What is an IPC Certified Standards Expert?

A CSE is an individual who has demonstrated the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to act as a subject matter expert for a specific IPC standard or group of standards:

- Is the subject matter expert on a specific IPC Standard
- Applies one or more standards to specific company needs
- Is the Standards liaison between your organization and industry experts
- Updates your organization on the latest standards and best practices
- Provides feedback to IPC Standards Committees
- Interfaces with designers and process engineers
- Judges organizational conflicts and provides expert opinion on IPC standards

A CSE can be certified in one or more of the following IPC Standards:

- IPC-A-610
- IPC J-STD-001
- IPC/WHMA-A-620
- IPC-A-600
- IPC-6012
- IPC-7711/21

How does a CSE differ from a CIT?

- CSEs are not trainers, therefore, CSEs are not required to train IPC Certified Specialists (CIS) as a requirement for certification
- The CSE Certification Exam validates an individual’s understanding of a specific IPC Standard

CSE candidates must successfully complete the following exams:

1. Enhanced Policies and Procedures Exam
   - assesses knowledge of IPC P&P document and IPC Essentials program
   - closed book, 30 questions
2. General Knowledge Exam
   - assesses knowledge of content and structure common to all IPC standards
   - closed book, 30 questions
3. Standard Endorsement Exam
   - assesses knowledge of content and structure of a specific IPC standard
   - open book, 70 questions
CERTIFIED STANDARDS EXPERT

Other Requirements/Information

• Certification is valid for two years
• Exam retakes are possible for an additional fee
• CSEs that wish to certify to one or more additional standards are only required to take the Standards Endorsement Exam for each of those standards
• CSE certification candidates are advised, but not required, to take the CSE training program in order to sit for the CSE Certification Exams
• CITs may take the CSE exams and become CSEs. Each certification is managed separately

Why did IPC develop the CSE certification?

• Over 60% of member companies, indicated a need for a non-training certification employee to act as a standards expert at their companies
• To enhance employee skills and knowledge
• Provides a career path for operators as they gain knowledge on standards
• Increase a company’s ability to build quality products
• Many CITs were not conducting training classes for CISs, voiding their certification as a CIT

IPC TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION CUSTOMER STATISTIC

Companies Agree That IPC Certification Helps Employees Produce Quality Products

97% of companies in the electronics industry agreed with the following statement:

“Because of IPC training and certification, our employees have a better understanding of IPC standards and what is required to produce quality products for our customers.”

Source: TechValidate survey of 382 users of IPC Training and Certification