



CONNECTIONS

Western Ohio Chapter • National Electrical Contractors Association



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C & J Electric since 1989

Founded in 1989 by Charlie Axe, C&J Electric has served the Midwest Ohio area for over 34 years. They are proud to be a family owned-and-operated full service electrical contractor. C&J Electric has a proven ability to complete any project, regardless of size or complexity. They have longstanding working relationships with general contractors and an established track record for completing jobs both on time and on budget.

Armed with the latest tools and technology, their range of services encompass projects from new construction to simple repairs. And they work in a variety of markets including agricultural, commercial, industrial, and residential. Installation of

modern control systems and re-wiring of industrial machines is one of their fortes. C&J works at several



The crew at C&J Electric.

industrial plants in the area along with many agricultural businesses including ethanol companies. Their work includes both low voltage and medium voltage wiring. C&J

Electric installs and maintains electric systems in plants and in some cases they have employees working year around

performing all their electrical maintenance. Charlie Axe says, "Meeting customer needs is our priority. We work with them to understand their needs and design a step by step plan that

meets their approval. We also secure all the appropriate permits to complete their electrical work. The job is not completed until the customer is 100% satisfied."

The biggest challenge facing C&J today, like many other contractors, is the material shortage. Power distribution materials can take up to a year to obtain, so they have to work around this shortage the best they can.

With a staff of 40, C&J Electric has projects in Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus and Lima including hospital work, temperature controls and fire alarm system installations. They are proud of their reputation and protect it by providing quality workmanship, knowledgeable electricians, and staying committed to their customers.

URS 44th Telethon sponsored by IBEW/NECA

While the 44th United Rehabilitation Services Telethon, presented by IBEW/NECA looked a little different this year, the event continued its tradition of celebrating the triumphs of the people URS serves each day. This year's telethon, which took place on December 4, 2021, raised over \$158,000!

The URS offers a wide variety of services for people with disabilities and their families including: adult daycare, augmentative communications, childcare,

hearing aid service, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology and vocational training.

Due to COVID restriction policies at WDTN,



the entire event was pre-recorded. Staff interviewed families and community partners via Zoom prior to the telethon and WDTN's

production crew wove the recorded stories around limited live segments hosted by John Seibel and Brooke Moore. Volunteers manned the phone

banks virtually and checked in periodically using Zoom.

The Telethon was opened with a prerecorded message by the Presenting Sponsor for nine

years, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 82 (IBEW) and the Western Ohio Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA). Business Manager IBEW Local 82 Greg Gust says, "We are proud to help URS further their mission of helping adults and children with disabilities, year after year." IBEW/NECA donations to URS have totaled over \$100,000 since their involvement.

Dayton Holiday Festival 2022

Celebrating 50 years of being a Dayton family tradition, the Dayton Holiday Festival is the region's premiere holiday event. Started by local philanthropist Virginia W. Kettering, the Festival offers free, family entertainment so that everyone, regardless of economic means, may enjoy the holidays. The Dayton Holiday Festival has become a local tradition, attracting multiple generations of families from around the Miami Valley each year.

The festival's signature event, the Grande Illumination, is Dayton's official kick-off to the holiday season. This popular event drew approximately 35,000-40,000 people to downtown the day after Thanksgiving.

Immediately following the tree lighting the Dayton Children's Parade Spectacular in Lights usually takes place. But not this year. Moments before



Ben Dehart of ESI Electrical Contractors organized the IBEW Local 82 volunteers

the parade was to begin a gunshot resonated just a block from the parade route. As people scrambled for safety, the chaos that ensued forced the parade to be canceled. No one was injured as the shot was fired into the air, but the reaction of the crowd was frantic because no one knew if they were in danger. A sad ending

to what should have been a celebratory gathering.

IBEW/NECA became a sponsor for the 2019 Dayton Festival by donating \$5,000 and providing tools and LED lights needed to refurbish the floats, which had been previously vandalized. Several volunteers worked many weekends prior to the event again this year to make sure the floats were ready for the parade.

According to Courtney Deutsch, Sponsor Relations and Events Marketing Manager with the Downtown Dayton Partnership, "The expertise provided by NECA/IBEW

volunteers keeps our parade floats in top shape which is invaluable to the success of the Festival."

This year, IBEW Local 82 volunteers installed thousands of lights to showcase the



From left, Ben Dehart, Mike Steffens, Scott Howard, Jon Threnthausser, Garrett Daniels, Nick Romano, Eric Gray, Nick Behnken, Kenlee Behnken, and Bruce DeBore. Not pictured Elijah Freitag, Josh Case and Nick Alt.

downtown area for the Holiday season. A special thanks to Ben Dehart, Estimator/Project Manager for ESI Electrical Contractors for organizing the lighting installations.

CES...universal smart home is here

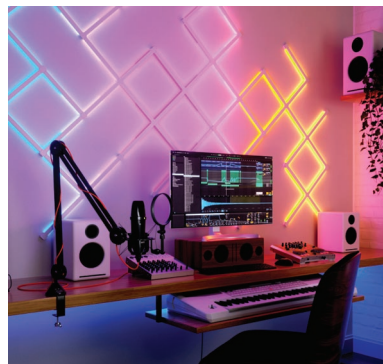
The Consumer Electronics Show takes place every January in Las Vegas.

One of the most powerful products highlighted at CES was Matter, an open-source, universal smart home protocol backed by Amazon, Apple, Google, Samsung and countless others. The pitch is promising: a single, Wi-Fi-based standard that bundles together compatibility with Alexa, Google Assistant, Siri and SmartThings, among others. Matter rolled out compatible smart lights and smart plugs, connected roller blinds, and a new SmartThings

hub. Later in the year, when Matter's next release arrives, additional device types like robot vacuums and smart home cameras should come on board too.

With your new media center set up, you'd need to add some RGB lighting to amp up the mood. That's where Nanoleaf's new smart lights come into the picture. The 4D TV Smarter Kit uses a camera to match the scene to the light strip

behind your TV, and you can program 50 zones for better



Nanoleaf's smart lights.

color and gradient sync with your TV.

Going a step ahead of its excellent colorful tiles, Nanoleaf also launched Skylight modular fixtures for your ceiling. You can install these square tiles in whatever pattern you prefer, and each of them has its own light and motion sensors for all kinds of automation madness. Both of these lighting systems are Matter-compatible, too.



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Your comments, suggestions and questions are welcome! Contact the Western Ohio Chapter - NECA.

website: www.wocneca.com
phone: 937-299-0384

ESI *Innovation Center*

Electrical prefabrication is rapidly taking shape in the construction industry and ESI Electrical Contractors are leading the way. The ESI Innovation Center was created to assemble UL listed components from receptacles to conduit racks in order to create a room in a box that can be installed on a variety of jobsites, including hospitals, schools, office buildings or even sub stations.

Like other construction industry areas, the need to increase productivity and reduce costs without sacrificing quality makes prefabrication imperative to improve the bottom line. In many instances, prefab construction takes less time compared to traditional construction processes. According to CJ Pemberton, Pre-Fab Coordinator for ESI, “We save 1/3 of the time typically spent onsite for certain tasks by assembling components in a controlled and safer environment.” The process offers better planning upfront, the ability to avoid weather-related delays, and a quicker construction process. There’s also minimal construction waste and as units are produced again and again, supplies can be ordered in and stored onsite.

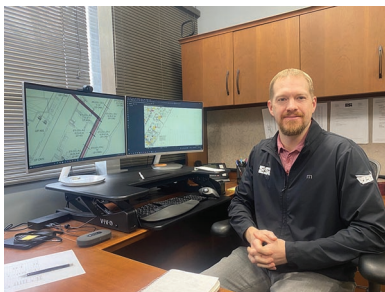
Project Manager Nick Behnken states, “Using prefabrication includes identifying and limiting repeated field installation tasks before work starts. Prefabrication offers a versatile construction method that allows greater flexibility and more consistency because we can standardize materials. It’s much safer to build conduit racks waist high instead of

reaching overhead on a ladder to complete the same work.”



PreFab Coordinator CJ Pemberton (left) and Estimator/Project Manager Ben Dehart

Cost savings through prefabrication
Reduce material costs: Through prefabrication, material cost savings are



Project Manager Nick Behnken

achievable in many ways. For example, if you can prefabricate common components for jobs, you can use any downtime between jobs to do that work reducing overtime costs and expenses incurred on the jobsite. Prefabrication can also potentially bring down material costs through bulk purchases.

Waste reduction brings substantial cost savings and helps achieve green

building goals with more accurate prefabricated components.

Reduce labor costs:

Prefabrication helps reduce labor costs by preparing components before field installation and reducing installation errors and rework. And with fewer workers required on the jobsite to install the components, contractors can maximize workers’ performance to assemble the structures in safer environments. In addition, by mitigating delays from weather and broken shipped materials, prefabrication helps quality control before materials are sent to the jobsite.

Improving safety in the field also brings down labor costs and risks of staff downtime by mitigating exposure to hazards on the jobsite on complex electrical installations.

Time savings through prefabrication

Prefabrication also eliminates unnecessary material handling on the job site. There is less material movement from room to room than traditional



Employee Appreciation Lunch held at ESI’s Innovation Center. A small reward for a job well done.

construction methods. Prefabrication assemblies are designed to improve assemblies over time, making them more efficient project after project.



Room in a box assembly fabrication.

It’s crucial to remember that electrical prefabrication is an outcome of sound project planning. The team at ESI uses BIM modelers, where all jobs are drawn in 3D and every conduit and wire is given a unique ID from the beginning to the end of the project. The process enables electrical contractors to manage projects and workflows with much greater flexibility and efficiency from design, shipping to installing assemblies on the construction job sites.



Prefabrication technology has several advantages: energy efficiency, minimal waste and inspection, efficient construction, work speed, safety, sustainability, and quality.



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IBEW Local 82 is hiring Electricians and Low Voltage Technicians!

Whether you have experience or not, or just an interest in becoming an electrician, we want to speak with you! Plus, an experienced-based bonus of at least \$500 is awarded to new workers who complete 12 weeks employment. The bonus program has been extended until March 31.

The pre-apprenticeship program trains incoming employees with a basic skill set in electrical work. Employees are also encouraged to take classes that will enhance their capabilities. And for those who decide that this is the career they desire, they can apply to the Apprenticeship Program. To apply visit: ibew82.org. Or click on the QR code.



The Western Ohio Chapter - National Electrical Contractors Association Directory:

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ASIDACO, LLC
Barton Electric
C & J Electric
Chapel Electric Company
Chapel-Romanoff Technologies
ESI Electrical Contractors
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Lake Erie Electric
Mid City Electric

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