

PRESS RELEASE

Nita Patel, P.E. Named the 2011 New Hampshire Engineer of the Year

Londonderry, New Hampshire – Nita Patel, P.E., Systems and Embedded Software Engineering Section Manager, L3 Insight Technology, has been selected by a jury of her peers from New Hampshire engineering societies as the 2011 New Hampshire Engineer of the Year.

The award will be presented to Nita at the annual Engineer's Week banquet in Manchester on February 17, recognizing her exemplary talent, effort and involvement in the engineering profession and the community.

Nita received her BSEE, BS Mathematics, and MSCpE degrees from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX. She holds a professional engineering license in New Hampshire and Oklahoma. At L3 Insight Technology, Nita provides both management and technical support for the company's Long Wave Infrared (LWIR) product line of military imaging system which are currently being upgraded to use emerging 17 μ m uncooled Focal Plane Array sensor technology. Nita is also a key contributor in the development of Insight's Targeting and Rangefinder systems.

Nita was previously Chief Engineer for the Open Radar Data Acquisition Project at RS Information Systems, Norman, OK. She resolved numerous systemic roadblocks to turn around a jeopardized project and successfully meet delivery commitments. For her accomplishments, Nita received the prestigious RSIS President's Award for Technical Excellence and was awarded a National Weather Service Office of Science & Technology (NWS OS&T) Systems Engineering Center Special Citation.

Nita is an active member of the IEEE at the local, regional and national level. She is Secretary of the IEEE NH Section and Treasurer of the IEEE Computer Society NH Chapter. Nita is also involved in numerous committees that promote professional development for members and non-members alike and advocate technological career choices for students at the elementary, secondary and college levels. Nita is the IEEE Region 1 (Northeast area) Sections Congress Coordinator responsible for planning activities for an upcoming international meeting of section chairs to discuss future IEEE directions. Nita serves on the IEEE-USA Board of Governors as Vice President of Communication and Public Awareness. She has authored a series of e-Books on "Technical Presentations" published by IEEE-USA. Nita received the 2010 IEEE Member and Geographic Activities (MGA) Leadership Award "For her dedication to IEEE activities and programs at the Section, Region and USA levels and for contributing significantly toward achieving MGA goals". Nita has recently received a prestigious endorsement from the Board of Governors to run as a recommended candidate for 2012 IEEE-USA President Elect position.

Nita is a member of Toastmasters of Manchester and Amoskeag Better Communicators. She holds the title of "Distinguished Toastmaster" and was 2010 D45 Division B Governor. She appreciates the importance that good presentation skills play in all facets of life, and devotes a significant portion of her available time organizing and conducting sessions for the general public and for specific audiences such as schools, IEEE meetings and professional events.

Nita and her husband, Alex Relyea, are avid chess fans and share their enthusiasm for the game by volunteering to be Tournament Directors for the NH Chess Association. Nita is scholastic director for Relyea Chess and works to organize events under the auspices of the United States Chess Federation

Nita and Alex live in Bedford NH.