

NII Certification Exam Development Open Forum

September 16 and September 20 from 8 – 9:30am at the Royal Sonesta

Are you interested in shaping the future of NACE certifications or simply learning more about how NACE certification are developed? If so, you are invited to attend a 90-min session, held by the NACE International Institute exam development team. This session is designed to engage members in the development process and provide an open forum for dialogue and questions. Kari Hodge, Sr. Manager of Exam Design, Development and Analysis and Michelle Simpson, Manager of Exam Design, Development and Analysis will host this session. During this session you will learn about the exam development process, how you can participate in exam development activities, and how these activities protect the value of the NACE certifications. Kari brings 10 years of certification industry experience to NACE and is working to implement certification industry standards and best practices that include exam delivery and development. Michelle has been with NACE for 2.5 years and is responsible for content development and recruiting content contributors.

NACE Institute certification exams are specifically designed to measure what is required of an individual to perform the job role. Those currently performing the job make excellent content contributors and are best suited to define what that job is, determine the minimum level of competence, and work with exam development experts to write and validate exam questions. Content contributors who have experience in the field or job role provide technical insight into a job, poses, and use the skills required of the job, and perform the job tasks daily. The following criteria help NACE International Institute (NII) staff recruit volunteer content contributors that represent the entire industry of individuals who are currently working in the field in that job role:

1. Content Contributors must represent the variation in the work setting
 - a. Region, country, language, and cultural differences
 - b. Industry variation
2. Experience
 - a. 1-5 years
 - b. 5-15 years- majority of group
 - c. More than 15 years
3. Breadth of stake holders
 - a. Certified and actively performing the job role- majority of group
 - b. Academicians
 - c. Informed consumers/ asset owners
 - d. Supervisors

The benefits of engaging with volunteer content contributors who are currently working in the field include:

1. Questions reflect the job role-*fair and unbiased*
2. Question difficulty is targeted at the correct audience- *fair*
3. Pass mark is determined by those currently in the job role- *fair*
4. Global representation of the content contributors- *unbiased*
5. Multiple industry representation of content contributors- *unbiased*

It is our goal to ensure the highest quality and maintain the integrity of the NACE Institute certifications, and by doing this we are asking you to come to this session to learn how you can contribute to developing exams that are fair and reflect the skills required of the job role. If you are an asset owner/operator and you are interested in hearing about the value of NACE certifications of those you employ, this session is also for you.