

APPRENTICESHIP

ABC NorCal Turns on the Lights for Future Technicians' Careers

ABC NorCal

Teaching future technicians the art of the trade, the Northern California Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC NorCal), in partnership with National Lighting Contractors Association of America (NLCAA), and Leviton Manufacturing Company, created a one-of-a-kind lighting controls classroom. This classroom supports the acceptance test technician certification course offered by ABC NorCal by utilizing Leviton's state-of-the-art Title 24-compliant lighting controls. Located at the ABC NorCal training center in Livermore, this classroom was built by electrical apprentices.



Apprentices determining how to route the power and control cables.



Apprentices running power and control cables.

Chris Leone, NCCER certified instructor for

ABC NorCal, said, "This was not just a lab exercise, it was a live project."

Students removed and replaced lighting, power and control wiring, installed controllers and data cables, then programmed and prepped the installation for acceptance testing. Students managed to get the project finalized over 18 months while earning field experience with LEDs and Title 24 controls like dimmers, occupancy sensors, daylight sensors and demand response controls, which will better prepare them for real life field installations.

Leone added, "ABC NorCal, in collaboration with NLCAA and Leviton, really sought to create a unique and immersive experience for the students who

worked on the room from beginning to end. The room will serve as a showcase for future students learning the basics of the job in a safe environment.”

“Hands-on training is exactly what students need to be successful in the field,” said Michael Scalzo, Executive Director of NLCAA. “I am proud to be part of the team that designed a high-tech classroom that mocks up real-life scenarios for apprentices.”

This new high-tech room will jump-start a successful career for many and help lead the way to exciting opportunities and successful careers for these graduates.