

Designers Light Forum

Wireless Control Systems: If Only You Could Get Them to Work Like You Want

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







Learning Objectives

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

- 1. Read between the lines of product descriptions
- 2. Understand practical approaches to making their system work
- 3. Write a specification to get what they want
- 4. Receive an update on new wireless systems in practice



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What We'll Cover Today

- NGLS timeline & developments since 2019
- The role of communication lessons learned
- Client to/from Specifier
- Manufacturer to/from Specifier
- Specifier to/from Installer
- Manufacturer to/from Installer
- Who talks to the user/client?
- What's Next for NGLS and the Living Lab

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What NGLS is All About





NGLS Timeline

2019 - 2020



NGLS Living Lab – Parsons, The New School, Midtown Manhattan







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Evaluating Configuration Complexity

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To find the real 'pressure points', *people* need to observe and evaluate the *people* installing and configuring the system in real time, without assistance - it just can't be done in a demonstration, mockup, or testing lab.

How this Presentation Will Work



- Client to/from Specifier
- Manufacturer to/from Specifier
- Specifier to/from Installer
- Manufacturer to/from Installer





Craig Bernecker, Ph.D., FIES, LC Professor of Lighting Design Director, MFA Lighting Program School of Constructed Environments Parsons School of Design

The Owner/ Client



Melanie Taylor, IALD, LEED AP, CLD Vice President, Lighting Design WSP

The Specifier



Dan Blitzer, FIES, LC, DLFNY Practical Lighting Workshop

The Manufacturer









Ruth Taylor NGLS Program Manager Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

The Contractor











Communication: Client to Specifier









NGLS Living Lab – The New School

Why Parsons?



NGLS Living Lab – Parsons, The New School, Midtown Manhattan

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Client/Owner Objectives

- Code at least cost
- Code as max performance
- Spatial productivity
- User productivity
- User experience
- Discretionary energy savings

NGLS Initial Focus

- Luminaire and control systems that are:
 - Marketed as "easy" to install and configure
 - Intended for contractor setup and configuration without prior training
 - Configurable without manufacturer assistance
 - No lighting designer involved

We had to start with the most basic systems to develop our evaluation protocols and procedures and come away with results and recommendations that are tangible and actionable.

Evaluating Configuration Complexity

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To find the real 'pressure points', *people* need to observe and evaluate the *people* installing and configuring the system in real time, without assistance - it just can't be done in a demonstration, mockup, or testing lab.

Conversation: Specifier to Client

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Task Plane Illumination	Illuminance Uniformity	Maximum Luminance Ratio	
Average initial at full power	Average to minimum across work plane	Between task and immediate background surfaces	Between task and distant background surfaces (ceiling, walls, floor)
45 – 55 fc	2:1	3:1	10:1 or 1:10

Connected Lighting Power Density of not more than 1.0 w/SF

Example

Example

	37.9 42	.7 44.7 45.	9 46.6 45.:	2 43.5 41.0 34.	110
	43.4 50	.2 51.9 53.	4 54.7 52.3	2 50.4 48.9 41.	, Ill
)	46.0 82	.9 54.8 56.	5 57.8 55.	5 53.5 \$1.4 45.	Max Min
	50.6 58	.2 60.1 61.	5 62.9 60.3	1 58.0 56.0 48.	AVG Max
	52.4 60	.0 62.4 63.	5 64.2 61.1	7 59.3 56.1 46.	7
	52.6 60	.5 62.2 63.	1 65.2 61.0	0 58.8 55.0 45.	
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	50.4 58	.1 60.8 62.	0 62.9 60.3	1 57.1 52.8 42.	9
	49.5 57	.5 59.5 60.	5 61.8 58.4	9 56.2 53.1 43.	2
	45.5 82	.5 54.5 55.	9 156.8 54.1	5 52.5 49.8 42.	
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M	38.2 43	.6 45.5 46.	5 47.8 45.	5 43.9 42.0 37.	5

Illuminance (Fc) Average = 52.95 Maximum = 65.2 Minimum = 34.1 Avg/Min Ratio = 1.55 Max/Min Ratio = 1.91

LPD Area Summary						
Area	Total Watts	LPD				
550.2	210.6	0.383				
Control Performance Requirements

- **1. Vacancy control** (manual on/auto off) of two zones with a time out period of 5 minutes.
- Manual continuous dimming of the same two zones indicated in item 1. Minimum dimming level of each zone shall be ≤ 10% of lumen output.
- **3. Daylight harvesting** to maintain task plane illumination at the current level provided by the electric lighting (whether full output, task-tuned, or manual dimmed).
- **4. Field-adjustable high-end trim** to lower maximum system light output. System shall be delivered with high-end trim set at 100%.
- 5. Control settings shall be adjustable by the user **without factory assistance**.

Sensor Location



Sensors in Each Luminaire





Central Sensor





Vocabulary

Gaps and confusion between client and specifier

- Site, building, project
- Room, group, zone
- Device, fixture, switch, sensor, node
- Hub, bridge, gateway
- Discover, find
- Profile, scene, behavior
- Configure, program, adjust, commission
- Write, save, apply, confirm, push
- Timeout period, hold time, prolong time



Communication: Specifier to Manufacturer



NGLS Specification

- **1. Vacancy control** (manual on/auto off) of two zones with a time out period of 5 minutes.
- Manual continuous dimming of the same two zones indicated in item 1. Minimum dimming level of each zone shall be ≤ 10% of lumen output.
- **3. Daylight harvesting** to maintain task plane illumination at the current level provided by the electric lighting (whether full output, task-tuned, or manual dimmed).
- **4. Field-adjustable high-end trim** to lower maximum system light output. System shall be delivered with high-end trim set at 100%.
- 5. Control settings shall be adjustable by the user **without factory assistance**.

NGLS Vacancy Control Spec

- Specification
 - System shall provide for vacancy control (manual on/auto off) of two zones, with a user-adjustable time out period of 5 minutes.

Does the Product Meet the Spec – Vacancy Control

- Manufacturer Documentation
 - 1 System Brochure



Occupancy/vacancy sensing turns lights on when occupants are in a space and off when they vacate the space.

3 - Programming Guide

Sensitivity

Tap "Sensitivity" to adjust the sensitivity of the occupancy/vacancy

Timeout

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Tap "Timeout" to change the occupancy timeout for fixture sensors.

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2 - Sensor
Specification
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Default Sensor Settings for DFCSJ-OEM-OCC (adjustable ONLY via the Vive hub user interface unless otherwise noted)

- Occupancy sensor timeout: 15 minutes
- Occupancy sensor sensitivity: Medium
- Mode: Occupancy detection (auto-ON, auto-OFF)

System shall provide daylight harvesting to maintain task plane illumination at the current level provided by the electric lighting (whether full output, task-tuned, or manual dimmed). When daylight contribution exceeds task plane illumination, luminaires shall operate at lowest dimmed level (stay illuminated until switched off manually or by presence detection control).



Does the Product Meet the Spec - Daylighting

• Manufacturer Documentation



3 - Programming Guide/User Manual

With the closed loop approach, the sensor controls the fixture it is directly connected to. A closed loop sensor "looks" at the surface directly below the sensor. It reads the reflected light level from the surface including light contributed by the electric light and the daylight that falls within the sensor's view. As daylight contribution increases, the sensor dims the electric light to keep the light level on the surface as consistent as possible. If bright daylight causes the surface light level to be above the desired level even after the light level has been fully dimmed, after a period of time the fixture will dim to OFF. As daylight contribution decreases and the surface light level lowers, the fixture will turn back ON and then raise the amount of electric light accordingly.

Does not meet spec



Sensor Location

Daylight Sensor Physical Configuration										
Entrant	Mounting	Location in Luminaire Housing								
Lumenwerx	Luminaire-integrated	End								
Selux	Luminaire-integrated	End								
Cooper	Luminaire-integrated	End								
Signify 1	Luminaire-integrated	End								
Silvair	Luminaire-integrated	End								
Cree	Luminaire-integrated	End								
Lutron	Luminaire-integrated	End								
Acuity	Luminaire-integrated ¹	End								
LG	Luminaire-integrated ¹	End								
Signify 2	Luminaire-integrated	Side								
Maxlite	Luminaire-integrated	Side								
Crestron	Central (1 sensor)	NA								
RAB	Central (1 sensor)	NA								
Nextek	Central (2 sensors)	NA								

¹ Integrated sensor included in half of the luminaires, not in each luminaire.

NGLS Spec - Zones and Dimming

System shall provide manual continuous dimming of two zones. Minimum dimming level of each zone shall be $\leq 10\%$ of lumen output.



Does the Product Meet the Spec – Zones and Dimming

- Manufacturer Documentation
- 1 System Website

	Local Netwo	rked Solutions	System-Wide Networked Solutions	Software + Connected Building	
Controls Enabled Luminaires	•	•			
Manual Dimming		•			
Motion Sensing & Daylight Harresting			•	•	
Plug Load Control		٠	•		
Mobile Apps for Device Configuration	•	•	•	•	
Dynamic Tunable White		•			
Astronomical and Time of Day Scheduling				٠	
Automated Demand Response (ADR)			•	•	
BMS Integration (BACnet)			•	•	
Sitewide configuration + Management			•	•	
System Visualization + Utilization Dashboards					
Unified Lighting + BMS					

Features + Benefits by Solution



. Users can also select to prohibit or allow manual change on the scene switch.

2 - Programming Guide/User Manual

Looks like dim to 0%

Conflicting/ Overlapping Zones

Presentation Zone -Lights should dim when the projector screen is in use. Active control by the user.



Daylighting Zone – Lights should dim when daylight is detected to maintain target light levels. Passive control.

What does this fixture do? What command takes precedence?

Vocabulary

Gaps and confusion between specifie and manufacturer

- Site, building, project
- Room, group, zone
- Device, fixture, switch, sensor, node
- Hub, bridge, gateway
- Discover, find
- Profile, scene, behavior
- Configure, program, adjust, commission
- Write, save, apply, confirm, push
- Timeout period, hold time, prolong time



Communication: Manufacturer to Specifier



Evaluated System Approaches

Entries can be categorized by how manufacturers approached:

- System Architecture
- Wall Controls
- User-configurable features
- Configuration Tools
- Documentation and Instructions



Submitted Systems

Control	Luminaire	System	Entrant	
nLight Air	Acuity	Single Source	Acuity	*
Wavelinx	Cooper	Single Source	Cooper	*
SmartCast	Cree	Single Source	Cree	*
SensorConnect	LG	Single Source	LG	*
LightCloud	RAB	Single Source	RAB	*
SpaceWise (2)	Signify	Single Source	Signify	*
Zum (Crestron)	Starfire	Compound	Crestron	**
Magnum Energy Solutions	LumenWerx	Compound	LumenWerx	
Vive (Lutron)	Orion	Compound	Lutron	**
Avi-On Air	Maxlite	Compound	Maxlite	
Nextek		Compound	Nextek	**
EasySense (Signify)	Selux	Compound	Selux	
Silvair	Finelite	Compound	Silvair	**

Submitted System Luminaires

- Luminaires (9)
 - recessed 2x2s (4)
 - pendants (5)
- Retrofit Kits (5)
 - 2x4 (3)
 - 2x2 (1)
 - 1x4 (1)







Submitted System Lighting Performance

- Efficacy range: 94-140 lm/W
- Wattage Range: 24-70 watts
- Measured Illuminance: 30-57 fc (45-55 fc)
- Calculated Power Density: 0.36-0.81 W/sf (< 1 W/sf)

System Architecture –

	Least Complex (9)	Moderately Complex (2)	Most Complex (3)
Components	Luminaire-integrated sensor and control	Luminaire-integrated sensor and control	Remote mounted sensor and control
	Wall switch	Wall switch Local area network device	Wall switch
Connection	Wireless	Wireless	Wired Wireless PoE



User-Configurable Settings

Daylight Harvesting Operational Configuration										
Entrant	Design	Default Operation	Calibration	Response	Manual Override	User-configurable Settings				
Signify	Closed loop	Enabled	Auto	Individual	Yes	Enable/Disable				
Cree	Closed loop	Enabled	Auto	Individual	Yes	• Specify minimum dim level (%)				
Cooper	Closed loop	Disabled	Auto	Individual	Yes	Enable/DisableSet daylighting target (fc)				
Lutron	Closed loop	Enabled	Auto	Individual	Yes	 Enable/Disable Set DLH target with +/- slider 				
Acuity	Closed loop	Enabled	Auto or User	Individual or zoned*	Yes	Enable/DisableSet daylighting target (fc)				
Silvair	Open /Closed*	Disabled	User	Individual or zoned*	Yes	Enable/disableSet daylighting target (fc)				

Zoning for Daylight Sensing





Grouping for Occupancy Sensing



On board sensors controlling entire room (6)



Onboard sensors controlling each zone separately (5)

System Analysis – Wall Controls

W%	}	ŴŇ	W	21Ŵ					1 3%	W		100			W		W
64%	36%	64%	36%	21%	64%	14%	21%	36%	43%	50%	21%	29%	50%	14%	36%	43%	50%

Wall Controls



Pre-configured Rocker (6 Systems)



Pre-configured Multi Button (3 Systems)



Site Configurable Rocker (3 Systems)



Site Configurable Multi Button (2 Systems)

Configuration Tools



Handheld Tool



Phone App (10)



Computer Front-end

Communication: Manufacturer to Contractor

Key Challenges

- Wide variety of systems
- One room no learning curve
- No site assistance or training



Installation Instructions



Communication: Contractor to Manufacturer

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Start Up Questions

- Where do I find start up instructions? Are they online?
- Will the system operate once power is provided to the fixtures and the wall switches, or are additional start-up steps needed?
- Are there remote sensors (occupancy/daylighting) that need to be configured during initial start-up?
- Are the initial control settings pre-configured, or do control settings have to be configured onsite to enable operation?
- How do I pair the luminaires to the light switches?
- Do any devices need updated firmware before start up?



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Configuration Tool Questions

- What type of configuration tool do I need? Where do I download it? Is this the right version?
- What type phone do I need?
- Who do I give the login credentials to? Who will be maintaining the system?
- Is there an instructional video to watch?
- How do I use the app to group the devices? I'm not sure about the zoning, where do I find that information?
- Can someone explain exactly how the system will be used?



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Wall Control Questions

- Do the wall switches need line power? Are the wall switches hard-wired to the luminaires for control, or is control accomplished wirelessly?
- How do I pair the switches to the luminaires?
- What if a switch is damaged or needs to be replaced? How will the system recognize the new switch?
- Do the wall controls need extra labels or a placard to clarify operation?



Vocabulary Confusion

When <u>configuring</u> the <u>room</u> at your <u>site</u>, <u>find</u> the <u>device</u> and <u>apply</u> the <u>behavior</u> to the <u>project</u> file.

When <u>programming</u> the <u>zone</u> in your <u>project</u>, <u>discover</u> the <u>fixture</u> and <u>write</u> the <u>profile</u> to the <u>building</u> file.

Find the bridge location before programming the prolong time.

<u>Discover</u> the <u>hub</u> location before <u>configuring</u> the <u>timeout period</u>.

Installer Thoughts

- Information (documentation) communicated to my boss often does not get to me in the field.
- Reading details takes a lot of extra time.
- If something looks familiar, I'm going to skip reading the documentation to save time.
- Age does make a difference if I need a phone app and a password I might need to get 'the kid' to do it.
- The big picture matters, tell me what you're trying to do.
- Use vocabulary I'm familiar with, a 'device' is not a lighting fixture or a wall switch to me.
- Think about how I see things in the field (from a ladder), the perspective might be different.
- I'm a lot smarter than you think and I'm really good at what I do.




Communication: Facility Manager to the Team



Facilities Managers

- I don't have time for this.
- What are the warranties if something goes wrong?
- I can only deal with the complaint in front of me, one at a time.



Vacancy Sensing

"I think everyone is aware that the lighting in room 623 got changed during winter break and has been a problem throughout this semester. I'm having the same teachers coming and complaining to me each week about the lights turning off just a minute or two after they turn them on. I've moved the teachers that I can out of that room but there are some that I have no choice but to leave them there and those teachers are getting frustrated."

"I'm wondering if there is any trick to the lighting in there that I don't understand, or if there is a plan to change the lighting back to make it uniform with the other rooms."

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Work Order #011770908 (Created Tuesday, November 13, 2018 6:04 PM)

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Message from Kazumi Namiki:

Please check the lights immediately. I opened this request on 10/27 and has no work done yet. Please fix it by tomorrow afternoon. My class starts 6pm and really needs proper lightning.

Custom Task

The lights in the room haven't been fixed yet. It is going to be a health issue. Please fix them immediately.

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"Please be advised that our electrician evaluated the lighting issue at 79 Fifth Avenue Room 910. It appears to be a wireless lighting system and found no communication from the box to the switch. We need you to contact the person responsible for installing the departmental lighting project immediately and have them reprogram the box. In the interim, we had to bypass this system but this only allows the lights to remain on at all times. We need to leave the light on because there are evening classes scheduled in this room."







Facilities Managers

- I don't have time for this.
- What are the warranties if something goes wrong?
- I can only deal with the complaint in front of me, one at a time.
- The system doesn't work and I have no way to even get the lights on except the electrical panel down the hall.





Work Order #011690833 (Created Tuesday, October 30, 2018 1:45 PM)

Message from Facilities Management:

Hi Anna Our staff are looking into this. We'll get back to you as soon as possible Luana

Custom Task

Comment from faculty member who requested a lighting fix: "There is only one light switch and it only operates half the room. It looks like there used to be another switch, but is gone.

I cannot turn off the lights in the front half of the room- where I need it to be darker for projections."

Facilities Managers

- I don't have time for this.
- What are the warranties if something goes wrong?
- I can only deal with the complaint in front of me, one at a time.

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- The system doesn't work and I have no way to even get the lights on except the electrical panel down the hall.
- Someone stole the light switch again.









As an English Language Studies instructor, I'm requesting guidance regarding the lighting in room 908. Below are some of the issues I encountered in this morning's class, Building D, room 908, CRN 2842, 9:00am- 11:40am:

1. **MANUAL CONTROL:** I was not able to find a way to turn the lights on, off, or dim. This poses a challenge when we explore color and video during the class session, which we will do throughout the semester. Is it possible to turn manually turn the lights on and off as needed?

2. SENSORS: Three times during today's session the lights went out. I guess because the students were engaged in a whole class discussion, a reading task, and a writing task. Not much time had passed before the lights went out each time. Is it possible for the sensors to be adjusted to go a bit longer without movement in the room before the lights go out?

3. **USE of ALL LIGHTS:** It seems that not all of the lights are on in the classroom. To add more light for in-class reading and writing, I pulled the shades up, but that resulted in less ability to see the projected screen while beams of sunlight were shone on students. On cloudy days, this option might not add much light. There are 19 students registered for the class. Is it possible to have more light in the classroom?

LE: ucation



Room Placards







Work Order #014164768 (Created Wednesday, February 19, 2020 11:44 AM)

Custom Task

When lights are turned off they turn on 10-15 seconds after. Lighting is not working. Needs lights off for class when showing videos.

Reconfiguration

- How do you figure out if a system is performing correctly?
- How do you change settings if it's not?
- Have you downloaded the app? Is it the latest version? Who has the password?
- Do the instructions you have match the new version of the app?

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- What if a switch breaks?
- What if you need to apply a firmware update?

Facilities Managers

- I don't have time for this.
- What are the warranties if something goes wrong?
- I can only deal with the complaint in front of me, one at a time.

Wireless Control Systems: If Only You Could Get Them to Work Like You Want!



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High Level Takeaways







Closing Thoughts

- Some standard vocabulary is essential
- Think about who will be on the ladder and how they get their information
- Both quick start guides, and detailed instructions are needed
- Don't assume just because you made it easy that it is easy, get feedback from the right people
- Local presence onsite is more critical with unfamiliar technologies









NGLS Living Lab -Next Steps

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QUESTIONS?



This concludes The American Institute of Architects Continuing Education Systems Course



