NETA Honors Five Industry Leaders with Recognition Awards at PowerTest 2023

PORTAGE, Mich., March 27, 2023 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) – **NETA, the InterNational Electrical Testing Association** —celebrates the visionary leadership and outstanding achievements of five of its long-serving members: **James Dollard, Charles Sweetser, Steve Newton, Rod Hageman, and Al Peterson (in memoriam).**

The five award recipients were honored at the NETA Member/Alliance Luncheon during PowerTest 2023, the premier electrical maintenance and safety conference, on March 8, 2023 in Orlando, FL.

James (Jim) Dollard received the 2023 James R. White Safety Award in recognition of his dedication to electrical safety through his work across the industry. Jim is retired IBEW Safety Coordinator of Local 98 in Philadelphia. He has served on the NEC Correlating Committee and on many code-making panels in the NFPA consensus process, including CMP-10, CMP-13, and CMP-15. He has also served on NFPA 70E, the Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace, and on the NFPA 90A/90B committee. Jim currently serves on NFPA 70E as a Special Expert and is a UL Electrical Council member.

Steve Newton, Training and Safety Program Manager, National Field Service, received the 2023 Outstanding Achievement Award for his commitment and success in improving our industry through training electrical technicians and engineers. Steve's influence is far-reaching. He is a dedicated contributor to NETA's many committees. They include Continuing Technical Development Review, Exam Development, and Training. He is a frequent *NETA World Journal* author and annual presenter at NETA's PowerTest electrical maintenance and safety conference. A proud member of the US Navy Nuke Submarine program, Steve brings a unique level of leadership, passion, and industry expertise in all his endeavors. Additionally, he is one of the few technicians that holds a NETA Level 4 and NICET Level 4 certification. You won't find a more passionate individual when it comes to promoting safety and electrical testing to the ANSI/NETA Standards.

NETA 2023 James R. White Safety Award



Jim Dollard accepts the NETA James R. White Safety Award from Vickie White during PowerTest 2023.

NETA 2023 Outstanding Achievement Award



Steve Newton accepts the NETA Outstanding Achievement Award from NETA President Eric Beckman during PowerTest 2023.

Charles Sweetser, PRIM Engineering Services Manager, OMICRON received the 2023 Alliance Partnership Recognition Award for his contributions as a passionate and highly respected educator and mentor in advancing the electrical power industry through training. He holds an MS in electrical engineering from the University of Maine, where he was involved with the IEEE Student Chapter. Throughout his career, Chuck has served as a lead instructor across the industry, within the organizations he's worked for, and in support of electrical technicians serving in units of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Navy Seabees Mobil Utilities Support Equipment. Chuck is presently the IEEE working group chair for PC57.149, is a highly regarded author featured in many top technical journals, and is a regular speaker at NETA's PowerTest electrical maintenance and safety conference. Chuck's contribution to NETA and the industry is invaluable.

Rod Hageman received one of NETA's two 2023 Life-Time Achievement Awards in recognition of his technical excellence, accuracy, and expertise while serving NETA for nearly 40 years. Rod's expertise and critical thinking are impressive, from his contribution to the development of NETA Standards to ensuring the accuracy of hundreds of articles authored for the *NETA World Journal*. He has a unique ability to recognize what needs correcting, editing, or redirecting to ensure accuracy and proper representation of highly technical information. During his tenure with NETA, Rod has served as NETA Board President, member on the Board of Directors, Technical Editor of the *NETA World Journal*, Exam Chair, Member of the Standards Review Council, and representative on the Codes and Standards Committee. He is also a highly respected relay expert having presented on behalf of NETA at countless industry conferences. Recently retired, Rod remains an invaluable source of knowledge and is available to NETA members whenever needed.

NETA 2023 Alliance Partnership Recognition Award



Chuck Sweetser accepts the NETA Alliance Recognition Award from Alliance Program Chair Jim Cialdea during PowerTest 2023.

NETA Lifetime Achievement Award



Rod Hageman accepts the NETA Lifetime Achievement Award from Ron Widup, NETA Board Member during PowerTest 2023.

Al Peterson, Owner and Founder of Utility Service Corporation (USC), received posthumously the second of NETA's 2023 Lifetime Achievement Awards. Shirley Peterson, NETA's guest at the PowerTest Member/Alliance Luncheon received the award in recognition of her husband's contribution to NETA and the Industry. Al was a true visionary and leader throughout his career. As a NETA member, he led the charge for technical excellence and relevance from the association's inception. Al stewarded NETA from a group of like-minded individuals that wanted to make a difference to become a professional standards-making organization that truly leads electrical power system safety and reliability. He served as NETA Board President, member of the Board of Directors, Chair of the Standards Review Council, and representative on the Codes and Standards Committee. He had a wealth of industry knowledge; he was NETA's Electrical Power Industry walking Encyclopedia. Recognized as one of the most influential contributors to our industry, Al Peterson's legacy lives on.

About NETA

The International Electrical Testing Association (NETA) is an ANSI Accredited Standards Developing Organization that creates and maintains standards for electrical commissioning, acceptance testing, and maintenance testing for electrical power equipment and systems, as well as a standard that addresses the certification of electrical testing technicians. NETA also serves the electrical power industry as an accrediting and certifying body for electrical testing companies and technicians. NETA members are comprised of electrical testing companies and visionaries committed to advancing the electrical testing industry and the standards for power system installation and maintenance to ensure the highest level of reliability and safety. Governed by an active member Board of Directors and operating out of offices in Portage, MI, NETA hosts PowerTest Electrical Maintenance and Safety Conference, and publishes the NETA World technical journal.

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NETA Lifetime Achievement Award



Al Peterson is honored with the NETA Lifetime Achievement Award, posthumously. Shirley Peterson accepts the award from the NETA Standard Review Council.