



Continental Automated
Buildings Association

**Your Information
Source
for
Home & Building
Automation**

**North America's
Home & Building
Automation Association**

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CABA ASSISTS WITH U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS' BUILDING CONTROL SPECIFICATIONS

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The Continental Automated Buildings Association has been invited to review the final draft of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Utility Control and Monitoring System and Local Building Control Specifications.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers is the organization that supports the critical engineering needs of the U.S. military. The Corps focuses upon: water resources development; restoring, managing and enhancing ecosystems, local and regional; building and sustaining the critical facilities for military installations and the public; responding to local, national and global disasters; and providing full spectrum engineering and contingency support during times of war.

The Corps, through its Construction Engineering Resource Laboratory (CERL), is developing an open and non-proprietary approach to building automation systems for use by military facilities throughout the United States.

This is an important development, as the U.S. Department of Defense's physical plant consists of more than 600,000 individual buildings and structures located at more than 6,000 sites around the world.

"CABA commends the Corps for its efforts and for being one of the first U.S. government agencies to take a very active and detailed position on the design and implementation of utility and building controls that use the open standard communication protocol ANSI/EIA - 709.1 and 852," said Thomas J. Lohner, PE, Vice President at Teng Solutions and Chair of CABA's Intelligent & Integrated Buildings Council. "We are pleased to assist with this process."

The LonMark Interoperability Association, along with CABA, recently informed its members of the development of the open specification.

CABA has already recommended that the Corps incorporate the following considerations into its specifications:

1. Consider incorporating the new CSI MasterFormat revisions soon to be finalized (www.csi-net.org) that provide for an improved method to specify building technology.
2. Provide further definition on how the building sub-systems (fire alarm, security, lighting control and power monitoring and control) will be integrated based on current industry trends and the USCOE preferences.
3. Consider incorporating as an option, web based user interface and sub-system data integration based on HTML, XML and SOAP (and other web services under development).

4. Participate in CABA Intelligent and Integrated Building Council Task Forces to achieve an up to date understanding of the various trends and issues that are impacting the building automation industry.

CABA members can obtain more information by contacting the organization's office.

About CABA

The Continental Automated Buildings Association (CABA) is a leading industry association that promotes advanced technologies in homes and buildings in North America. More information is available at www.caba.org.

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