



Another EMC resource  
from EMC Standards

## Practical EMC Techniques for the Cost-Effective Design of Electronic Products (3-day course)

*Helping you solve your EMC problems*

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# Practical EMC Techniques for the Cost-Effective Design of Electronic Products and Equipment

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A Three-day Training Course

*by*

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## Synopsis

Training for electronic, mechanical and PCB/PWB design engineers, and their managers, in the use of good EMC design and manufacturing practices for modern products and equipment.

## Objective

The aim of the course is to help companies quickly improve their commercial and financial performance by using design techniques proven in real-life over many years to:

- Bring advanced products to market more quickly
- Reduce unit manufacturing costs
- Reduce warranty costs and costs of ownership by improving reliability
- Easily comply with legal EMC requirements
- Reduce financial risks and improve Return On Investment

This course is highly recommended for those involved in any aspect of the design or testing of electrical/electronic products.

It is based upon the EMC course module that Keith teaches to post-graduate students as part of the IET-accredited Sensors and Electronic Instrumentation M.Sc. course at the University of Manchester (formerly UMIST, University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology), UK.

## Who Should Attend

All electronic designers and their managers, in all industry areas, including:

Automotive	Medical & healthcare
Consumer	Household (domestic) appliances
Information Technology (IT)	Industrial instrumentation or control
Railway	Marine
Aerospace	Military
Telecommunications	Radiocommunications

## Prerequisites

Familiarity with circuit (hardware) design, PCBs/PWBs and electronic and mechanical assembly and interconnection techniques.

Plain English is used, with a small amount of very easy mathematics.

## Course Methodology

This course is presented classroom style using a PowerPoint slideshow containing practical illustrations of the techniques to aid understanding.

Case studies that are relevant to the trainees will be included verbally.

Each attendee will be presented with a bound copy of the PowerPoint slides used during the training, printed at 6 slides per page. The spaces around the slides usually suffice for taking extra notes.

Copies of the textbook *“EMC for Printed Circuit Boards, basic and advanced design and layout techniques”*, Armstrong/Nutwood January 2007, ISBN: 978-0-9555118-0-6 (spiral bound to lie flat when open) or 978-0-9555118-1-3 (perfect bound), can be provided at extra cost.

## Course Duration

Three full days, each 9:00am – 5:00pm (for example)

This is a very intensive course with a very large amount of practical detail. If presented as an in-house course it can be very usefully combined with individual consultancy for each engineer or manager, to help him or her apply the material to his or her current projects.

In countries where English is not the first language, a longer duration may be preferred.

## Venue and Date

To be decided. The course could be provided as a public course, or as an in-house course. As an in-house course, it has the added value of allowing confidential discussions on how best to apply the material to particular projects or products.

## Reviews of this course

Delegates have always awarded this course an overall score of at least 80%.

## COURSE OUTLINE

### DAY 1

- EMC approaches for regulatory compliance; high reliability or functional safety
- What interference can occur, and how it affects hardware and software
- Saving time and money with good EMC techniques
- EMC specifications and standards
- Circuit design for EMC (digital, analogue, switch-mode and comm's)
- Choice of PCB components for EMC
- Cables and connectors
- EMC filtering

### DAY 2

- EMC shielding
- Heatsinks and EMC
- Suppressing surges
- Suppressing electrostatic discharge (ESD)
- Suppressing electromechanical devices
- Protecting transducers
- Suppressing emissions of harmonics, voltage fluctuations and flicker
- Immunity to poor AC and DC power quality
- Some very useful references

### DAY 3

- The EMC techniques now generally required for all PCBs
  - Saving time and money
  - Segregation
  - Interface analysis, filtering and suppression
  - 0V and power planes
  - PCB-chassis bonding
  - Power supply decoupling
  - Transmission line techniques
  - Layer stacking
- Good EMC practices in the design and assembly of electrical/electronic equipment (using the example of an industrial control panel)
  - Buying electrical/electronic units
  - Following the manufacturer's sensible EMC instructions
  - Following good EMC practices
  - Route send/return current paths together
  - Creating an RF Reference and routing conductors close to it
  - RF bonding techniques for metalwork
  - Don't confuse the reference plane with safety earthing
  - RF bonding techniques for units and PCBs
  - RF bonding techniques for cable screens
  - Choosing and using filters
  - Enclosure shielding and how not to ruin it
  - Choosing and using EMC gaskets
  - Preventing galvanic corrosion
  - Cable classes, segregation, and routing
  - Segregation of units
  - Maintaining EMC in repair, maintenance, and upgrading
  - Information in user manuals
  - Some useful references

A more detailed course contents list is available upon request.

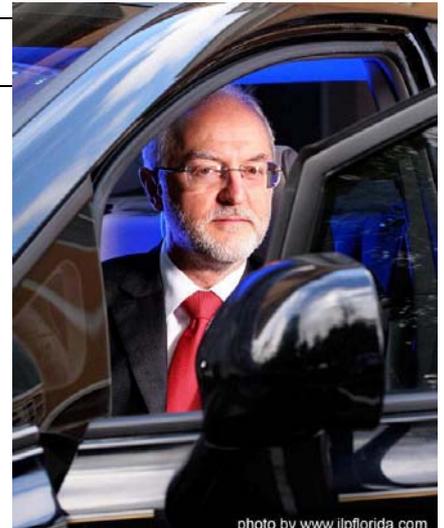
## Course Instructor

### Academic Qualifications

BSc (Elec.Eng), Upper 2<sup>nd</sup> Class with Honours, Imperial College of Science & Technology, London, UK, 1972

### Professional Qualifications

Fellow IET (Institution of Engineering and Technology, formerly the Institution of Electrical Engineers, IEE), London, UK (Member since 1977) 2010  
Senior Member IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers Inc.) USA, member of its EMC, Product Safety Engineering Societies since 1998 2010  
Associate of the City and Guilds Institute, London, UK 1972  
UK Chartered Engineer, Engineering Council, London, UK 1978  
Group 1 European Engineer (EurIng), FEANI, Paris, France 1988



### Professional Activities

Chair of IET's Working Group on EMC and Functional Safety 1997-date  
Chair of IEEE EMC Soc. Special Committee on Risk Management of EMC 2012-date  
UK expert appointed (by invitation) to IEC maintenance team MT23 for IEC 60601-1-2 (Medical Equipment/Systems EMC) 2006-date  
UK expert appointed (by invitation) to IEC maintenance team MT15 for IEC 61000-1-2 (EMC & Functional Safety) 2003-date  
UK expert appointed to IEC 61000-6-7 (EMC & Functional Safety, Generic) 2010-date  
Member EMC Industries Association (EMCIA) 2003-date  
Member EMC Test Labs Association (EMCTLA) and its Working Group B 2001-date  
Technical Panel, IET Functional Safety Professional Network 2003-date  
Technical Panel, IET EMC Professional Network 2001-date  
Editor, Inside Functional Safety magazine 2010-date  
Editorial Advisory board member, Interference Technology magazine 2007-date  
Editorial Advisory board member, Compliance Engineering magazine 1998-date  
EMCIA representative to BSI GEL 210/12 EMC committee 2009-date  
President of the EMC Industries Association (EMCIA) 2008-2010  
Vice-President of the EMC Industries Association (EMCIA) 2010-2012  
Chair of IEE's EMC Professional Group (E2) 1997-1999



### RECENT RELEVANT EXPERIENCE (1990-PRESENT)

Started Cherry Clough Consultants in 1990, Director of the Limited Company since 2010.

External lecturer for the Sensors and Electronic Instrumentation MSc course at the University of Manchester, teaching an IET-accredited module on practical EMC design techniques.

The services that Keith provides for Cherry Clough Consultants include:

- Product, system, and installation EMC and safety good practices for reliability and cost-effective regulatory compliance
- Assessment of electromagnetic environments
- Control plans, test plans, etc., for effective management of EMC and safety in projects of all sizes
- Company procedures for EMC and safety, for financial benefits and/or regulatory compliance

- Production / QA procedures for maintaining regulatory compliance in volume manufacture and custom engineering
- Testing and remedial work to meet EMC and safety standards
- Creation of EMC Directive Technical Construction Files and other compliance documentation
- Assessment of EMC Directive Technical Construction Files for a number of EMC Competent Bodies
- Education and training for designers and managers on cost-effective EMC and Safety techniques; and on “EMC for Functional Safety, high-reliability and legal metrology”
- Education and training for executives in EU compliance; liability; financial benefits of using good EMC techniques; and related marketing issues

The above services have been applied in the following areas (so far) – please note this is not a complete listing:

#### **Systems and installations:**

Machinery and manufacturing/process plant of all sizes

Robotics

Air traffic control towers

Computer and telecommunication rooms

Administration centres

Financial dealer rooms

Professional audio systems and installations (e.g. theatres, opera houses, recording studios)

Steel rolling mills

Hospitals

Hotels

Chemical and pharmaceutical processing plant

Nuclear processing plant

Bottling and canning lines

Road tunnel lighting schemes

Broadband-Over-Power-Line (BPL) systems

Synchrotrons (e.g. the Diamond Light Source, Harwell, Oxfordshire)

Railway systems

Mobile X-ray systems for shipping containers

#### **Products and items of equipment:**

Industrial instrumentation, control, and machinery of all sizes

Variable speed AC and DC motor drives from very small to 10MW

Automotive engine control units (ECUs) and other electronic subassemblies (ESAs)

Information technology equipment (ITE) e.g. computers, servers, RAID arrays

Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) and other hand-held wireless-enabled computing devices

Marine equipment

Computers

Photocopiers

Digital Signal Processing

Datacommunications devices

Professional audio consoles and other equipment

Professional video projectors

Lighting

Telephones and telecommunications

Consumer electronics (TV, Hi-Fi, etc.)

Radiocommunications, cellphones and pagers

Lifts (elevators)

Domestic (household) appliances

Gambling machines

Gas boilers

Electricity meters

Electrical power generators (small scale)

Building electrical services equipment

Subsea oil and gas production equipment

Robots

Solar power converters

Military avionics

Medical equipment (various)

Microscope manipulators

Coin mechanisms

Security equipment

Mains-borne communications

Induction heating

Laser welding

Digital microwave radio

Variable-speed winch for a military submarine

#### **PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (1982-1990)**

Keith was mostly involved with the design and development of state-of-the-art capital equipment during the period 1968 to 1990. He has wide experience in electronic product design and project

management in the UK, South Africa and France, after finishing graduate apprenticeship with Thorn Automation in 1973.

Technically, he started in analogue design in 1968; adding digital control of analogue circuits in 1978, and A/D and D/A conversion in 1980. Project and departmental management experience was gained from 1983 onwards, including teams of more than 20 engineers and scientists (this was for the Microwave division of Marconi Instruments Ltd, Stevenage, UK, 1983-1988).

## **BOOKS, PUBLICATIONS and PAPERS**

### ***EMC Design Techniques for electronic engineers***

Nutwood UK November 2010, ISBN: 978-0-9555118-4-4, full colour graphics throughout. Order from [www.emcacademy.org/books.asp](http://www.emcacademy.org/books.asp). Covers all electronic applications, with a very practical approach to good design practices that will save time and cost, reduce time-to-market, and reduce warranty costs and financial risks. (Chapter 2 of this book is the complete text of "The Physical Basis of EMC" (below), so don't purchase both!)

### ***The Physical Basis of EMC***

Nutwood UK October 2010, ISBN: 978-0-9555118-3-7, full colour graphics throughout. Order from [www.emcacademy.org/books.asp](http://www.emcacademy.org/books.asp). Provides an understanding of electromagnetic phenomena, in a way that can be easily understood by practising electronic engineers. (Chapter 2 of my book "EMC Design Techniques for electronic engineers" (above) is the complete text of this book, so don't purchase both of them!)

### ***EMC for Printed Circuit Boards – Basic and Advanced Design and Layout Techniques***

Nutwood UK December 2010, ISBN 978-0-9555118-5-1, full colour graphics throughout. (2nd Edition, identical to 1st Edition except for format.) From [www.emcacademy.org/books.asp](http://www.emcacademy.org/books.asp) Practical good-practice EMC design techniques for printed circuit board (PCB) design and layout, for designers of electronic circuits and PCB designers themselves. All application areas are covered, from household appliances, commercial and industrial equipment, through automotive to aerospace and military. This book is used by some University courses.

### ***The First 500 'Banana Skins'***

Nutwood UK, 2007, 500 reports and anecdotes concerning electromagnetic interference (EMI), collected and edited by Keith Armstrong. Read it at [www.theemcjournal.com](http://www.theemcjournal.com), or buy from [www.emcacademy.org/books.asp](http://www.emcacademy.org/books.asp). More 'Banana Skins' are published 6 times a year in 'The EMC Journal', available free at [www.theemcjournal.com](http://www.theemcjournal.com) or [www.compliance-club.com](http://www.compliance-club.com)

### ***EMC for Systems and Installations***

By Tim Williams and Keith Armstrong, Newnes, 2000, ISBN: 0-7506-4167-3, [www.bh.com/newnes](http://www.bh.com/newnes), RS Components part number: 377-6463

Keith has written and presented a great many papers for a wide range of symposia, conferences, colloquia, and seminars worldwide, including ERA, IEE, IET, IEEE EMC Society and IEEE Product Safety Engineering Society events. Too many to list here, please ask for further details.

He has also published a great many articles on EMC for publication in professional journals and trade magazines worldwide, including the following five annual series for the EMC Compliance Journal (visit [http://www.compliance-club.com/keith\\_armstrong.asp](http://www.compliance-club.com/keith_armstrong.asp)):

- "Designing for EMC" (6 parts 2006-8, updating the 1999 series)
- "EMC for Systems and Installations" (6 parts, 2000)
- "EMC Testing" (7 parts, 2001-2)
- "Advanced PCB Design for EMC" (8 parts, 2004-5)

Keith has written 17 informative booklets on electromagnetic phenomena, what they are, what causes them, how they cause interference, and how to test for them using IEC and EN standard methods, plus 5 booklets (so far) on EMC issues in Installations, for example: Power Quality, Good EMC Engineering Practices, Variable-Speed Drives, etc. They can all be downloaded for free from [www.reo.co.uk/knowledgebase](http://www.reo.co.uk/knowledgebase).

Please visit [www.cherryclough.com](http://www.cherryclough.com) for more information.