

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

**IPC India Marketing Manager Sonam Gupta
had candid chat with T. N. Phanishayee,
Master IPC Trainer**



Mr. T. N. Phanishayee, Master IPC Trainer



Dr. John W. Mitchell, President & CEO, IPC
presenting the award to
Mr. T. N. Phanishayee, Master IPC Trainer

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

T. N. Phanishayee: I joined IPC India during 2010 when it opened its office at Bengaluru. Initially I got certified as CIT in IPC-A-610 and IPC/WHMA-A-620. I progressively got certified in other programs. Based on my performance, I was granted Master IPC Trainer (MIT) status in selected endorsement programs.

I am happy to be part of IPC India journey where till 2021, IPC has provided 11000+ certifications for professionals involved in electronics manufacturing in India region. I would like to Thank IPC Team for recognizing me during 10 years celebration.

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

T. N. Phanishayee:

- 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
- J-Std-001HS: Space addendum
- IPC-7711/21: Rework, Modification & Repair of Electronic Assemblies

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

T. N. Phanishayee: In last few years two of the IPC certification programs have been very popular: IPC 610 (Acceptability of Electronics Assemblies), which is used by OEM & EMS companies to make their product reliable for supplying to sectors like defense, aerospace, medical & automotive. Next is IPC/WHMA 620 Requirement and Acceptance for cable and wire Harness Assemblies, which is used by suppliers to above important sectors, including railway and power electronics. IPC-7711/7721 is about Rework, Repair and Modification of PCB assemblies and most companies have very few technicians in this area and so requirement is low. As for PCB standards IPC-6012 and IPC-A-600, only companies supplying to manufacturers of Hi-tech products are going for certification endorsements in these and so demand is less.

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?

T. N. Phanishayee: Candidates with Engineering and Diploma are mostly coming for Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) level programs. At Certified IPC Specialist (CIS) level, a few engineers may be there but mostly it is diploma or ITI qualified personnel. Sometimes they may be even 10th or 12th class.

The type of candidates coming for Industry endorsed programs can be broadly divided into 3 categories:

1. Most of the candidates who are sponsored by their industry are experienced people and have knowledge about IPC standards, which makes it earlier for them in training & exam.
2. Some of the candidates who are new to IPC programs are still well experienced in the respective field and can easily relate to the subject.
3. A few who are less experienced or newcomers from college find IPC programs totally new. Except for some component level and circuit level familiarity and some soldering activity, newcomer from college don't have knowledge on process and other standards to be followed in industry. So, there is definitely gap between academic curriculum and industry endorsed programs

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

T. N. Phanishayee: The demand for IPC training was very less up to 2015-16. In the second half of the decade, more and more candidates started coming for certification programs mainly due to demands from customers of sponsoring companies. Post 2019, awareness about IPC programs also gradually increased among the industries and so the demand for the programs increased. However, there is still lot of scope for increase in awareness and thereby demand.

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

T. N. Phanishayee: One of the main short coming of virtual course is the lack of personal connect with the participants. 2nd short coming is the instructor has to remain seated in front of camera. Cannot walk around the classroom like in physical class. Because of this, the instructor cannot express the same way as in a physical class. We were taught Do's and Don'ts for effective teaching including proper use of body language. As MITs, we are conveying the same to new CITs also. In a virtual class, we are unable to perform the same way. 3rd point, sometimes the participants' questions are not easily understandable and takes more time due to repetitions. However, one of the major advantage of virtual training is that the participants can join from any part of the world and there is no need for them to travel to the training center.

For details, connect with <https://www.ipcindia.org.in/ipc-india-regional-team/>