Growing occupant demand, investor pressures and building code requirements have led to a new standard in high-performance building. As a result, many markets are mandating comprehensive sustainability and energy-efficiency programs.

New construction is meeting the challenges through the incorporation of sophisticated building management systems that provide advanced controls to drive energy conservation. However, in meeting today’s requirements, building owners and operators face the sometimes daunting task of bringing an older facility up to today’s expected standards.

If recent studies are any indication, there’s a tremendous amount of opportunity to achieve high-performance gains for America’s existing office buildings. Yet, retooling for sustainability and energy-efficiency requires investments not only in the buildings themselves, but in the professionals charged with ensuring they operate at the highest possible levels.

In response to the energy savings opportunities made possible through improved control and reliability technologies, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), through their Electrical Training ALLIANCE, have developed a comprehensive training or education program built around a rigorous curriculum that includes hands-on laboratory training combined with online and classroom instruction. As a result, IBEW electricians and NECA contractors together offer owners and operators a highly skilled workforce that brings to the project the knowledge required to reduce energy consumption using advanced lighting controls: to adapt/adopt environmentally friendly techniques and decrease the facility carbon footprint; and conserve energy through the use of advanced building management systems.

Significantly, the NECA/IBEW team brings to new or existing buildings an unmatched set of energy savings strategies, whether lamp, dimming, occupancy, vacancy or daylighting technologies, that ultimately results in impressive occupational gains.