

Encon Leads UL325 Safety Education

The industry wide UL325-2016 changes are taking effect January 12th and Encon Electronics is determined to prepare its dealers for what lies ahead. This leading access control and gate operator distributor is known for training and educating their dealers on the latest products, so it's no surprise that they are taking that same approach when educating their dealers about the new UL safety revisions.

Tuesday, December 8th Encon hosted a UL325-2016 Info Night at their training facility in Hayward, Calif. It was standing room only with nearly 60 attendees filling the room. Encon veteran tech and training director, Tim Nordstrom, conducted the presentation with industry veteran and sales director Joe Weber on hand to provide clarification and to field questions.

Nordstrom systematically outlined the upcoming changes, giving the group specific details and providing visual images of what is and is not allowed once these changes go into effect beginning January 12th. "UL safety requirements are not new to our industry; there was a standard put in place in March, 2000. The changes that are being implemented in 2016 are about making gate installations even safer," Nordstrom explained.

There are several additional changes taking effect at the beginning of the year and Nordstrom focused on the ones that were most relevant to Encon's installing dealers. Overall the group found the hour and a half power training extremely beneficial.

Paul Fortenberry of Electronics Innovations in Richmond said, "The seminar was very informative and the key points provided at the beginning were especially helpful. Encon helped me prepare for the upcoming UL changes by providing specific information on what I should watch for and document when installing gate operators."

Nordstrom devoted a considerable amount time discussing the monitoring information. "Nordstrom's presentation on the monitoring and capability information was very helpful," said a dealer from R&S Hayward, Calif. Nordstrom said, "UL already requires entrapment devices for installations, but there are critical changes being implemented to these existing entrapment requirements. As an installer, you need to be aware of these revisions or you may experience issues on the job."

As provided in the article written by DoorKing's Rick Sedivy and LiftMaster's Tom DeSilvia in Door + Access Systems publication - Fall 2015 Issue, page 64 "An external non-contact sensor or contact sensor may be used as a means of entrapment protection. However, the sensor must be monitored once every cycle for (1) the correct connection to the operator and (2) the correct operation of the sensor. If the device is not present, not functioning, or is shorted, then the gate operator can only be operated by constant pressure on the control device. Portable wireless controls will not function in this case."

Nordstrom added, "These changes apply to all UL listed gate operators manufactured after January 12, 2016." As a distributor, it's Encon's job to keep our dealers abreast of the new products and to prepare them. By giving them this important information *before* the changes go into effect, our dealers can bid

jobs more accurately and have new product knowledge and the troubleshooting information they need to ensure smooth and compliant installations,” Joe Weber said.

George Olmos of George Olmos Securities in Martinez, Calif. noted, “I appreciate having a company like Encon because they make the information and new technology interesting and exciting. The lecturers were great, and they helped prepare me for the upcoming UL325 changes.”

Encon will continue to offer educational seminars on the UL325-2016 changes. They have two additional events slated for the end of January. One is scheduled at their training facility in Hayward and another in Sacramento at an offsite venue. Watch for details on dates and locations or visit www.enconelectronics.com for updated information.