

NEWS from the Public Relations Office

East Central Tech

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East Central Tech Featured in National Publication

In the December issue of "High Tech News," East Central Tech's Telecommunications Program was featured as a telecommunication powerhouse. Since its inception as a competitive event, ECTC has represented the State of Georgia at SkillsUSA in Kansas City and has either won the championship or finished in the top three in the Telecommunications Cabling contest. Currently the medal count stands at four gold medals, two silver medals, and one bronze medal.

East Central Technical College boasts one of the premier Telecommunications Programs in the nation. The curriculum has three specializations including broadband technologies, convergent technologies, and wireless technologies. Students have the option of receiving a diploma in these areas, or they can take short-term technical certificates aimed at only the technical competencies related to the different aspects of the industry. Examples of the core classes involve DC and AC circuits, fiber optics, digital transmission, basic computer hardware and software, and BICSI cabling installation class- level 1. These classes set the foundations needed to be successful in the advanced classes found in the different specialization tracks.

The college is licensed to teach and administer Technician Level certifications, which, as with most technical college system courses, teach not only the theoretical aspect of the course but also have a heavy hands-on component. This course has not only helped the students excel in competition, but more importantly, it has had a major impact on the graduates entering the workforce. Currently, the college has two trainers, Donald During and Roy Warren, who have been teaching certification classes since 2002. In the past, the college only offered the classes to students enrolled in the college; however, recently

the college has begun to offer certifications to the public through the Business and Industry division to better serve the telecommunications industries and their technicians.

ECTC has been to SkillsUSA seven times and has walked away with four championships, finished second twice and third once. This feat is unheard of in most competitions but not in telecommunications. ECTC's signature program continues to deliver the quality students capable of winning contest; moreover, it produces technicians that are able to handle the applications and systems found in the dynamic field of telecommunications.

Commenting on the program, Interim President E.J. Harris said, "The world of telecommunications is the future and jobs in that field are wide open. East Central is very fortunate to have the professionals teaching in this program that we have. Their knowledge gives our students endless opportunities."

For more information about this program or East Central Technical College, visit the website at www.eastcentraltech.edu.