

Story of IPC Instructor - Volunteering out of passion & contributing to industry development

**IPC India Marketing Manager Sonam Gupta
had candid chat with CS Nagaraj,
Master IPC Trainer**



Mr. C S Nagaraj, Master IPC
Trainer



Mr. C S Nagaraj, Master IPC Trainer
with the award

Sonam: You have completed 10 years with IPC certification mission in India as Instructor, please tell us about your journey?

C S Nagaraj: Journey with IPC has been very good. My association with IPC started even before IPC setting up of legal office in India. I am associated with IPC training since 2008. Initially I became part of IPC India training & office management. Before setting up of office we used to conduct training at Member premise & hotels. I was trained as Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) in IPC 610 & 620 standards in the year 2011 after which I am associated with IPC India as an Instructor, delivering IPC trainings.

My association with IPC has been very strong after having worked for almost 25 years with a Telecom Public sector company. I feel proud for associating with IPC after my retirement from my regular job which helped me to orient myself with new technologies in the electronics sector and keeping myself updated.

I thank IPC for recognizing my services and felt honored to receive the memento from the IPC CEO.

Sonam: Which are the endorsement programs that you have been certified as Master IPC Trainer (MIT)?

C S Nagaraj:

- IPC-A-600: Acceptability of Printed Circuit Boards
- IPC-6012: Qualification and Performance Specification for Rigid Printed Boards
- IPC-A-610: Acceptability of Electronic Assembly
- IPC/WHMA-A-620: Requirement and Acceptance for cable and wire Harness Assemblies
- IPC-J-STD-001: Requirement for Soldering Electrical and Electronic Assemblies
- IPC-7711/21: Rework, Modification & Repair of Electronic Assemblies .

Sonam: Which courses are most popular in India and why do you feel so?

C S Nagaraj: The most popular standards in which the certification is sought after is IPC-A-610 and J-STD001 not only in India and is the trend globally. IPC-WHMA-620 standard is also getting popular in recent years. This is because the equipment manufacturers world-wide subcontract their PCB assembly and wire harness products to EMS companies and they expect the workforce be knowledgeable about the standards.

Sonam: The candidates who are coming to endorsement program, are their background mostly engineering level or diploma? Do you see any knowledge gap between the academic curriculum and industry endorsed program for the newcomers?

C S Nagaraj: Participants who attend the training courses are Engineering & Diploma background and from Industrial training institutes (ITIs). Yes, I feel there is lot of gaps in the knowledge between the academics and industry needs, which is evident from the reactions of the participants during training courses. Hands on aspect of the IPC courses helps a lot for the newcomer technicians.

Sonam: You have delivered courses throughout India & international, what may be demand trend before & after 2019?

C S Nagaraj: 610, 620, JSTD001, CID & CID + certifications would continue to be in demand. I feel that the PCB standards on 600, 6012 & 6013 can be combined and offered as one certification program (Presently there are two certifications in 600 & 6012). Industry would be benefited and would become popular among the PCB manufacturing and EMS companies.

Sonam: During COVID 19 pandemic, IPC India started virtual training for some courses, what are the challenges of virtual course?

C S Nagaraj: After February 2020, when COVID 19 pandemic situation aggravated in India, the IPC training programs were stopped. There were no requirements from the companies in view of the lockdown situation. IPC HQ came up with online proctored examination system, and IPC India team with support from Instructors started conducting the virtual courses. The necessary infrastructure was set up at IPC Office and at the trainer's homes. Most of the participants/companies found the virtual courses in par with the physical classes and very beneficial during the tough time of traveling restrictions during lockdowns. It was a good learning experience for the trainers also. This experience had led us to conduct Online Quiz competition and Webinars during 2020 & 2021. One of the major challenges of virtual course is the lack of personal connect with the participants and sometimes candidates don't like to interact with instructors.

For IPC Training Programs, please visit:

https://www.ipcindia.org.in/ipc/Training_Calendar_2022.html