

Encon hosts Apollo and American Access Systems for hands-on technical workshop

Access control products distributor, Encon Electronics collaborated with manufacturers Apollo Gate Operators and American Access Systems (AAS) on Tuesday, August 23 for a joint training seminar. The seminar was held at Encon's Training Facility in Hayward, California.

Nearly twenty Encon dealers attended the workshop. The first portion was led by general manager of AAS, Kevin Downing. He began with a breakdown of the various keypads offered by AAS and the features that make each product unique. "The DKLP is ideal for solar applications and draws 20 micro amps during standby," Downing explained. "The DKE family includes commercial grade keypads for an economical price. They are also multi-code compatible. The Advantage DK keypad is the most popular of our product line and offers the most features including latch and sleep code capabilities, along with 1000 codes capacity."

"The DKS II is a keypad controller and features 2-door access control with event reporting. The controller can handle two keypads," said Downing. He continued by outlining the card reader controllers in the Advantage DG family, the Remote Pro Keypad and the Pro Access 200 PC based controller.

Downing finished the product overview with a summary of AAS' two telephone entry products: PhoneLink and PhoneAire. According to Downing, "The PhoneLink telephone entry system is used for residential applications and wires directly into an existing phone line. The PhoneAire is a wireless telephone entry system with shared phone line capability. It also features 2000 ft. line of sight communication, 100 watt radio and a 2.4 GHZ signal.

Following the product recap, Downing provided programming instructions that applies to all AAS products and explained general weigand wiring. "You should consider the type of wire to use for each job and the distance requirements which are typically no longer than 500 feet," Downing said. "AAS sells a weigand extender to allow data transfer of up to 1000 feet."

After a brief intermission, Apollo technical representative, Ron Swartz and west coast sales manager, John Anderson, began the second portion of the full day workshop. Swartz began by detailing the Apollo 835/836 circuit board. "The 835/836 control board will retrofit into any Apollo operator every made," Swartz said. "It has removable connectors, the control voltage is 4.7 VDC and the input voltage is 12 VDC," he added.

Next, Swartz provided a complete overview on troubleshooting gate operators. He described the ten dip switches on the board, covering functionality for each dip switch. Swartz continued with a breakdown of Apollo's actuators including the 816E, 816EX, 416E and 416EX. He discussed internal components, setting limits and the geometry and placement of installing the operator. One attendee noted, "I appreciated the technical aspects of the seminar. I walked away confident in my ability to sell and install the product."

The final lecture portion of the seminar consisted of solar application calculations and how to conduct of solar panel check. Swartz took the attendees on a field trip outside to check the amperage on the solar panel and the current draw of the actuator.

The class was then broken up into three groups to perform a mock installation of an Apollo gate operator and an AAS keypad. Zach Eichenberger said, "Kevin Downing, Ron Swartz and John Anderson did a great job presenting technical information to the group. Our dealers benefited from the explicit troubleshooting instruction, the hands-on product demonstration and the one on one Q&A. Encon prides itself on providing quality technical workshops like the AAS/Apollo seminar."

Encon Electronics is offering an All-O-Matic BD Loops combo seminar on September 15 and a Viking Access Systems seminar on October 20, 2011. Additional seminars and customized training are available at Encon throughout the year. Visit www.enconelectronics.com or call toll free 800-782-5598 for more information.