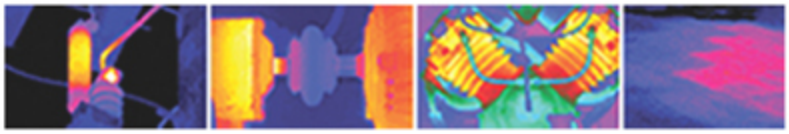
Infraspection Institute Newsletter



News and Information for Professional Thermographers

Volume 15 Issue 3 - March 2026

Director's Message

If you've never noticed an expiration date on a college or high school diploma that's because there isn't one. Although educational diplomas are traditionally issued for the life of the student, the same is not necessarily true for infrared thermographers.

For several years, certain infrared training firms have issued diplomas or certifications that bear expiration dates. In order to keep one's certification 'valid' with such firms, students must recertify by paying a fee and meeting other criteria that have nothing to do with the issuance of the original diploma.

According to the American Society for Nondestructive Testing document, SNT-TC-1A, recertification of NDT personnel is required every 5 years; however, this is the responsibility of the individual's employer. Such recertification is based upon an employee's demonstrated proficiency. It is not based upon their ability to pay a fee to a third-party training firm.

For over 40 years, Infraspection Institute's Certified Infrared Thermographer® training courses have set the standard for thermographer training. Students who successfully complete our Level I, II, or III training courses are issued a diploma that does not expire. If you're a thermographer who has trained elsewhere and have a certification that is about to expire, contact us to find out how you may matriculate directly to one of our courses and earn a diploma that is good for life.

IR/INFO Sets New Record!

Infraspection Institute's annual IR/INFO Conference was recently held in Orlando, FL. IR/INFO 2026 marks the 36th anniversary for the advanced training conference, technical symposium, and technology expo. IR/INFO was attended by infrared thermographers, maintenance professionals, and reliability experts from around the world who

Upcoming Courses

Online Distance Learning

Level I Certified Infrared Thermographer®

- Mar 2 - 5 Boulder City
- Mar 2 - 5 Edmonton
- Mar 9 - 12 Houston
- Mar 9 - 12 Calgary
- Mar 9 - 12 Sydney
- Mar 11 - 12 Sydney *
- Mar 16 - 20 Quezon City
- Mar 23 - 26 Honolulu
- Mar 23 - 26 San Jose
- Mar 23 - 26 Melbourne
- Mar 25 - 26 Melbourne *
- Apr 13 - 16 Brisbane
- Apr 15 - 16 Brisbane *
- Apr 20 - 23 Henderson
- Apr 20 - 23 Charlotte
- Apr 20 - 24 Quezon City
- Apr 20 - 24 Houston
- May 4 - 7 West Windsor
- May 4 - 7 Baton Rouge
- May 4 - 7 Perth
- May 6 - 7 Perth *
- May 4 - 8 Kuala Lumpur
- May 18 - 21 Denver
- May 18 - 21 Rosharon
- May 25 - 29 Quezon City

* Flexible Learning

enjoyed four days of networking, learning, and fun in a relaxed and professional atmosphere.

With 7 seven short courses and workshops plus 25 technical presentations, this year's conference covered a wide range of infrared applications including: new equipment and software, safety, regulations, building inspections, and related technologies.

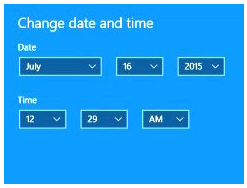
One of the many benefits enjoyed by IR/INFO attendees was the opportunity to share knowledge and information 'across the aisle' with some of the world's most experienced professionals. Dave Sirmans noted, "In 25+ years of attending other conferences, this was by far my best experience. The atmosphere was very inclusive and seeing attendees learning together and becoming friends was so refreshing."

First-time attendee Matt Henry was equally impressed and shared the following: "The 2026 IR/INFO conference exceeded all expectations. Being my first year acquiring certifications and attending the conference, it felt like I landed in the Garden of Eden for thermography. See you next year!"

Plans for Infraspection Institute's next IR/INFO event are already well underway. IR/INFO 2027 will be held at the Wyndham Resort Disney Springs in Lake Buena Vista, FL January 31 – February 3, 2027.

More Information

Do You Have the Correct Time?



Most modern thermal imagers have the ability to record time and date along with thermal images. Taking a moment to ensure that the correct time and date are displayed on your imager before you begin your inspection can help to avoid wasted time and the collection of inaccurate data.

Having the correct time associated with your imagery is important for several reasons. With correctly time-stamped imagery, it is possible to:

- Accurately document when an inspection was performed
- Easily store and uniquely reference image files
- Record the duration of a thermal event

It is always good practice to consciously check your imager's clock each time you start your imager and make any necessary adjustments. Be certain to check the clock periodically during each inspection and whenever the imager is restarted, such as after a battery change or power interruption.

If your imager frequently displays incorrect time, it may be indicative of a defective or dead internal battery. To avoid this problem, arrange for replacement of internal clock batteries whenever you have your imager serviced or repaired.

More Information

Level II Certified Infrared Thermographer®

- Mar 16 - 19 West Windsor
- Mar 23 - 27 Quezon City
- Apr 13 - 17 Quezon City
- May 18 - 22 Quezon City
- May 25 - 28 Melbourne

Level III Certified Infrared Thermographer®

- Mar 23 - 25 West Windsor
- Jun 22 - 24 West Windsor
- Sep 21 - 23 West Windsor

Full 2026 Schedule

Upcoming Conferences

Infraspection Institute invite you to see us at the following upcoming conferences. Be sure to stop by and say Hello!

NETA PowerTest Conference

March 2 - 6, 2026
Nashville, TN

EASA

June 14 - 16, 2026
Orlando, FL

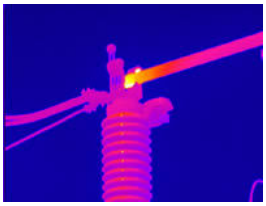
Vibration Institute

August 5 - 7, 2026
Fort Worth, TX

IR/INFO Conference

Jan 31 - Feb 3, 2027
Orlando, FL

Using Tmax Corrected to Prioritize Electrical Exceptions



Thermographers have long used temperature differentials or Delta T measurements as a means of prioritizing electrical and mechanical exceptions. Typically, Delta T values are calculated by comparing the temperature of an exception to similar components under similar load or to ambient air temperature. Although they work well in many circumstances, Delta T readings are not applicable for components that do not qualitatively manifest themselves as an exception.

An alternative to Delta T calculations is a formula known as Tmax Corrected. This formula is based upon an IEEE formula and calculates pass/fail criteria based upon several factors including equipment type, ambient air temperature, and circuit load.

Although requiring a little more time to apply than Delta T calculations, Tmax Corrected allows one to determine whether a component of interest is running within specification for any load or ambient temperature. Tmax Corrected is especially useful for equipment that is not manifesting itself as an exception. Tmax Corrected can be an invaluable tool for those who perform infrared inspections as part of commissioning studies or use thermography for acceptance testing of new installations, repairs, or retrofits.

Proper use of the Tmax Corrected formula is just one of the many topics covered in Infraspection Institute's Level II training courses. The proper application of Tmax Corrected may also be found in the *Standard for Infrared Inspection of Electrical Systems and RotatingEquipment*.

More Information

Focus, Focus, Focus

Proper image focus is still one of the most important aspects of performing an infrared inspection. A clear image not only allows for optimal problem diagnosis, but it is also critical to accurate temperature measurement.

Clear focus is not difficult to achieve if you follow a few simple steps:

- Get as close as safely possible to your target.
- Take time to carefully focus for optimum clarity. This may take some practice if you have a motorized focus mechanism.
- Ascertain that your target is stationary.
- Only shoot from a stable platform. If imaging from a motor vehicle, it may be desirable to shut off the engine to avoid vibration.

Be sure your imager is steady as you capture the image. Gently push the store button rather than punching it. If using a handheld imager, consider using a tripod or monopod to help stabilize your imager.

Links of Interest

IRINFO.ORG

TI-Reporter.com

Thermographer Directory

NORMI.TV

A-Rent

Once you've stored an image, recall and check for clarity. If the results are less than perfect, start over. In addition to greater accuracy, capturing clear images makes it easier to convey information to the end user and/or the person who will eventually perform corrective actions.

Infrared imager operation is one of the many topics covered in all Infraspection Institute Level I training courses. For more information on open enrollment classes or our Distance Learning courses, visit us online at www.infraspection.com or call us at 609-239-4788.

More Information

Spring Forward

Become an Infraspection Institute Master Thermographer®