

FALL 2024

WATTS CURRENT

@ ETI

QUARTERLY STUDENT NEWSLETTER



Escape Room NEC Challenge

From the Training Director	Page 2
NECA Convention	Page 3
EMPOWER	Page 10
Safety Matters	Page 12



From the Training Director's Desk

I'd like to start our Fall article by talking about some ongoing projects and improvements happening at the ETI. .

You may have seen new maps posted on the walls of the corridors. ETI staff have worked hard on our evacuation protocols. We now have designated muster areas in the parking lots, emergency radios, a mass notification system, and display boards. We will be doing drills to make sure staff and students know what to do in the event of an emergency. Please take a moment to look at these maps so you know where to go from your classroom and check out the door frames inside of each classroom that reminds you which muster area to go to.

I am excited to announce our newest staff member, Outreach Coordinator Miguel Sanchez. Miguel is a homegrown wireman and brings a lot of energy and enthusiasm to his new post. He will represent us at job fairs, local programs, and other community events across LA County. Miguel is also helping with the many tours we host at our renowned facility for outside schools and community groups.

We have launched our online class payment system! By going on to our website: [New Submission \(laett.com\)](http://laett.com); you can locate the class you are looking for, register and pay from your computer or phone. This is now a multi-step process, so please monitor your emails to ensure all steps are completed timely.

The ETI played a part in the annual NECA convention that was held in San Diego at the end of September. It is the largest event in the electrical trade industry, and this year, our apprentices were invited to attend. We also taught some courses unique to Los Angeles for contractors from around the country. For the first time, there was an NEC-based escape room designed by us that was the star of the show. Special thanks go out to Steve Rose (Assistant Training Director), Geoff Gardner (Senior Instructor), and the rest of the team for the hours they have put in to create a truly remarkable idea and bring it to life.

Lastly, you may notice that our old classroom furniture is being updated. You wouldn't believe how much gum was stuck underneath every old table! The new tables have received great feedback from students. I hope you will appreciate the improvement and take pride in the upgrades.

David Nott
Training Director
D899684



ETI SHINES AT THE 2024 NECA CONVENTION IN SAN DIEGO

The 2024 National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) Convention, held in San Diego, was an event to remember, with the Electrical Training Institute (ETI) playing a key role in showcasing innovative training and hands-on demonstrations. ETI had the honor of presenting four cutting-edge labs that demonstrated the school's commitment to preparing electricians for the evolving demands of the electrical industry.

Lab Presentations Highlight Innovation

The four labs presented by ETI instructors covered essential topics in modern electrical work:

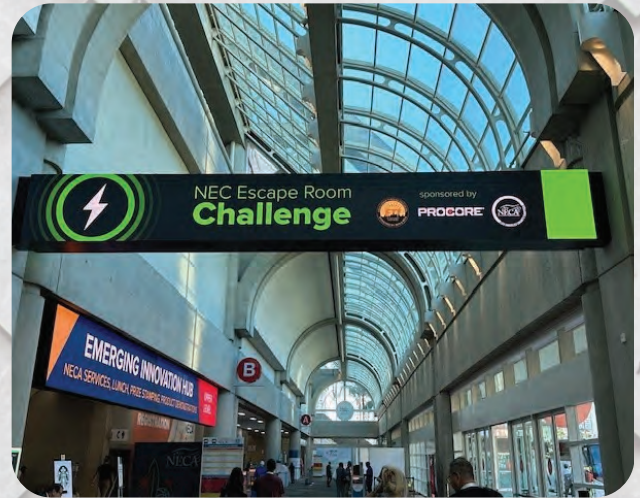
1. **Life Safety Distributed Antenna Systems (DAS)** – Led by Joe Mendiola and Albert Martinez, this lab focused on the critical role of DAS in maintaining reliable communication for emergency responders in large buildings. Attendees learned how this technology enhances safety, especially in complex environments
2. **Intelligent Video Network Technologies** – Instructors Mike Landrum and Miguel Mejia took the lead in this session, showcasing how advanced video surveillance systems, like those from Avigilon, integrate with building networks to provide enhanced security and situational awareness.
3. **Advanced Lighting Controls** - This lab, presented by Mike Zehm and Kevin Coke, demonstrated the latest in lighting control systems, emphasizing energy efficiency, occupant comfort, and compliance with evolving building codes.
4. **Cyber-Security and Smart Building Energy Management Strategies** – Pat Gorham and Tom Forbes delivered an insightful session on protecting smart building systems from cyber threats while optimizing energy use, a topic at the forefront of smart building design.



- Training Director David Nott
- Assistant Training Director Steve Rose
- Senior Instructors Pete Drimilis, Geoff Gardner, and Ben Hess
- Lab and Equipment Specialist Roland Figueredo
- Instructors Pat Gorham, Tom Forbes, Mike Zehm, Kevin Coke, Mike Landrum, Miguel Mejia, Joe Mendiola, and Albert Martinez.

ETI SHINES AT THE 2024 NECA CONVENTION IN SAN DIEGO...

In a historic first, ETI became the only apprenticeship program ever involved at the NECA convention, providing four different labs and also hosting the groundbreaking **Escape Room NEC Challenge**. This unique event, developed by ETI, tested apprentices' skills and knowledge of the National Electrical Code (NEC) in a fun, interactive format. The challenge quickly became the talk of the show, with participants racing against the clock to answer and solve code-based questions on a steam-punk themed puzzle board.



Senior Vice President of Education, Events, and Partnerships for NECA, **Pete Mastorocco**, gave a special shout-out to Assistant Training Director **Steve Rose** and the entire ETI team for their creativity and effort in making the Escape Room NEC Challenge such a success. Mastorocco highlighted ETI's dedication to pushing the boundaries of electrical training and engaging the next generation of electricians in innovative ways.

Apprentices from multiple Southern California JATC'S competed in the challenge, including a strong showing from out of state **Local 640** in Phoenix, AZ, which had five of the top ten finalists. **Jovan Garcia**, a talented apprentice from **Local 11**, took home first place, earning a \$500 prize and a **Milwaukee drill and impact driver set**.

The NEC Escape Room Challenge captivated the attention of everyone at the convention, leaving a lasting impression on all who participated and sparking excitement about future ETI programs.

A Bright Future Ahead

The 2024 NECA Convention was a proud moment for ETI, showcasing the institute's role in leading the way for the electrical industry. The four labs, along with the innovative Escape Room NEC Challenge, reflect ETI's commitment to providing world-class training and hands-on learning experiences that set apprentices up for success in the field.

As always, ETI remains at the forefront of advancing the electrical trade, and we look forward to seeing what exciting innovations will come next.



Steve Rose
Assistant Training Director
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The Coordinator's Corner

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

We want to take this opportunity to remind our apprentices how valuable YOU are to our industry. It is estimated that the demand for skilled union electricians and low voltage technicians will grow approximately 6% each year over the next decade. The future looks bright for individuals willing to embrace and learn our trade! If you are reading this article, then you are most likely an active apprentice or aspiring to become an apprentice with so many opportunities waiting for you.

This program is the gateway to a rewarding career and can offer as much training as you are willing to invest in yourself. It is completely up to YOU to decide how much you want to improve, learn and grow. The opportunity is yours to take your career to heights never imagined if you choose to take it seriously. There are literally thousands of willing and able candidates waiting for an opportunity to join our apprenticeship program. Every month we continue to drop people from the program for not following policies, poor grades, and / or work performance and it is a shame.

We want to encourage each apprentice to utilize the many resources available to offer support, whether it be tutoring, job site issues, personal issues etc. We all face many of the same issues and there is no need to go it alone if you are struggling. Nobody has ever said the apprenticeship is easy, but why not make it easier by asking for assistance if you think you need it? You can always start by reaching out to one of your two apprentice coordinators or a senior instructor for classroom support.

Stay safe out there and remember to be your brother's and sister's keepers. Look out for each other and pay attention to your surroundings.

Kelly Oliver

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Apprentice Coordinator for IBEW 11

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Aaron Miller

Apprentice Coordinator for NECA

Los Angeles County Chapter

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ETI Participates in 2024 Western States Skills Competition in Salt Lake City

This September, the Electrical Training Institute (ETI) proudly took part in the 2024 Western States Skills Competition, held in Salt Lake City, Utah. Assistant Training Director Steve Rose and top Inside Apprentice graduate Jason Amsden traveled to represent ETI at this prestigious event, which brings together participants from across the western United States.

Although Jason didn't place in any of the seven events, the experience was invaluable. It was full of firsts for him, including working with Romex, a material he had never used before in the residential portion of the event. His ability to quickly adapt was impressive, especially given the short time he had to prepare.

Jason also stood out in the motor control portion of the competition, even though motor controls aren't part of his everyday work. It had been 18 months since his last motor control class, but thanks to support from ETI's Senior Instructor, Pete Drimilis, Jason spent the two weeks leading up to the competition refining his skills. Jason credited Pete's help for giving him the confidence he needed to perform well. "Pete's help really made the difference," Jason said, reflecting on how the extra preparation allowed him to excel in a challenging event outside of his usual duties.

This trip also built on Assistant Training Director Steve Rose's visit to last year's competition in San Jose, where he gathered insights to help ETI better prepare its apprentices for future competitions. This year, by attending with a competitor, Steve gained even more knowledge about how other JATCs train their apprentices. "The goal is to learn from other JATCs, understand how they train their apprentices, and use that knowledge to better prepare our own apprentices for future competitions," Steve said.

The seven events at the Western States Skills Competition test participants in areas like conduit bending, material identification, written exams, motor control, and hands-on wiring challenges. With the insights gained, ETI is looking to enhance its training programs, making sure apprentices are ready to compete at the highest level.

ETI is dedicated to fostering excellence through these experiences, knowing that every step forward brings more expertise and opportunities for all apprentices. Stay tuned as we take what we've learned from Salt Lake City and continue preparing for next year's competition.



Steve Rose

Assistant Training Director

roses@laett.com



Graduates

VEEP Cohort-7

The Veteran's Electrical Entry Program (VEEP) continues to be a transformative force, empowering our veterans as they transition from military service to rewarding careers as Union electricians. We are thrilled to announce the graduation of our 7th VEEP cohort on August 30, 2024, marking yet another successful milestone for this impactful program and its dedicated participants.



To our veterans, we extend our deepest gratitude for your service and commitment. We are proud to welcome you into the IBEW family, and we are excited to witness the incredible contributions you will make to this dynamic industry. The entire Union stands behind you as you take this next step in your journey. Congratulations to the 7th VEEP cohort on this significant achievement, and here's to a bright and successful future!



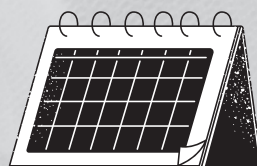
Study smarter, not harder

Don't study for hours without stopping. Take short breaks to rest your brain. It helps you focus better.

Remember your goals

Look at your notes again and again. The more you review, the more you'll remember.

Make a study schedule



Decide what you need to study and how much time you have. Create a schedule so you know what to do.



The Hilti Conference 2024, held at our facility in the MPR from September 22 to September 24, brought together professionals from across the electrical and construction industries. This three-day event provided a platform for key stakeholders to discuss industry trends, product innovations, and opportunities for future collaboration.

Overall, the Hilti Conference 2024 was a successful gathering, promoting collaboration and innovation while equipping participants with knowledge and insights to advance their roles in the industry.



ETI Tours

The Electrical Training Institute (ETI) recently welcomed students from West Valley Occupational Center and Slawson Southeast Occupational Center for tours of its state-of-the-art campus. Both institutions provide affordable, high-quality education, with West Valley offering short-term programs and Slawson Southeast featuring a renowned Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) program, which introduces students to various trades.

These tours allowed students to explore ETI's advanced training facilities and learn more about career opportunities in the electrical industry. The tours also serve an important purpose: they help applicants better understand the qualifications required to enter the apprenticeship, ensuring that ETI receives the best possible candidates for its programs.

ETI conducts over 100 tours a year for outreach groups across Los Angeles County, Orange County, and the Inland Empire. Each visit provides prospective students and educators the chance to experience our cutting-edge facilities, ask questions, and gain insight into apprenticeship training in action.

We remain committed to fostering relationships with schools and organizations throughout Southern California and look forward to continuing to share our resources and expertise with the community through these engaging facility visits.



Electrical Institute Hosts LDES National Consortium Annual Workshop: Paving the Future of Energy Storage

The Electrical Institute recently had the distinct honor of hosting the Long-Duration Energy Storage (LDES) National Consortium Annual Workshop, a pivotal event that convened the brightest minds in the energy storage sector. This workshop provided a dynamic platform for industry experts, policymakers, and thought leaders to explore the future of long-duration energy storage technologies and their role in the transition to a sustainable energy grid.

The workshop kicked off with stimulating discussions centered on how LDES technologies can be a game-changer in creating a carbon-free and resilient energy grid. Breakthrough solutions were presented, showcasing technologies poised to revolutionize energy storage systems across the U.S.

Attendees worked together to outline strategies for scaling up LDES to meet growing energy demands. A significant focus was placed on the importance of policy development, with experts emphasizing the need for supportive frameworks to ensure these cutting-edge technologies are implemented effectively.

The event featured engaging panel discussions where thought leaders shared their perspectives on the future of energy storage. The workshop also provided an excellent networking opportunity, enabling participants to forge new partnerships and collaborate on advancing the LDES movement.

With the increasing need for sustainable energy solutions, LDES is emerging as a crucial component in the energy transition. The workshop reaffirmed the commitment of industry leaders to drive innovation, foster collaboration, and advocate for policy support to make long-duration energy storage a key part of future energy infrastructure.

We are proud to have hosted this important event and eagerly anticipate how these discussions will shape the next phase of energy storage development in the U.S.



Michelle Bermudez

Public Relations and Events Coordinator

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EMPOWER

ETI MENTORSHIP PROGRAM OFFERING WOMEN EXTRA RESOURCES

Recruit, Retain, and Support

Female Apprentices and Journey-level workers in our Local

We've had an eventful few months since our last newsletter, and I'm excited to share!

July - Casa Treatment Center for Women spoke to us on Alcohol Awareness for women, it's health risks and solutions. Many women spoke on their personal experiences with alcohol, and how it negatively impacted their lives. Some asked about what steps they could take to address this issue in their lives.



August - We welcomed Milwaukee Tool Company for an exciting demo of their latest power tools. Members had the chance to test out the newest battery-operated, cordless tools and learn about built-in safety features many weren't aware of. It was a hands-on experience that also demonstrated how their tools are becoming more portable and easier to use on job sites.



September - Local 11's Political Director Antonio Sanchez took time out of his busy schedule to speak on the importance of being active in union politics, and shared that as workers in the middle class, we must vote, and think about our wallet over other issues. He explained that if we help out with phone banking and precinct walking, we can change the outcome of the elections. He mentioned that in the antelope valley, someone who has an anti-union platform won by only 300 votes, so the difference in close elections is up to us.



FAB Update (Future Artisans of Bending):

We have continued to hold our FAB workshops, and they are a hit! We hold FAB every 3rd Saturday of the month in the High Bay, and all members are welcome to join. At FAB, we offer free conduit bending sessions, with no obligation to take a full class. Need to knock off some rust on your bending skills? Come check us out! It starts at 10:30 and ends at 2:30 pm. Email us at EMPOWER@laett.com to RSVP, or if you would like a flier to pass out on the jobsite to help our membership improve their skills.



We're committed to guiding women through the process of joining Local 11, conducting outreach, supporting apprentice women to complete their apprenticeship, and providing ongoing support to journey-level women. All members are welcome to participate in our workshops and events. If you know any woman who would be a good fit for our trade, please invite her to EMPOWER. She does not need to be a member of Local 11 to attend.

Meetings are held every 2nd Thursday of the month at 4:00 pm, with a free dinner served with RSVP. Please use the QR code to RSVP.



Anthy Hadjimarkos
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Special Projects Assistant/
EMPOWER Chair
EMPOWER@LAETT.COM



Holiday Schedule

The ETI will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

Veterans Day (Observed)

Monday, November 11, 2024

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Christmas

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

Thanksgiving Break

ETI Office Closed:

Thursday, November 28th & Friday, November 29th
Tuesday, December 24th & Tuesday, December 31st

No Classes Scheduled:

Monday, November 25th to Sunday, December 1st

Winter School Break

ETI Office Closed: December 25th & January 1st

No Classes Scheduled:

Monday, December 23rd - Sunday January 5th



SAFETY MATTERS

OSHA'S FATAL FOUR

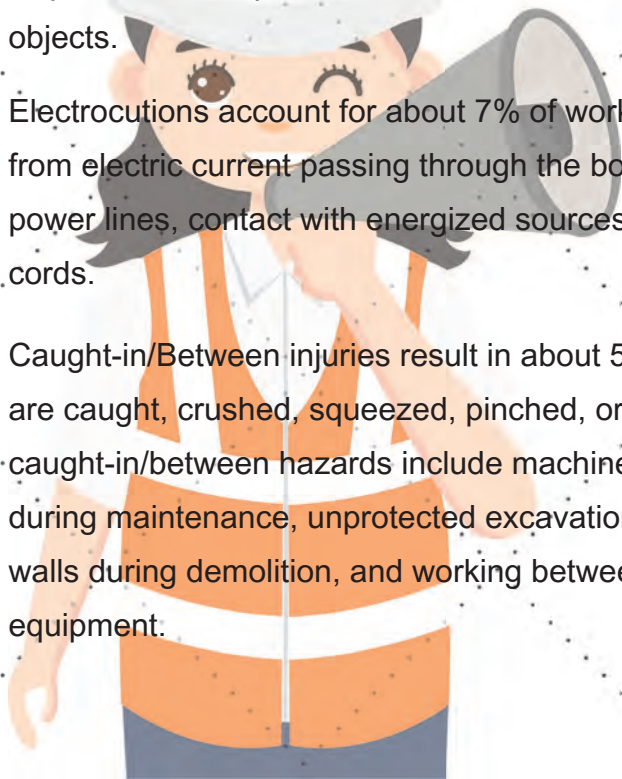
The top four causes of construction fatalities are: Falls, Struck-By, Caught-In/Between, and electrocutions. Excluding transportation incidents, these four causes are responsible for about sixty percent of work-related fatalities.

Falls are the leading cause of death among construction workers. They account for about 39% of fatalities. Hazardous locations related to falls include ladders, ledges, scaffolds, cranes, rooftops, wall openings and holes in floors. These areas should be closely monitored and inspected to ensure compliant controls are in place.

Struck-by-Objects account for about 8% of construction industry fatalities. Struck-By injuries occur when workers are hit by objects, tools, equipment, or materials. Work areas should be monitored and inspected for the prevention and control of flying objects, falling objects, swinging objects, and rolling objects.

Electrocutions account for about 7% of workplace fatalities. Electrocution is caused by electric shock from electric current passing through the body. Electrocution can result from contact with overhead power lines, contact with energized sources like damaged wires, and the improper use of extension cords.

Caught-in/Between injuries result in about 5% of industry deaths. These incidents occur when workers are caught, crushed, squeezed, pinched, or compressed between two or more objects. Common caught-in/between hazards include machinery with unguarded moving parts, machinery not locked out during maintenance, unprotected excavations and trenches, heavy equipment that tips over, collapsing walls during demolition, and working between moving materials and immovable structures, vehicles, or equipment.



For questions about this or any other safety issues, please call:
Allen Sloan at (323) 517-9553

Allen Sloan
Director of Safety





1. How do I update my contact information?

Answer: You need to maintain a current mailing address, telephone number, and email address on file at the Electrical Training Institute, Pension Trust Office, Union Dispatch Office, and Local 11 Credit Union. Any changes must be delivered personally using standard forms available at these locations. For ETI changes only, use the ETI student portal at www.laett.com.

Policy Section: A-1

2. How do I maintain my IBEW dues payments?

Answer: All apprentices must maintain current dues payments to IBEW Local #11 Dues Office. Failure to maintain current payments will result in penalties, including written warnings, appearances before a JAC Subcommittee, and withholding of level upgrades. Policy Section: A-3

3. How do I report work hours?

Answer: Work hours must be reported on the ETI website by the 15th of each month for the previous month. Failure to report on time may result in penalties, such as written warnings or required appearances before a JAC Subcommittee. Even if you have no hours to report, please submit "0 hours." Policy Section: A-19

4. Can I take a leave of absence?

Answer: Leaves for medical or personal necessity require a formal request to the ETI office.

[Leave of Absence Form](#)

Policy Section: A-26

5. What is required for the Apprentice OJT Workbook?

Answer: Apprentices must keep their On-The-Job Training (OJT) workbook up to date, signed by a supervisor, and available for inspection at all times.

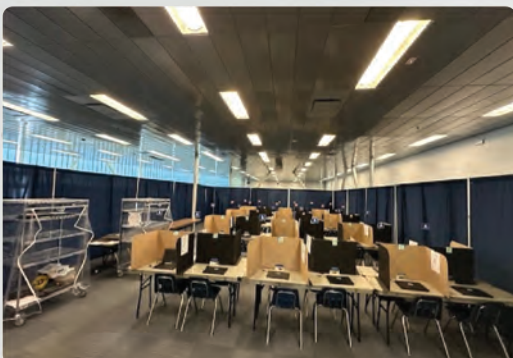
Policy Section: A-18

ETI Unveils New Aptitude Testing Area!

The Electrical Training Institute (ETI) is excited to announce the completion of a newly redesigned aptitude testing area. Located in a previously unused part of the campus, formerly the Health and Pension office, this space has been transformed to better accommodate new applicants as they begin their journey into the electrical industry.

The upgraded area features individual testing stations, providing a comfortable and focused environment for applicants. This enhancement ensures a smoother and more efficient experience, reflecting ETI's commitment to improving campus facilities and meeting the growing needs of its programs.

We look forward to welcoming future students to this updated space and continuing to deliver the high-quality educational experience ETI is known for.



OPEN CLASSES

Register Now

Limited spaces available, be sure to sign up before it's too late!

ESAMTAC (Energy Storage and Microgrid Training & Certification)

Starting: T-Th November 7 to December 19

With Saturdays: 11/16, 11/23, and 12/14

Blueprint Reading: early-November to mid-December

CBA Foremanship: early-November to mid-December

Grounding & Bonding: Two classes in January 2025 and one in March 2025

Conduit Bending: Two classes in March 2025 and one starting in late April 2025

QSP/OSHA: December

Update: QSP virtual classes have been discontinued and will now only be offered in person moving forward.



To enroll in courses:
[Click here](#)

TUTORING



The ETI Tutoring Center is now offering tutoring for the National Electrical Code (NEC). Please contact the ETI office or send an email to tutoring@laett.com for available dates and times and to register for a tutoring session.

Tutoring Dates: 10/26 and 12/14

Contact Us

APPRENTICESHIP &
TRAINING QUESTIONS

[323] 221-5881

DUES OFFICE
[626] 243-9700

DISPATCH
[323] 517-9610

HEALTH & PENSION
[323] 221-5861



**American
Red Cross**

Blood
Services

We are thrilled to share the results of our recent blood drive in July 2024!

Over two days, we collected 121 pints of blood, significantly surpassing the goal of 94 pints.

This is an incredible achievement, and it wouldn't have been possible without the dedication and generosity of our staff and apprentices who participated. These donations have the potential to save up to 363 lives.

Thank you to all who contributed.



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We'd love to hear from you!

We're always on the lookout for great content for each issue.

Please send your suggestions to: marketing@laett.com

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@Netzeroplus

@NetZero_Plus

EDITORIALS & CONTRIBUTIONS

Michelle Bermudez, Anthy Hadjimarkos, Ben Hess, Amanda Lazo, Aaron Miller, Ashley Nettles,
David Nott, Kelly Oliver, Steve Rose, Allen Sloan



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