



## BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFFERS NABCEP® APPROVED SOLAR INSTALLER CLASS

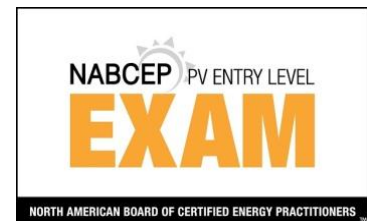
*High Interest in Green Jobs Prompts Brunswick Community College to Launch a New Solar Installer Class*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WILMINGTON, NC, July 19, 2011** – Starting August 6, 2011, Brunswick Community College will begin offering a NABCEP® Approved Solar Installer training program. Upon successful completion of the coursework, students will be eligible to sit for the NABCEP® Entry Level Exam. The curriculum was designed by Brunswick Community College's Green Information and Training Center (GITC) in cooperation with Cape Fear Solar Systems, LLC as part of the college's aim to help the community with training and information on sustainability. John Donoghue, President of Cape Fear Solar, and one of only four solar experts the United States to have achieved triple NABCEP® Certification, will be the lead instructor.

The course was carefully prepared by the GITC and Cape Fear Solar based on the PV installation job task analysis developed by NABCEP® to meet the requirements for Brunswick Community College to become a Registered NABCEP® Entry Level Exam Provider. And this academic goal has been met: **"We are proud to announce that Brunswick Community College is one of the eleven academic institutions in the State of North Carolina approved as a NABCEP® Entry Level Exam Provider,"** states excited Marilyn Graham, GIT Center Coordinator at Brunswick Community College.

**The entry level solar course was created as a response to the increasing demand for qualified solar installers as a result of the booming renewable energy industry in Southeastern North Carolina.** *"Individuals are entering the alternative energy market without having the necessary knowledge of the technology, or the construction industry,"* says Donoghue, *"that is why the solar market is experiencing problems resulting from poorly designed and installed systems, which affects the whole industry."*



According to Solar Energy Industry Association, [Solar is the Fastest Growing Industry in the U.S.](#) and accordingly, the demand for qualified personnel increases. NABCEP® Certification is the most recognized trade mark in the field of alternative energy in the United States and is required by many companies as a condition for employment. NABCEP's rigorous competency standards for certification send a clear message to consumers, financiers, and public officials that the industry stresses the highest standards in safety, workmanship, and ethical business practices.

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Being part of the continuing education program, the class will provide students with basic knowledge of construction, electricity, and plumbing, as well as job site safety. After obtaining the fundamentals, students will follow two modules, Solar Photovoltaic and Solar Thermal. The solar modules will teach students how to install a safe and code compliant solar electric and solar thermal system. A combination of lectures, demonstrations, discussions and hands-on lab work will prepare the students for job placement and will qualify them to pursue the NABCEP® Entry Level Exam Certificate.

Passing the NABCEP® Entry Level Exam testifies to a practitioner's basic knowledge, comprehension and application of key elements and concepts of solar system operations suitable for a supervised, entry level position with a dealer and/or installer or other solar industry company.

### **About Cape Fear Solar Systems, LLC**

Cape Fear Solar Systems, LLC (CFSS) is a fully licensed, insured and certified alternative energy solutions provider. As a solar expert, CFSS offers a wide range of solar panels for solar water heating (DHW), photovoltaic (PV) and solar pool heating for residential and commercial applications. With in-house design and engineering, CFSS provides complete solar installations, including management of all necessary permits and approvals, handling of all utility paperwork, providing information on available State and Federal investment tax credits as well as consulting on community guidelines (HOA/POA/ARB/ACC). CFSS is an Authorized Dealer for the following established and proven technology leaders: SunPower solar panels - the world's most efficient solar modules, Sharp solar panels, solar thermal systems from Apricus and Schüco, and Solar Service's pool heating systems.

Experience in solar installations and an authorized dealer for the most efficient solar panels on the Planet, SunPower, makes CFSS the local leader in turnkey solar solutions. CFSS seeks to promote education about solar power and its benefits. To learn more about the company and its green services, please visit [www.CapeFearSolarSystems.com](http://www.CapeFearSolarSystems.com).

### **About BCC Green Information and Training Center**



Brunswick Community College's Center for Economic and Workforce Development has created the Green Information and Training Center (GITC) to help the community with training and information on sustainability. For more information about the Solar Installer, Weatherization and Sustainable Construction Supervisor program, call Marilyn Graham, GIT Center Coordinator at 910-755-8561 or email [grahamm@brunswickcc.edu](mailto:grahamm@brunswickcc.edu). More information about

the Brunswick Community College's Green Information and Training Center can be found at <http://www.brunswickcc.edu/ContinuingEducation/Programs/GreenInformationandTrainingCenter.aspx>.

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