

## Designers Lighting Forum

Specifying for Success with Today's Wireless  
Mesh Controls

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Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.



# Learning Objectives

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At the end of this course, participants will be able to:

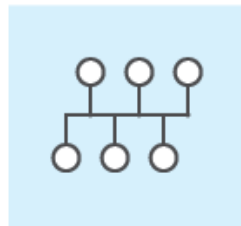
- Gain a basic understanding of what wireless mesh control technology is, and “best fit” projects
- Understand best practices for building a project specification, including detailed exploration of design goals, technology, and cost-benefit evaluation
- Facilitate discussions and coordinate with a project team for selecting wireless mesh, including overcoming specific concerns
- Learn lessons from unique recent projects that inform the best practices in the specification process



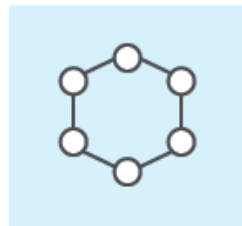
# Wireless Mesh: What is it?

- Many to many network topology
- Every node communicates wirelessly with every other node

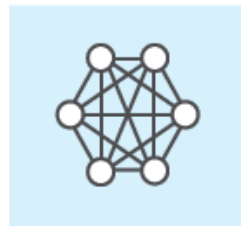
## Topology Types



Bus



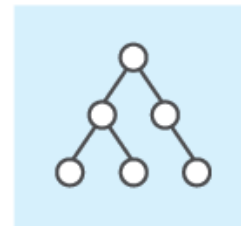
Ring



Mesh



Star



Tree



Hybrid

Source: TechTarget

## Wireless Mesh: What is it?

- No centralized gateway
- No linear topology with 'master' or 'auxiliary' relationship



## Wireless Mesh: Benefits

- No single point of failure
- No requirement for a gateway or central hub
- Intelligence resides in each node
- Programmable from average smartphone or tablet





## Wireless Mesh: Concerns

- Range anxiety
- Interference with other frequencies
- Security
- General lack of knowledge about the technology



# Building a Project Specification: Initial Considerations

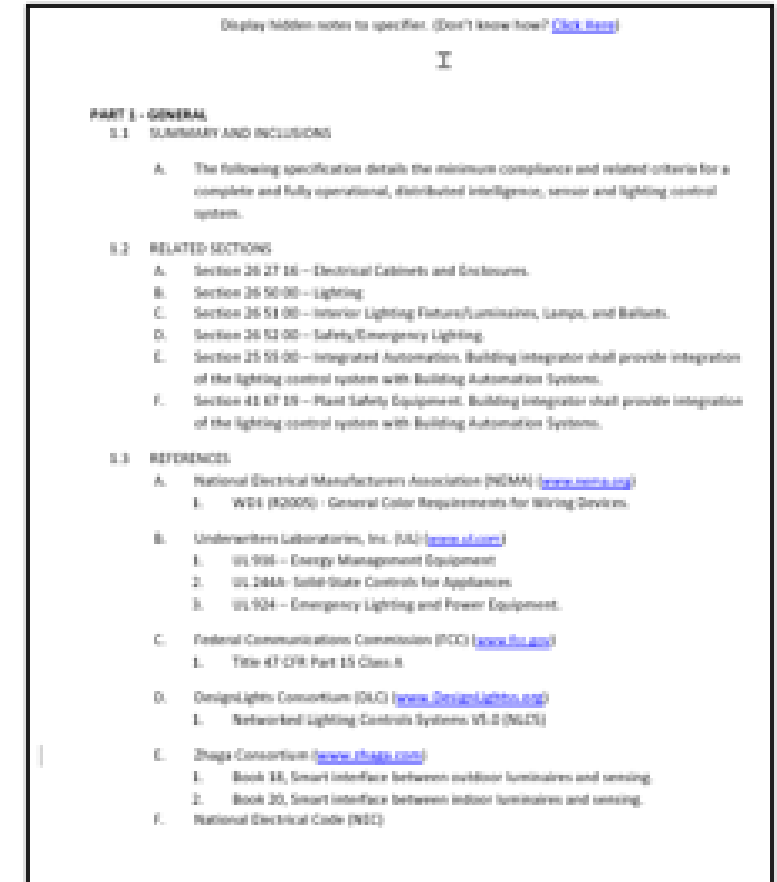
- Identify design goals for project
- Evaluate technology options for controls
  - Is wireless mesh a good fit from an economic perspective?
  - a technology perspective?

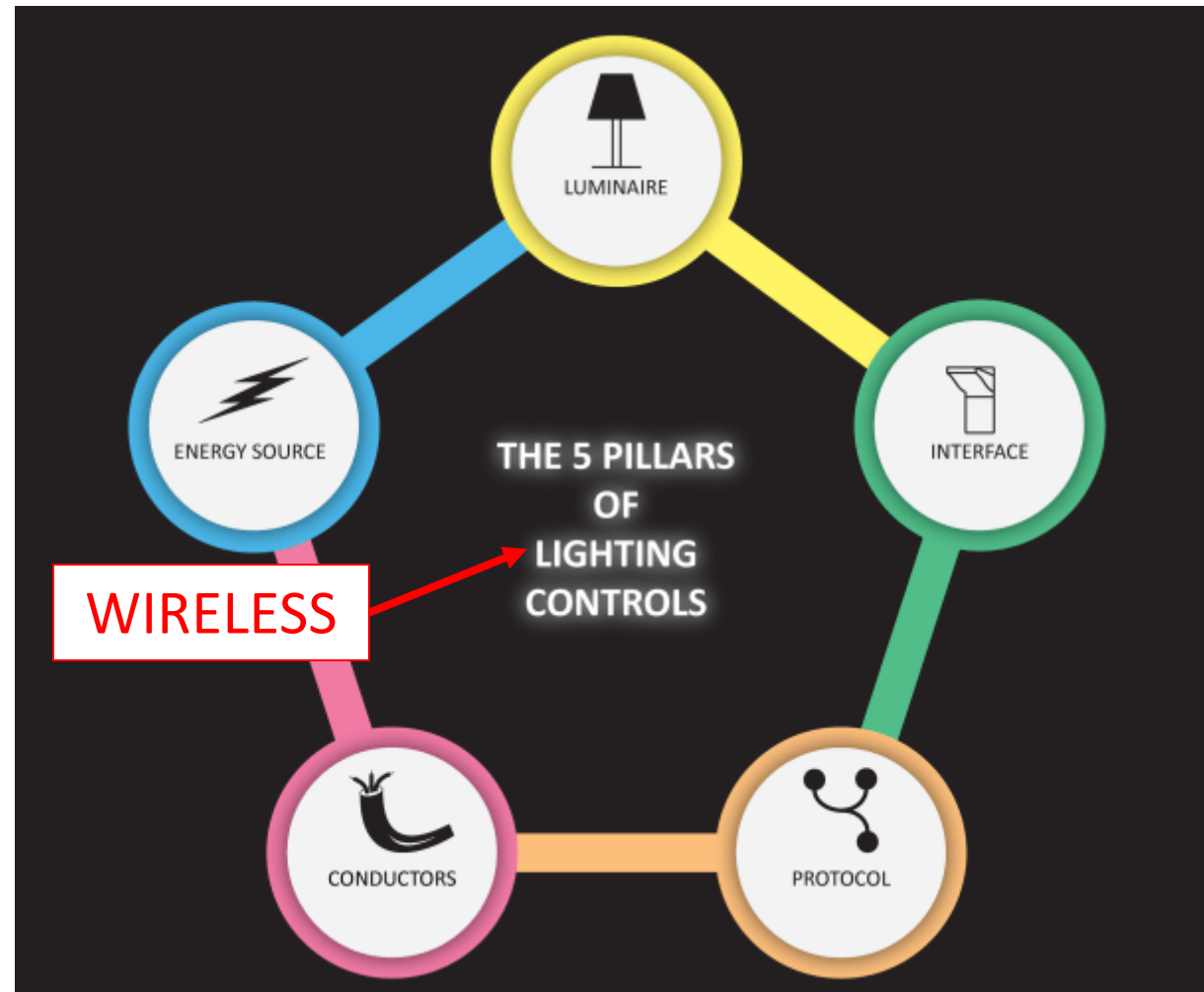


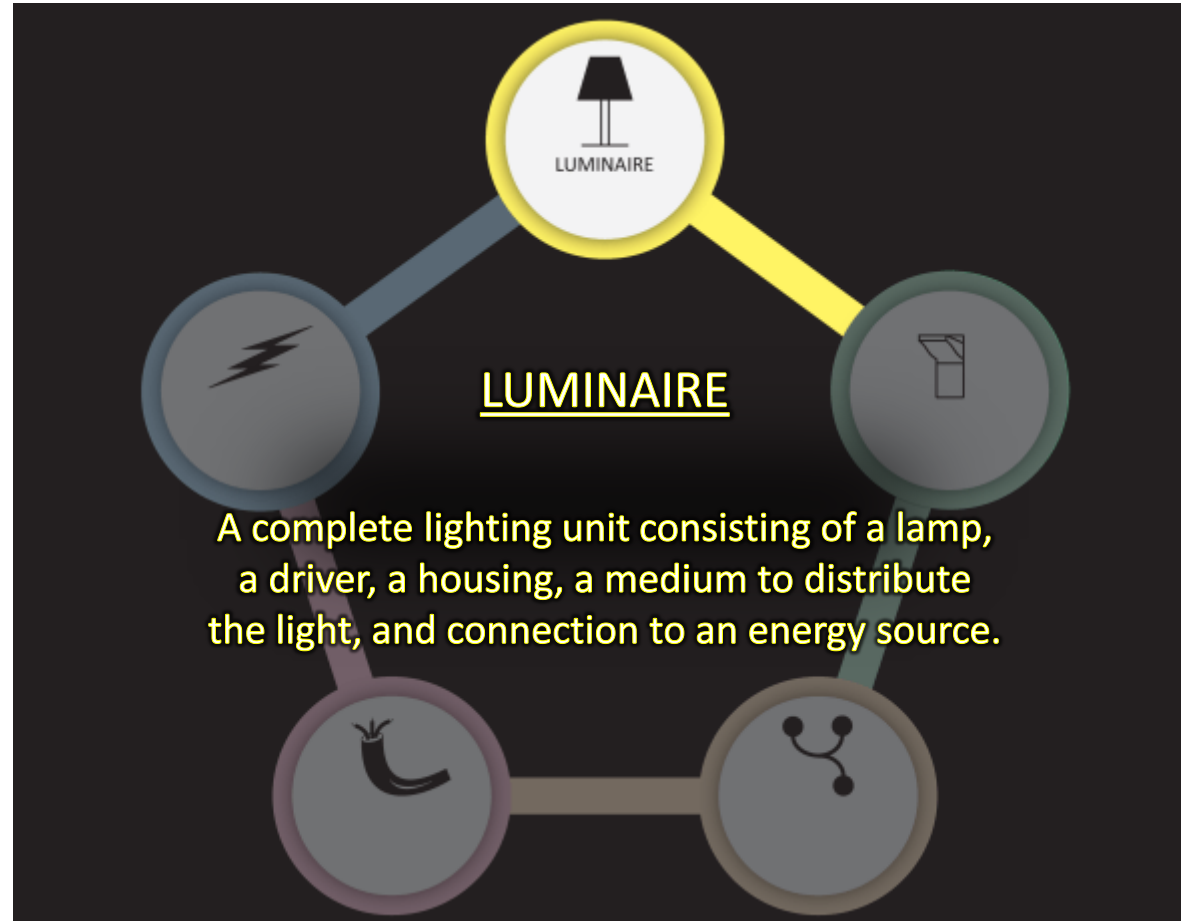


# Building a Project Specification: 'Making the sausage'

- Identify project-specific concerns and 'must-haves' before deciding on a specific control solution
- Any specific concerns?
- Obtain references from comparable projects for the solution finalists
- Draft project specifications as a project team effort









# EXAMPLES

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LED Troffer





# EXAMPLES

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Canopy Light





# EXAMPLES

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Pole Light







# DOCUMENTATION

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## Control Intent Narrative

1. Integral and remote occupancy and daylight sensors for individual light fixture control:
  - A. Each light fixture has its own zone for independent control
  - B. Each light fixture has its own occupancy sensor
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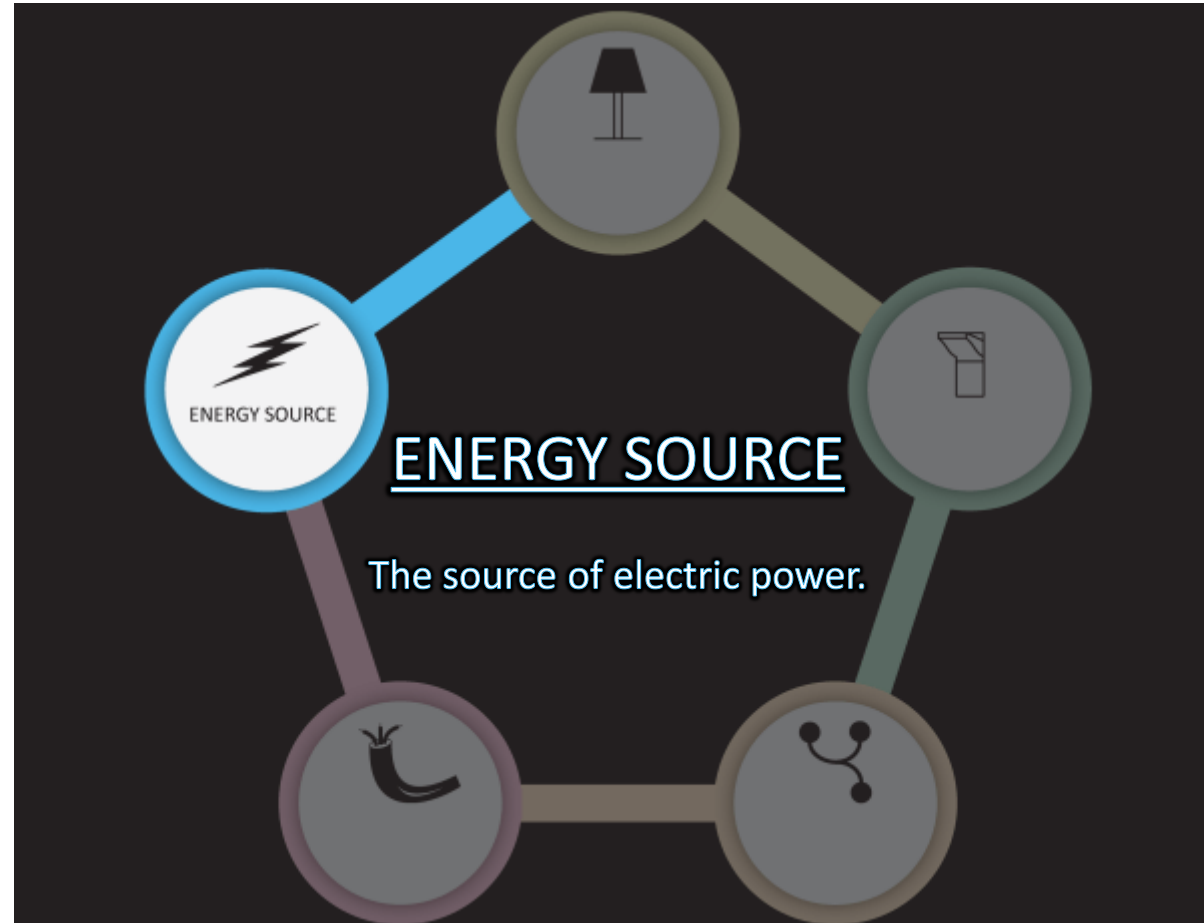


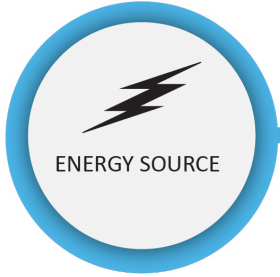
# DOCUMENTATION

## Light Fixture Schedule

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>INTENT</u>	<u>POWER SUPPLY</u>	<u>CONTROLS PROTOCOL</u>	<u>CONTROLS INTERFACE</u>
L1	VARIOUS	Recessed downlight for general illumination of various spaces.	Integral Dimmable Driver	0-10V	[Brand X] Remote Occupancy Sensor
L2	GARAGE	Canopy light for general garage illumination.	Integral Dimmable Driver	0-10V	[Brand X] Integral Occupancy and Daylight Sensor
L3	BOH SPACES	Industrial linear for BOH space illumination.	Integral Non-Dim Driver	(INTEGRAL) SWITCHED	[Brand X] Integral Occupancy Sensor
L4	ENTRY	Recessed wall wash for entry space	Remote Dimmable Driver	0-10V	[Brand X] Remote Occupancy Sensor
L5	PARKING LOT	Pole light for general parking lot illumination.	Integral Dimmable Driver	0-10V	[Brand X] Integral Occupancy and Daylight Sensor

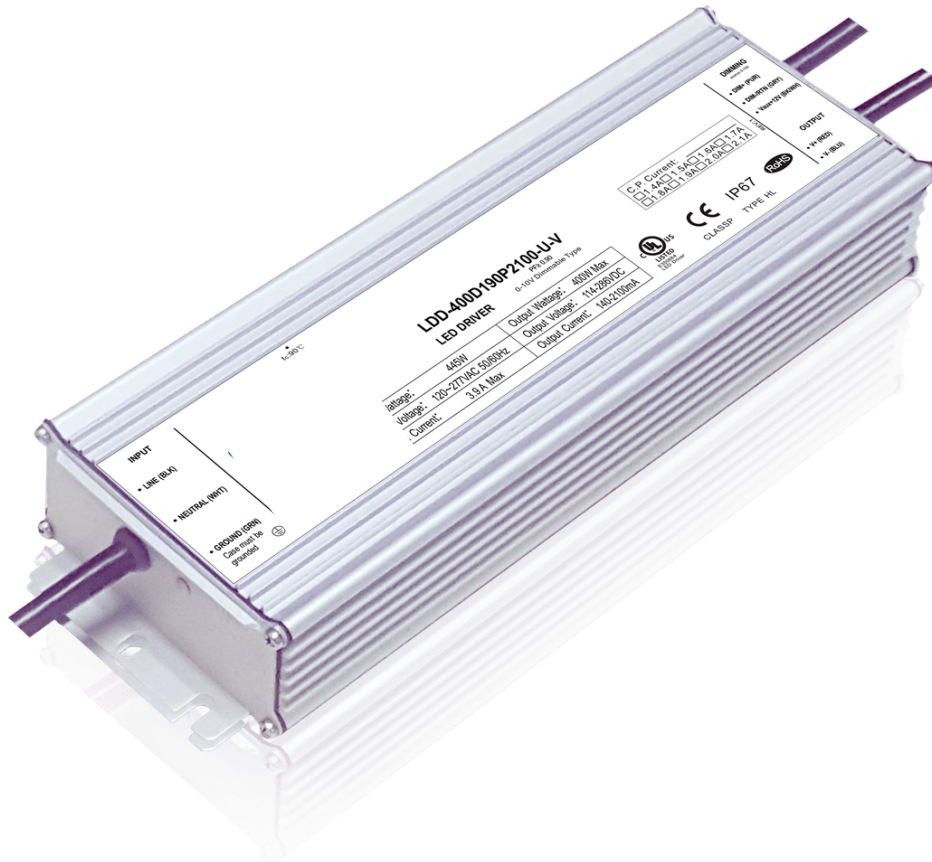




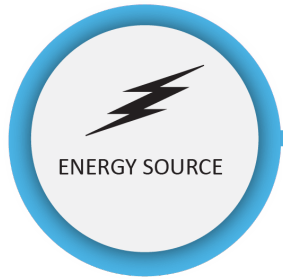


# EXAMPLES

Driver







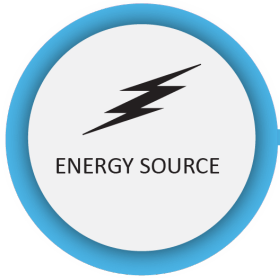
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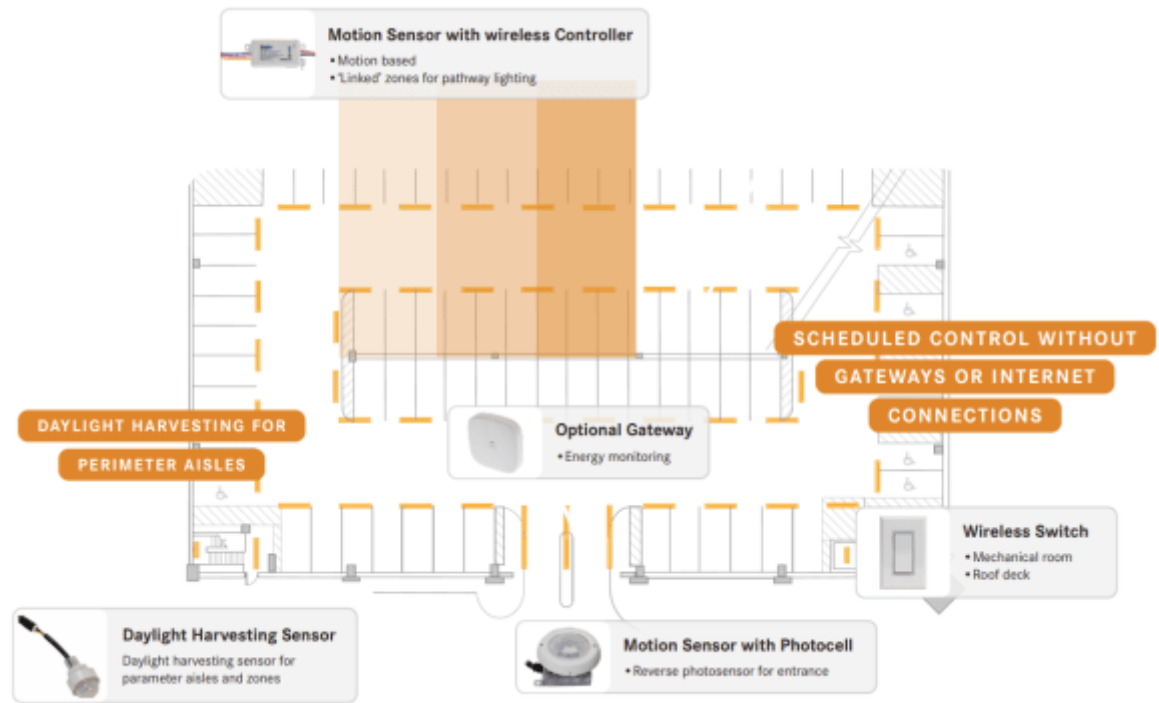
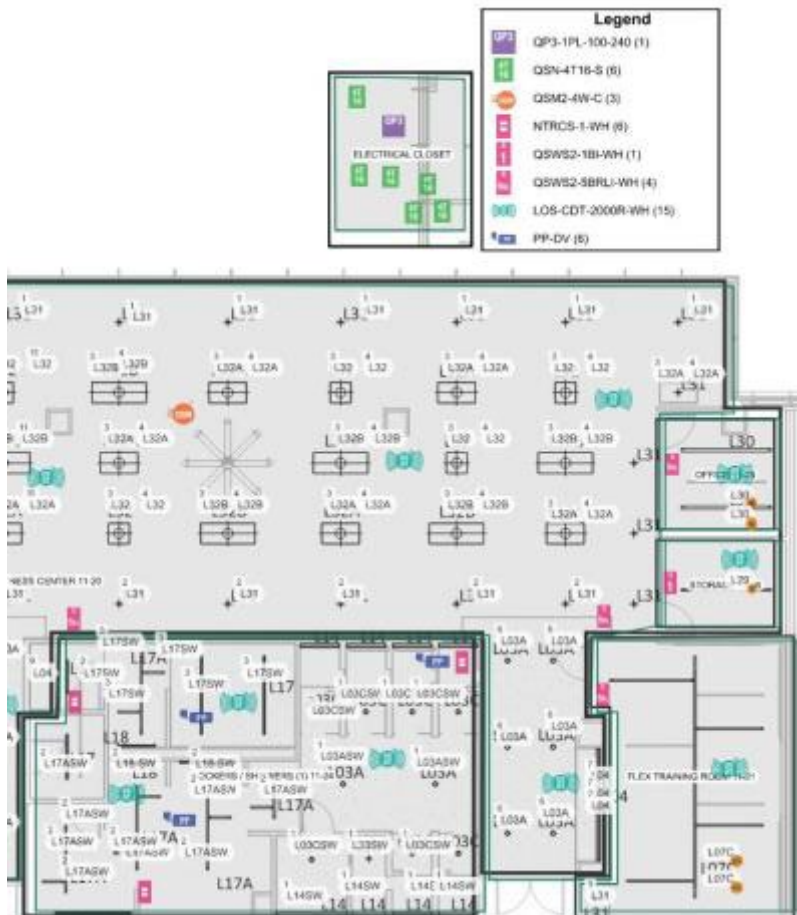


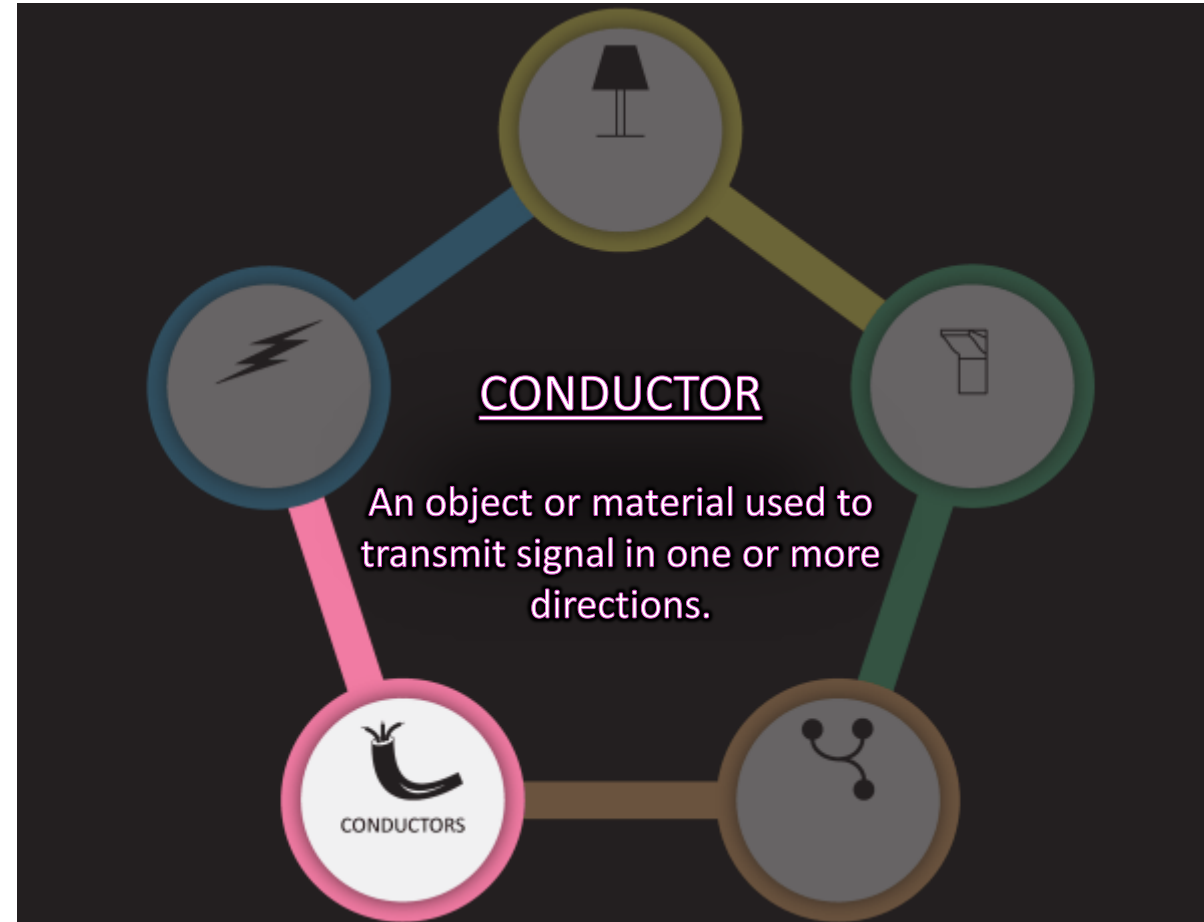




# DOCUMENTATION

## Device Layout and Schedule







## EXAMPLES

### Wireless Transceiver



Sends and Receives data



Modified Images Credits:

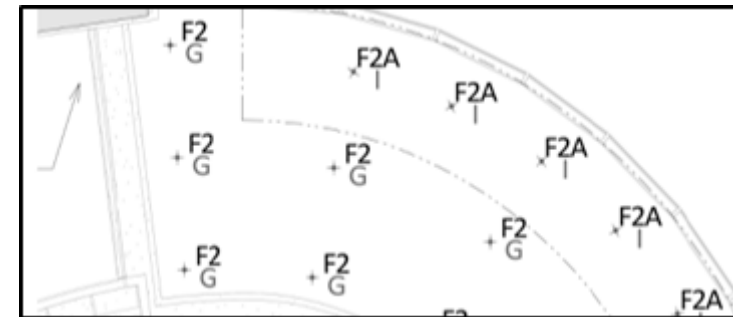
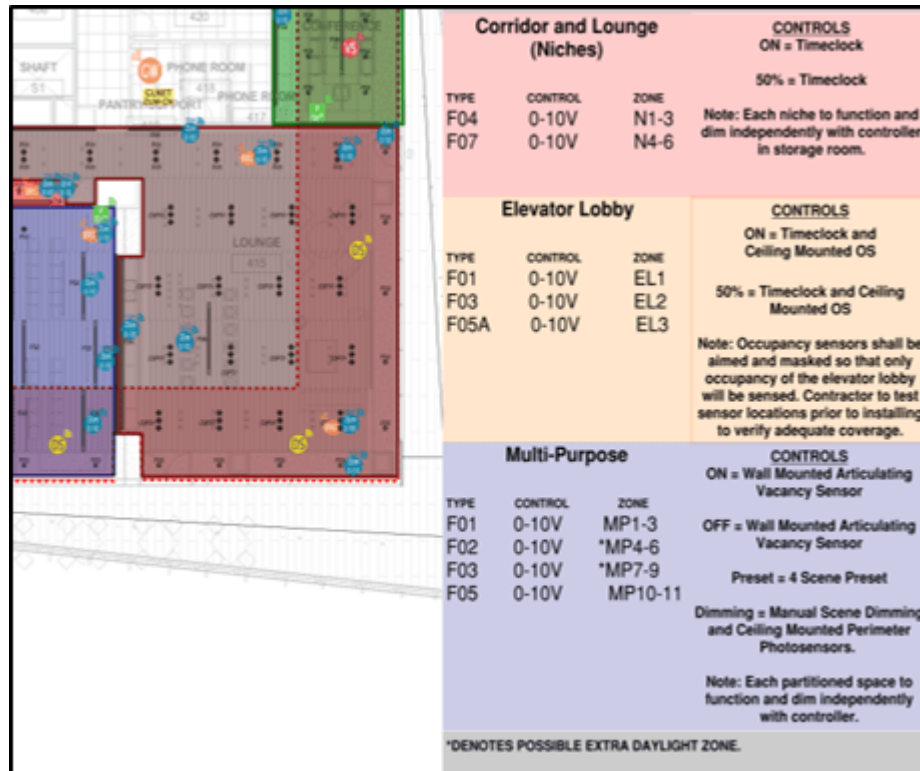
1. [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Vintage\\_Pair\\_of\\_Elmex\\_Solid\\_State\\_Transceivers,\\_Model\\_666,\\_Made\\_in\\_Japan\\_\(9035278787\).jpg/](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Vintage_Pair_of_Elmex_Solid_State_Transceivers,_Model_666,_Made_in_Japan_(9035278787).jpg/)
2. <https://www.publicdomainpictures.net/en/view-image.php?image=29417&picture=router>





# DOCUMENTATION

## Zoning Diagram

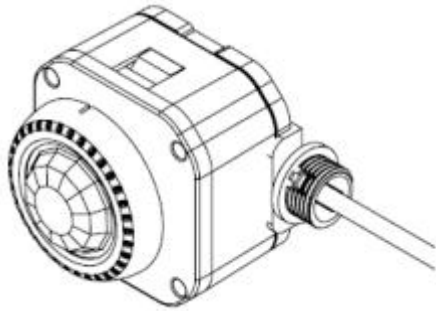




## DOCUMENTATION

### Signal Range Diagram

Max Bluetooth Range<sup>1</sup>  
100ft (30.4m)

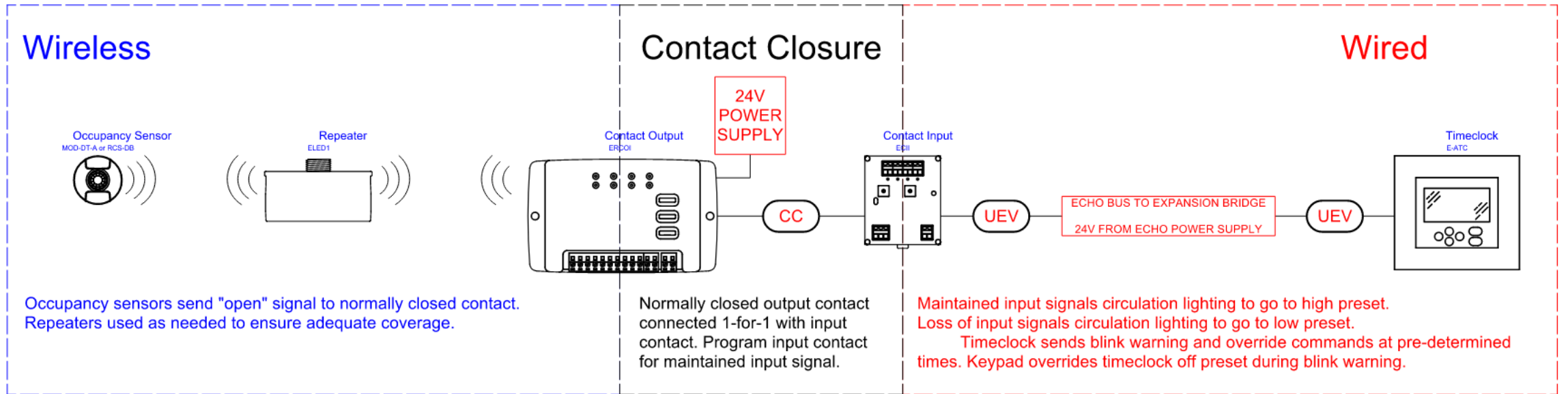




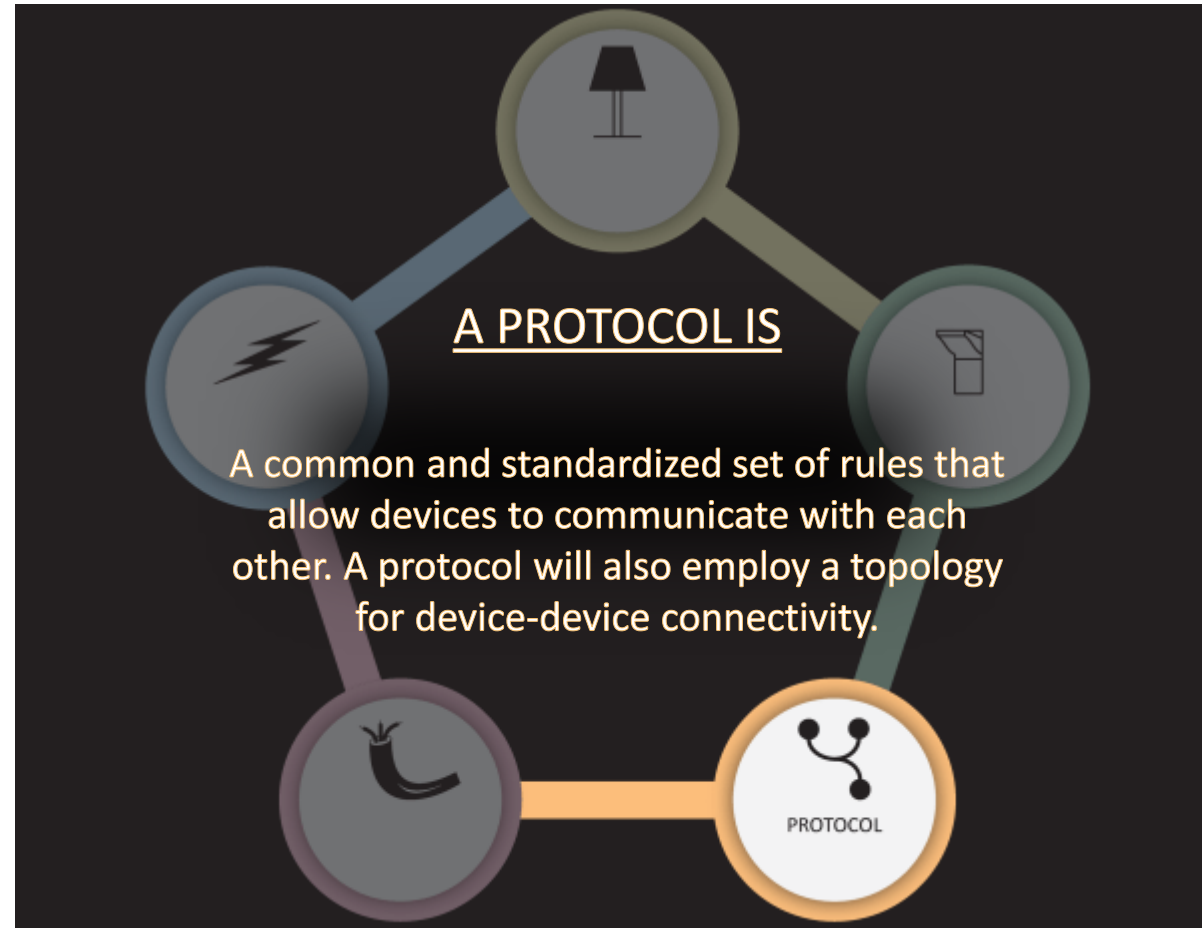


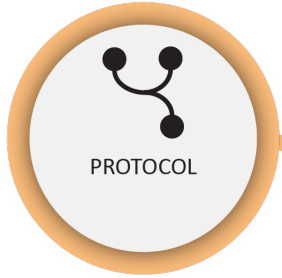
# DOCUMENTATION

## One-line Diagram





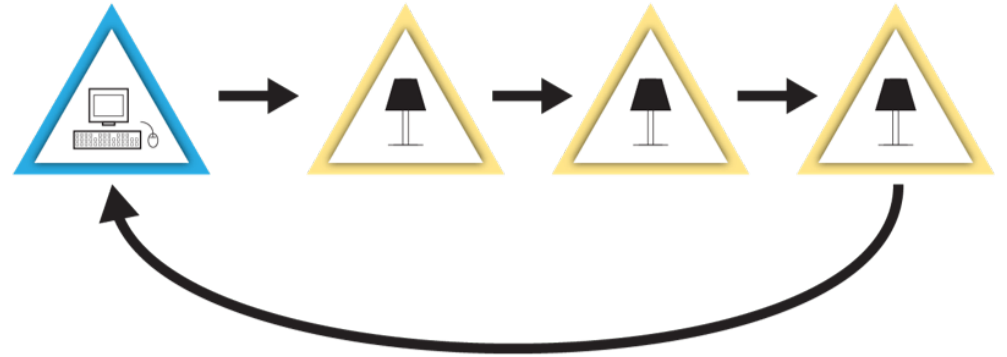


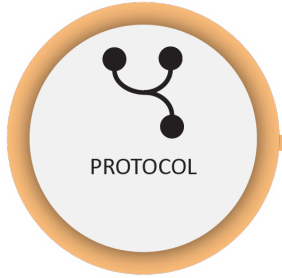


# EXAMPLES

## 0-10V

- Uses two low voltage conductors
- Hardwired terminations
- 10V = Full
- <1V = Lowest output
- Requires a relay to turn off
- Driver provides voltage, dimmer reduces voltage

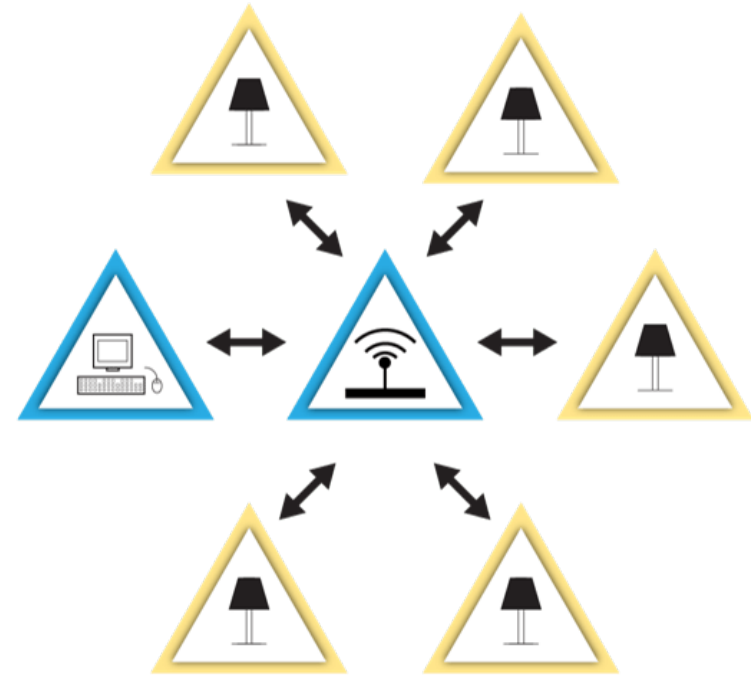


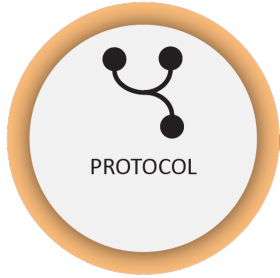


# EXAMPLES

## Wi-Fi

- Uses wireless gateways and transceivers
- Uses CAT5 between local devices
- Gateways often need line voltage or transformer for power
- Commands are given from a source and distributed by gateways
- Can dim to OFF without a relay

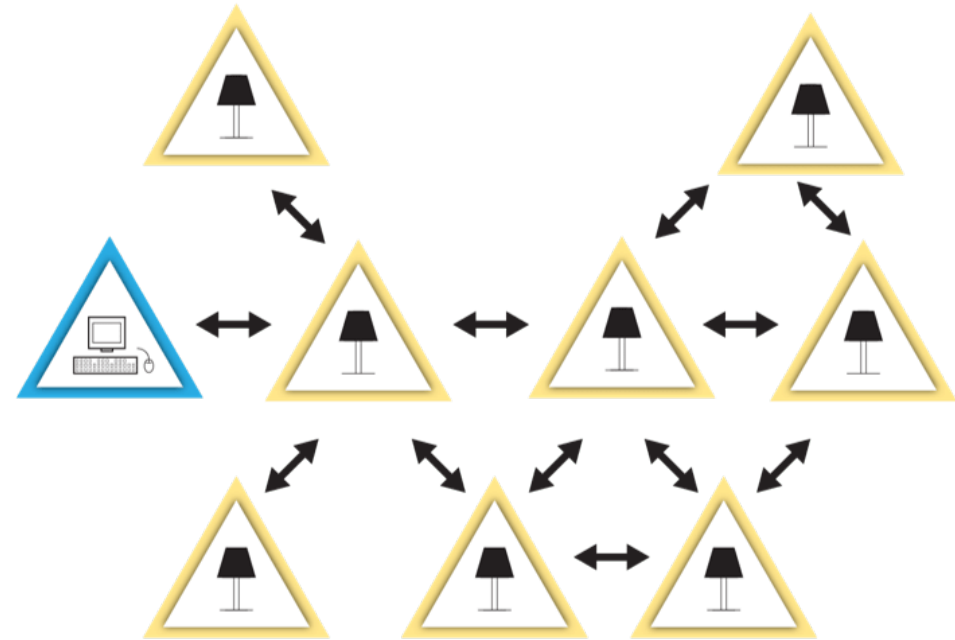


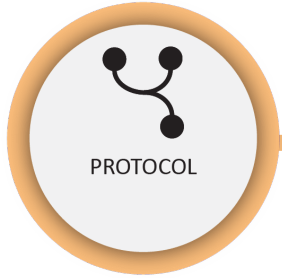


# EXAMPLES

## Bluetooth Mesh

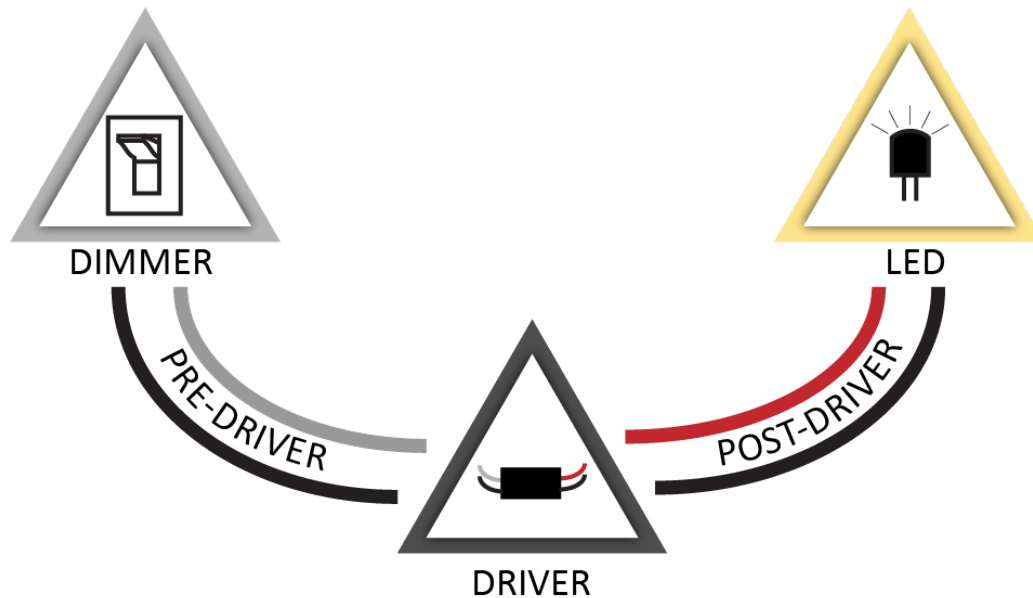
- Radio frequency wireless signal
- Uses wireless transceivers
- IP addresses for all devices
- Does not require a gateway
- Commands are given from a source and repeated
- Can dim to OFF without a relay





# PRE-DRIVER VS. POST-DRIVER

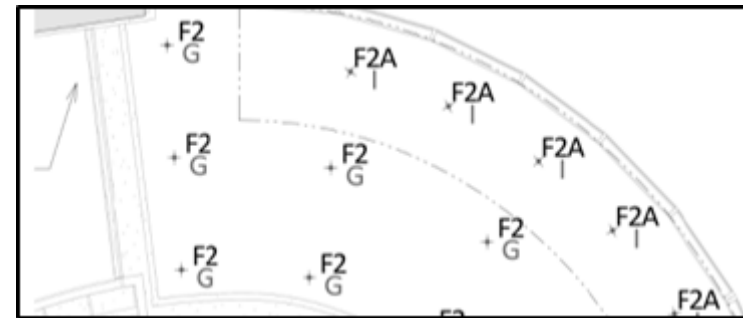
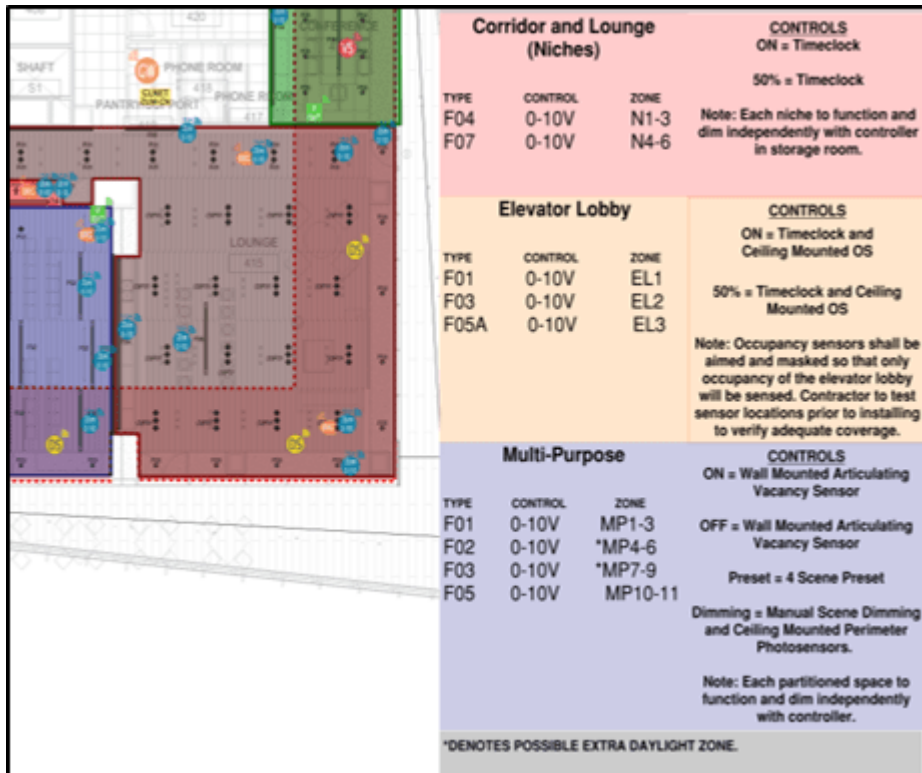
- Pre-driver is between the energy source and the driver
- Post-driver is between the driver and the LED





# DOCUMENTATION

## Zoning Diagram



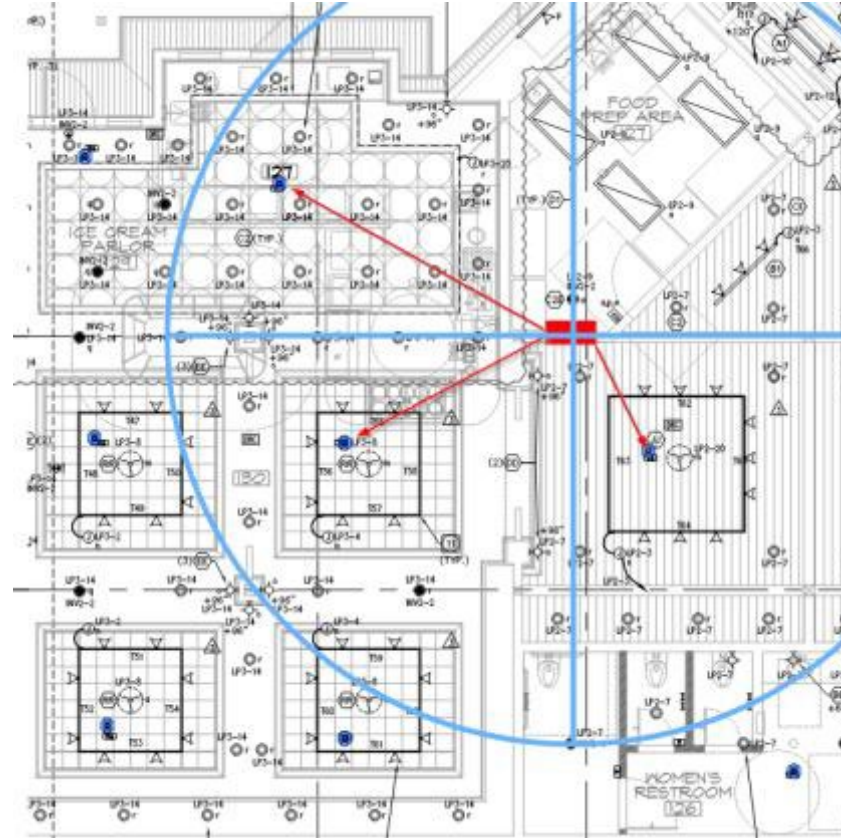
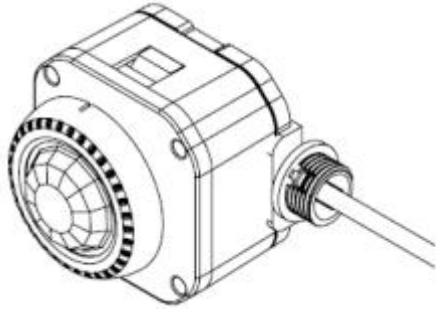


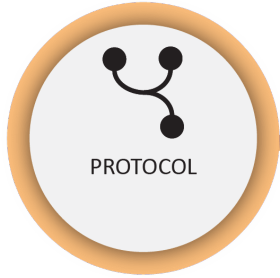


# DOCUMENTATION

Signal Range Diagram

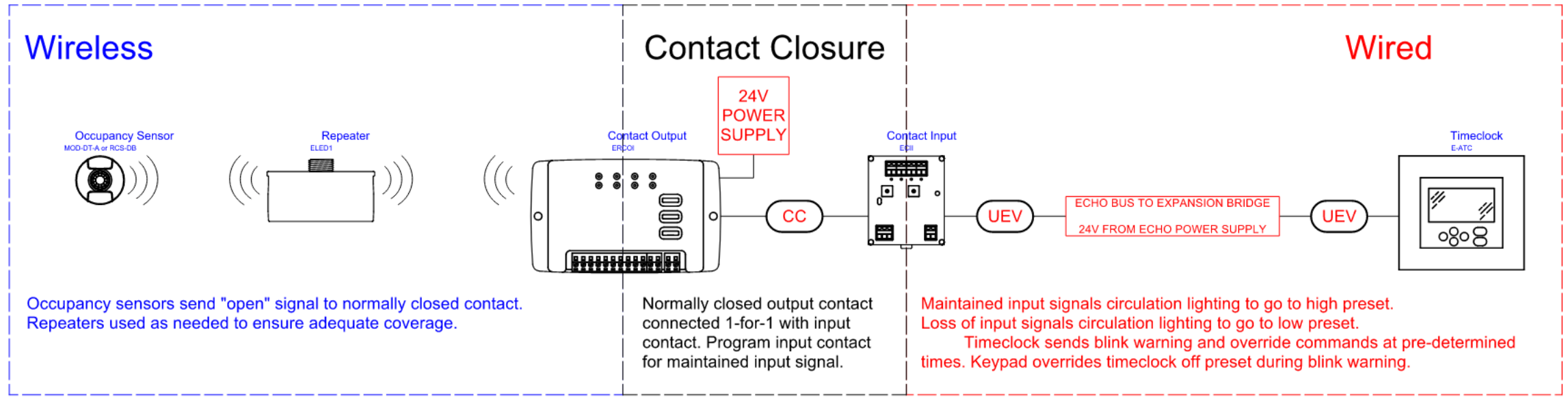
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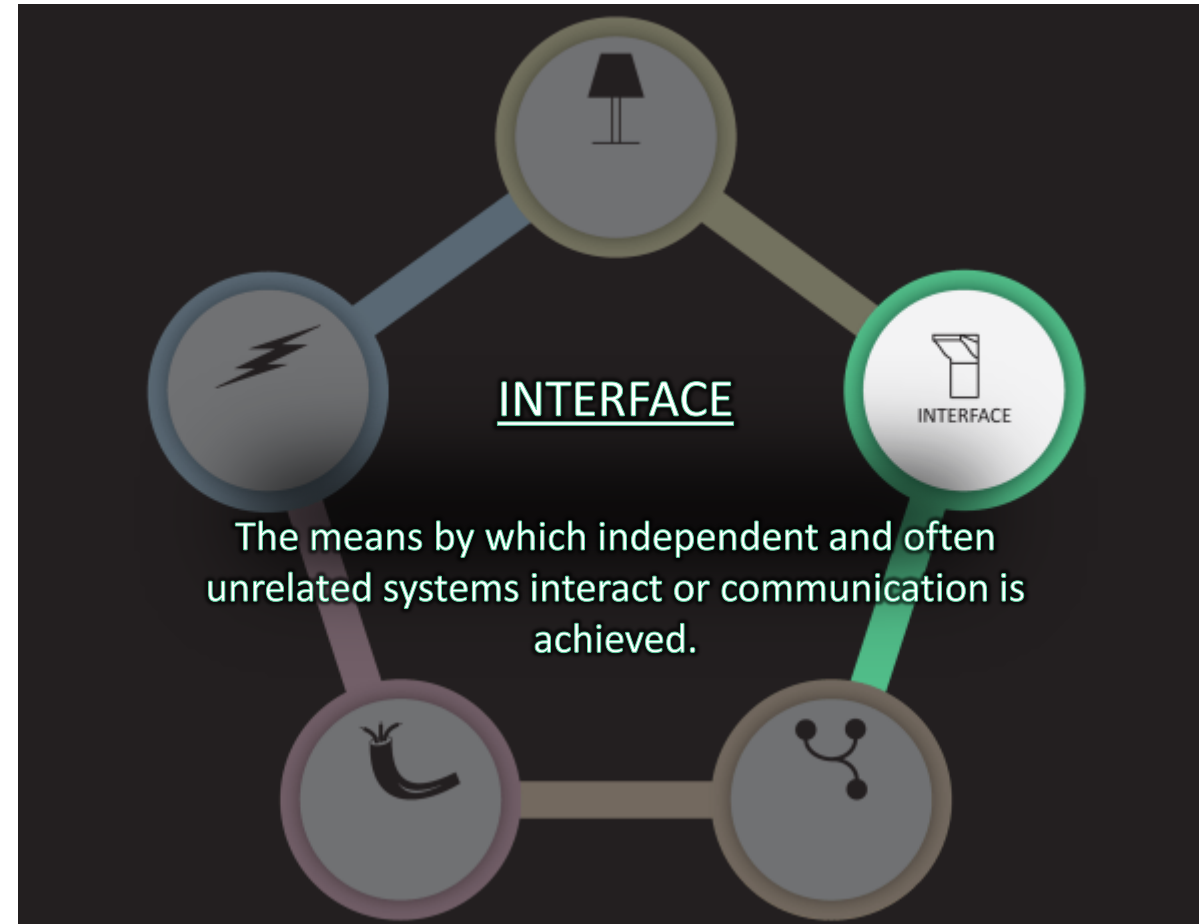


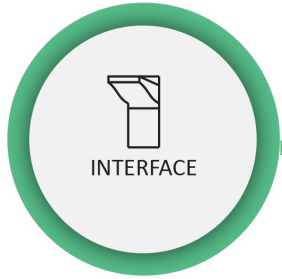


# DOCUMENTATION

## One-line Diagram







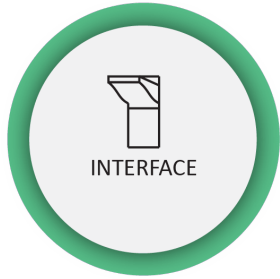
# EXAMPLES

Wireless Router



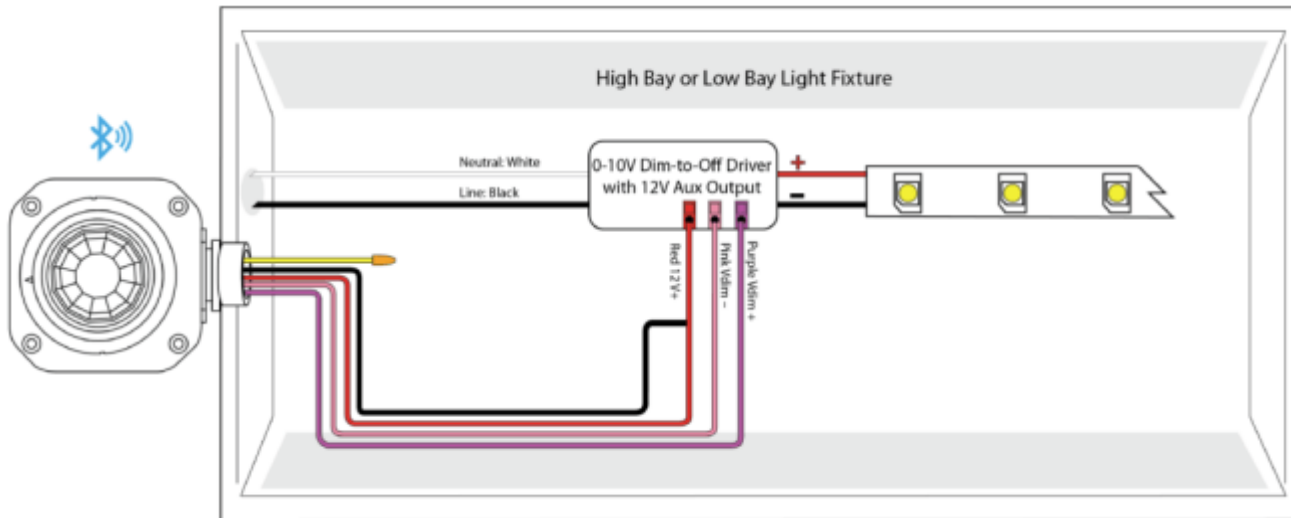
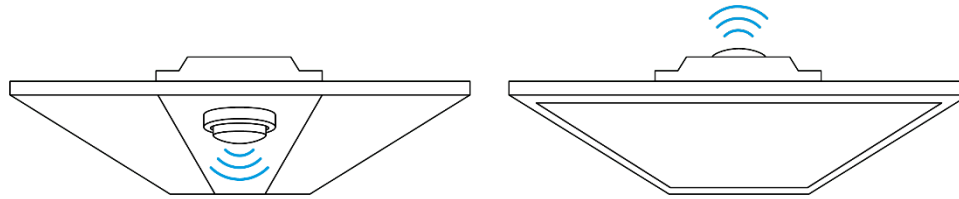
Image Credit: <https://freesvg.org/wireless-router-22770>

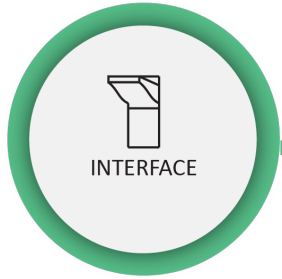




## EXAMPLES

- Integral Sensor



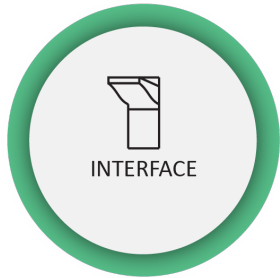


# DOCUMENTATION

## Control Intent Narrative

1. Integral and remote occupancy and daylight sensors for individual light fixture control:
  - A. Each light fixture has its own zone for independent control
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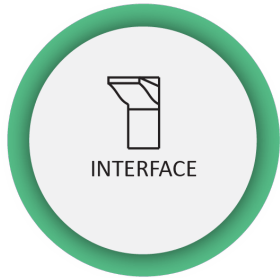


# DOCUMENTATION

## Sequence of Operations

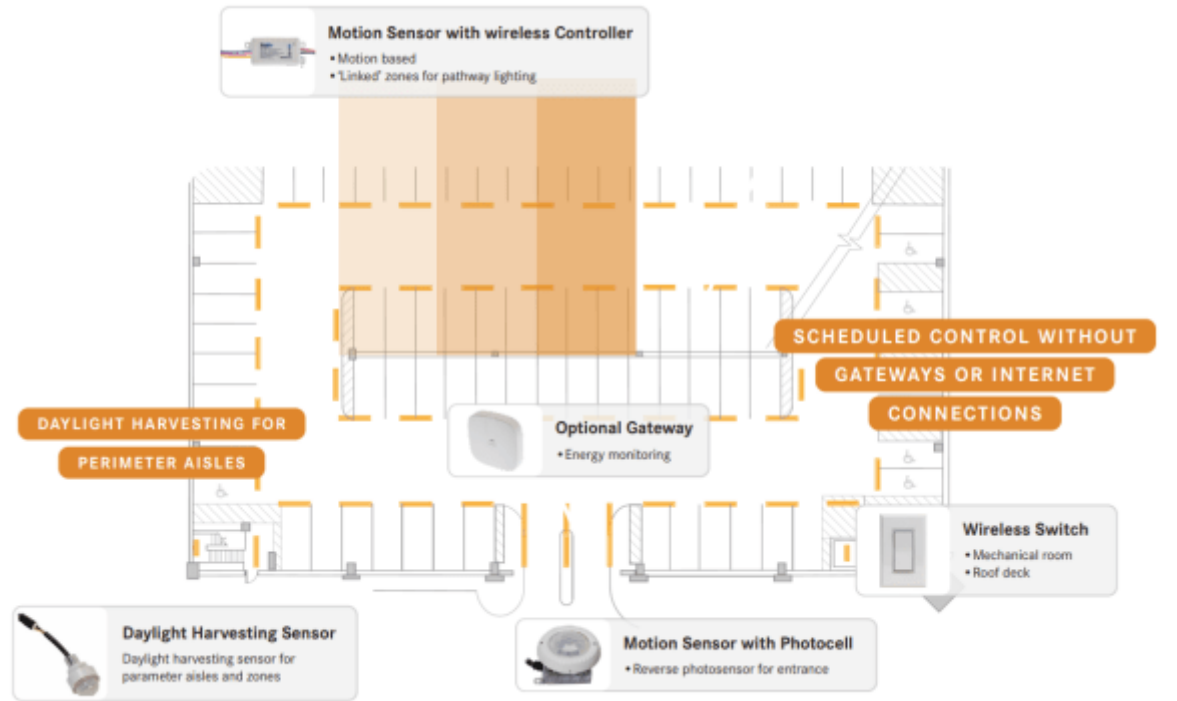
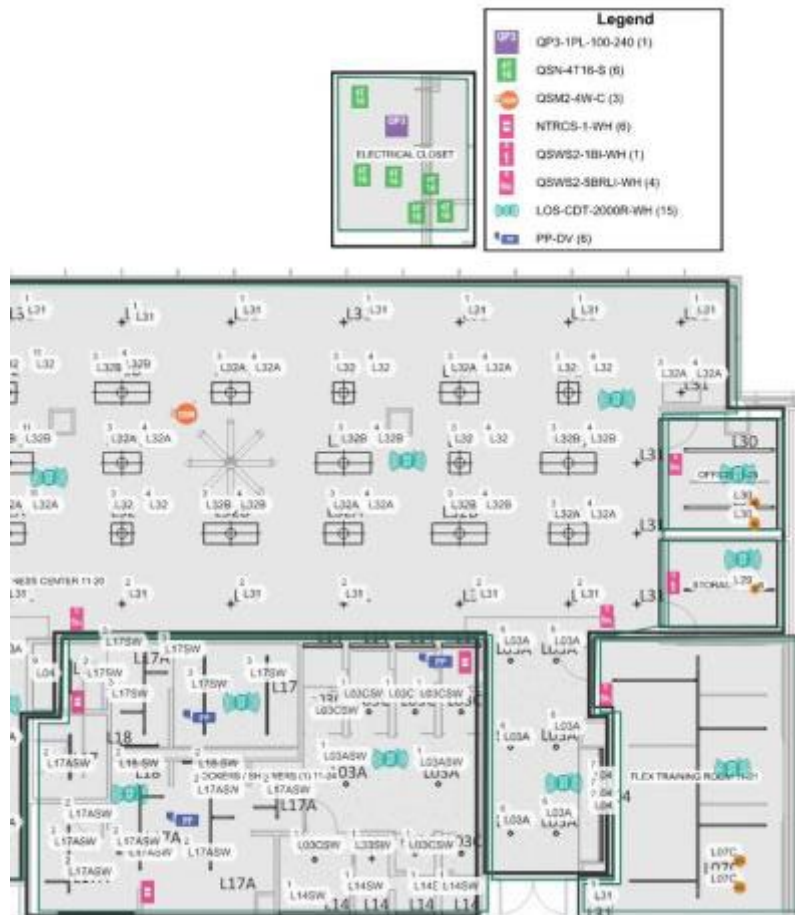
Application	ON/OFF Control						Light Level Control		Additional Control		Exterior		
	Local (i.e. Switch) Control	Manual ON	Partial Automatic ON	Full Automatic ON	Automatic Partial OFF Via Occupancy Sensor	Automatic Full OFF Via Occupancy Sensor	Scheduled Shut-off & OFF during non-business hours	BI-level Lighting Control	Automatic Day-light Responsive Controls for Side-lighting and Top-lighting	Parking Garage Lighting Power Set Back	Automatic Receptacle Footcandle (i.e. Plug Load control)	Exterior Lighting Controls	
Code Detail	There shall be one or more readily accessible manual lighting controls in the space. The controls shall be permitted for reasons of safety or security.	None of the lighting in the space shall be automatically turned on.	The general lighting shall be allowed to be turned on automatically to 50% of the lighting power.	Automatically controlled spaces are allowed to turn on to full.	The general lighting power shall be automatically reduced to 50% within 20 minutes of all occupants leaving the space. Note: Full Off also complies.	All lighting shall be automatically shut off within 20 minutes of all occupants leaving the space.	All lighting shall be automatically shut off during scheduled periods when the space is scheduled to be unoccupied using a time-of-day control device. A typical low-voltage automatic control device complies.	Controlled lighting shall have at least one control step between 50% and 70% or continuous dimming, in addition to full on and full off.	If the general lighting load is 75W or the primary daylighted or skylighted area, or a combination thereof, the general lighting in these areas shall be controlled by the lighting controls with dimming photocells.	Lighting power of each receptacle shall be automatically reduced by a minimum of 50% when there is no actively detected within a lighting zone for 15 minutes.	50% of all receptacles and 25% of branch circuits shall be automatically turned off by an occupant sensor with a time delay of all spaces. Note: A time-of-day schedule or a signal from another automatic control device complies.	9.4.1.4 [d] OFF control for exterior lighting shall comply with 9.4.1.4 [c] Scheduled OFF control	9.4.1.4 [e] Scheduled OFF control for exterior lighting shall comply with 9.4.1.4 [d] Occupancy sensing light reduction control
Code Address	9.4.1.1[a]	9.4.1.1[b]	9.4.1.1[c]	9.4.1.1	9.4.1.1[g]	9.4.1.1[h]	9.4.1.1[i], 9.4.1.1[j]	9.4.1.1[d]	9.4.1.1[e], 9.4.1.1[f]	9.4.1.2[b]	8.4.2	9.4.1.4[a,b,c]	9.4.1.4[d,e]
Space Type													
Enclosed Office, Copy / Print	■	■ OR ■	■	—	—	■	—	■	■	—	■	—	—
Open Office Plan	■	■ OR ■	■	■	—	■ OR ■	■	■	■	—	■	—	—
Conference, Meeting, Multi-purpose Room	■	■ OR ■	■	—	—	■	—	■	■	—	■	—	—
Classroom, Lecture Hall, Training Room	■	■ OR ■	■	—	—	■	—	■	■	—	■	—	—
Lobby	■	—	—	■	■	■ OR ■	■	■	■	—	—	—	—
Corridor, Egress	■	—	—	■	■	■ OR ■	■	■	■	—	—	—	—
Restroom	■	—	—	■	—	■	—	■	■	—	—	—	—
Non-exit Stairwell	■	—	—	■	■	■ OR ■	■	■	■	—	—	—	—
Gymnasium, Fitness Center	■	■ OR ■	■	—	—	■ OR ■	■	■	■	—	—	—	—
Warehouse, Storage Area	■	■ OR ■	■	—	■	■ OR ■	■	■	■	—	—	—	—
Parking Area (Garage Interior)	—	—	—	—	—	—	■	—	—	■	—	—	—
Exterior Lighting	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	■	■

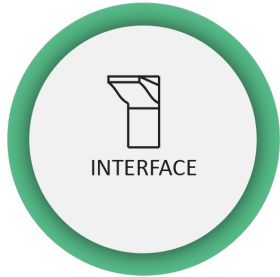




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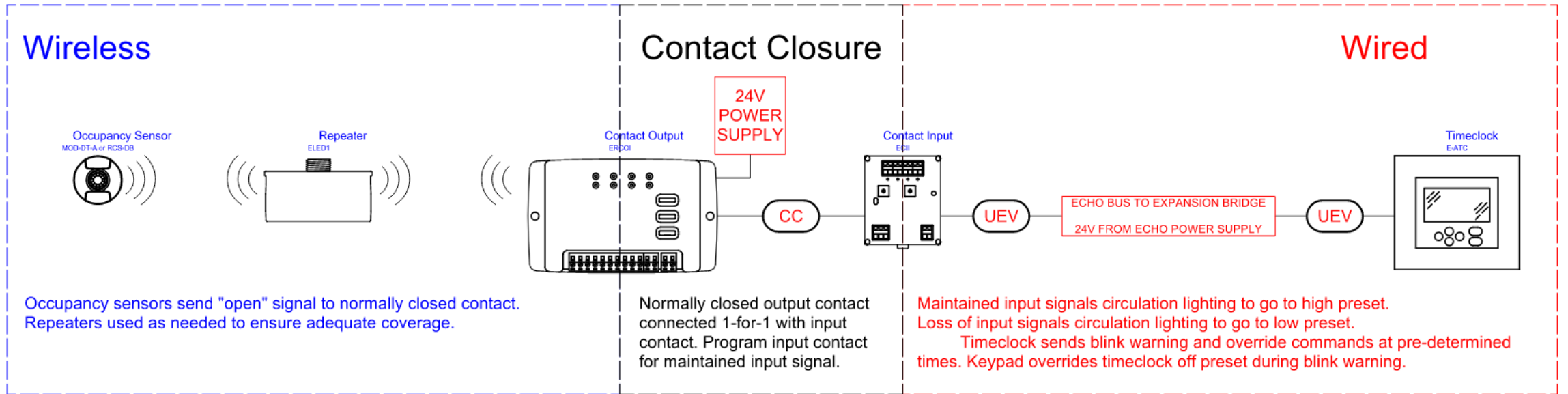
## Device Layout and Schedule

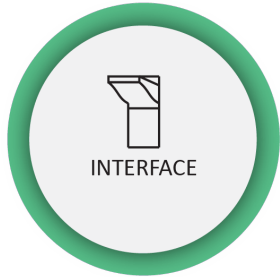




# DOCUMENTATION

## One-line and Wiring Diagram





# DOCUMENTATION

## The "Specs"

### PART 2 PRODUCTS

#### 2.01 0-10V Dimming Controller

##### A. General

1. Basis of Design:
2. Convert DMX512 signal to analogue DC.
3. Convert DMX512 signal to relay control.
4. Variants:
  - a. Variant 1: Eight relays.
  - b. Variant 2: Sixteen relays.

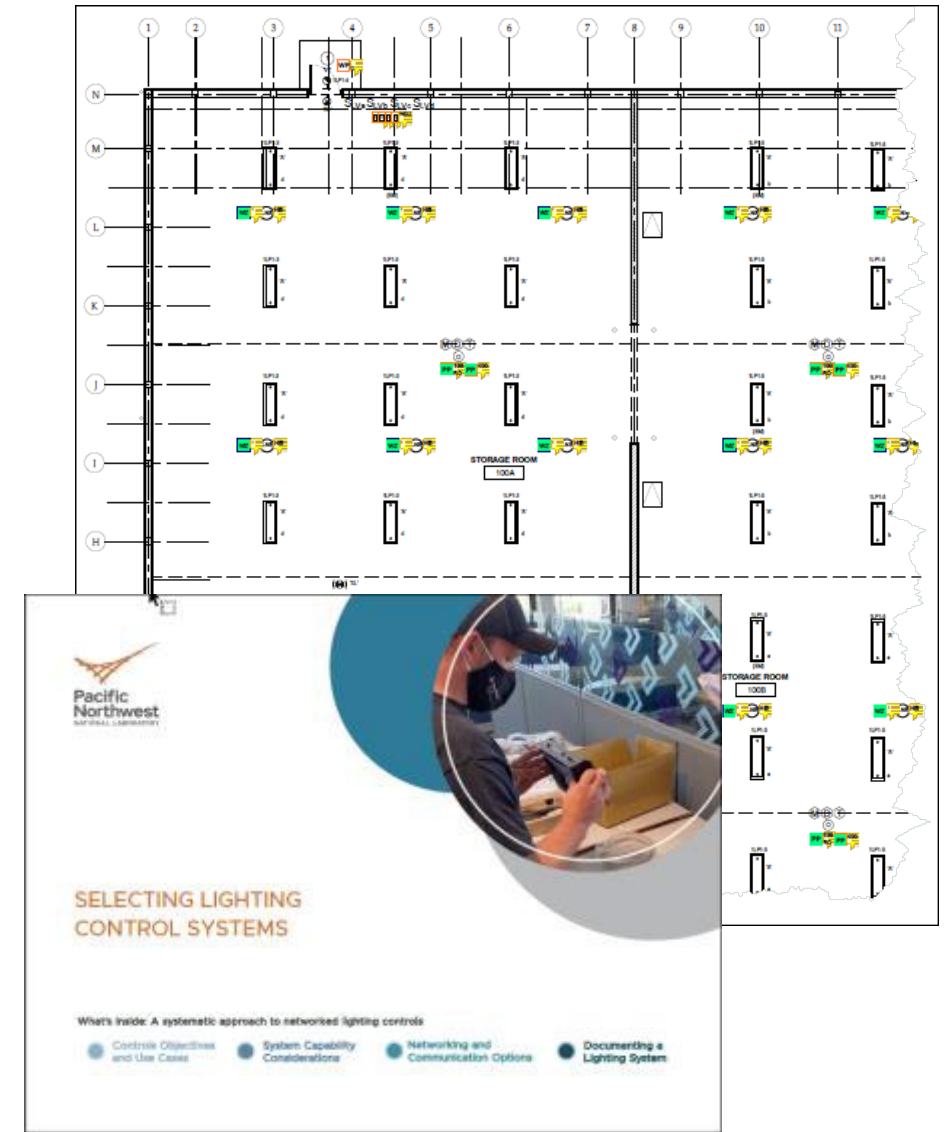
##### B. Mechanical

1. Housing:
  - a. Type 1 NEMA enclosure.
  - b. Black powder coat 18-gauge steel.
  - c. Four 3/4 inch, 1-inch, 1.25-inch line voltage conduit knockouts.
  - d. Two 3/4-inch low voltage conduit knockouts.
  - e. Front hinged cover.
  - f. Steel internal dead front hinged door and high voltage barrier.
2. Mounting: Four round keyholes.
3. Ports:
  - a. Two 3-pin male headers for DMX512.
  - b. One 14-pin double row male header for power in.
  - c. Four 10-pin double row male headers for relay output and input.
  - d. One 3-pin male header for contact closure.



# Building a Project Specification: Tips and Tricks

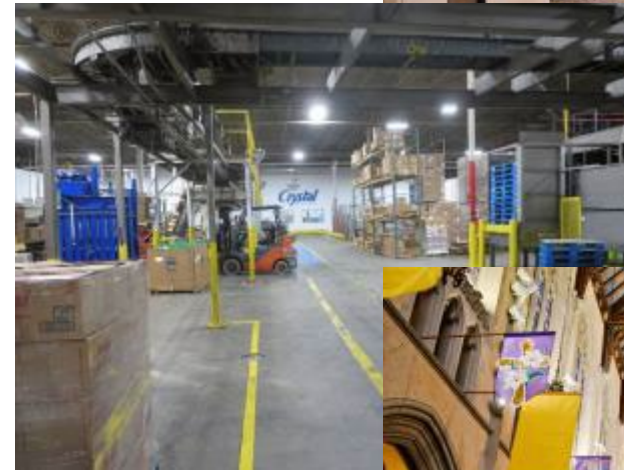
- Use manufacturer guideform specifications
- Most manufacturers will assist with drawings, wiring diagrams
- Refer to previous similar projects to leverage prior work
- New guide from PNNL





# Applications

- Ideal for retrofits
  - Reduces materials and installation costs by reducing need for wiring
  - Easy to scale over time
  - Flexible for challenging installation environments (concrete construction, historically significant structures)





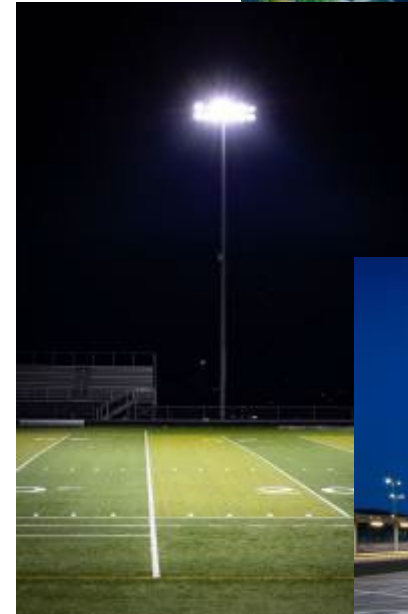
# Applications

- Great fit for new construction
  - Scalability and ease of adjustability for commercial office space
  - Dynamic scene control for hospitality and retail
  - Ease of use for education



# Applications

- Robust enough for outdoor projects
  - Area lighting
  - Sports fields
  - Parking lots
  - Parking garages



# Learnings from the Field

- No longer 'early adoption' stage . . . millions of square feet of installed wireless mesh projects in operation > 2 years
- Many manufacturers have published case studies on these projects that can provide insights into best practices and challenges encountered



Image credit: Packback.co



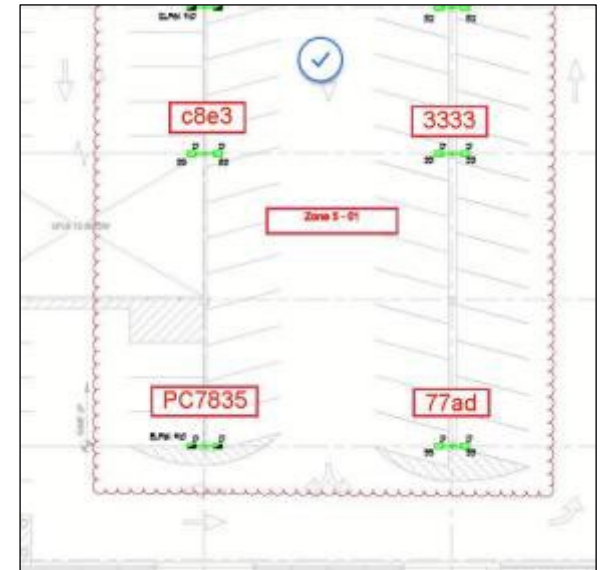
# Learnings from the Field: Range Anxiety

- Unanticipated environmental aspects can impact range
  - tree canopies in outdoor applications
  - wind in parking structures
- If these are possibilities, spec in more nodes to boost range



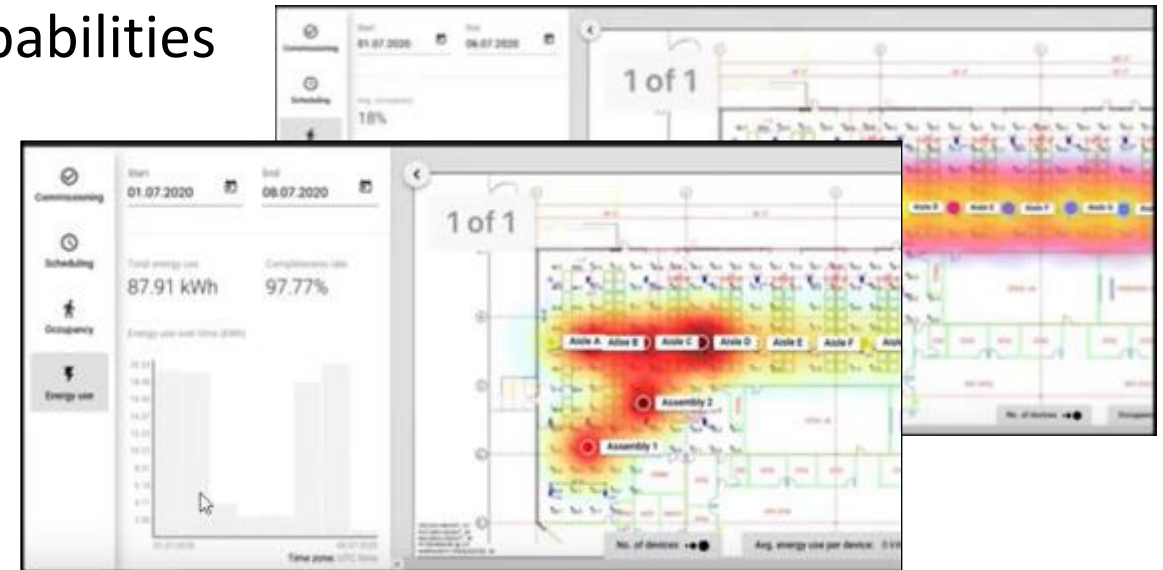
# Learnings from the Field: Zone control or LLLC?

- It doesn't have to be an 'either/or' proposition unless project goals specifically drive to one outcome
- Consider using both for different project spaces
- Consider using zone control as a 'starting point' since one of the benefits of wireless mesh is ease of future scalability



# Learnings from the Field: Gateway or No Gateway?

- Let the project goals drive this decision
- Many wireless mesh systems don't require gateways for basic functionality but do for advanced capabilities
- How important are:
  - Remote access
  - Data on occupancy patterns
  - Data on energy usage





# Additional Resources

- [Lighting Controls Association](#)
  - Education Express
  - LCA TV
- [Bluetooth mesh or Bluetooth NLC](#)
- [Zigbee](#)
- [IES eLearning Portal](#)
- [Pacific Northwest National Lab \(PNNL\)](#)
- [Lighting Controls Podcast](#)



This concludes The American Institute of Architects Continuing  
Education Systems Course

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