The Association of Controls Professionals (ACP) was established as a non-profit organization focused on setting skills standards through certification to align training program, learning outcomes and employer expectations, resulting in more talent in the Building Automation Systems (BAS) field.

We are dedicated to working towards the following goals:

- Establish baseline data of BAS national workforce needs, region by region.
- Increase equitable access to BAS education and training while also increasing diversity in the workforce.

In 2019, ACP launched a new national program called, A STEP in STEM - Automation Skills, Training, Educational, and Promotion in STEM. The program results from a collaborative partnership between ACP and the Siemens Foundation. A STEP in STEM aims to promote diversity and achieve inclusivity within STEM fields and the BAS industry by providing students with equitable access to educational programs and career opportunities.

About ACP

Preparing a 21st century workforce in 2021!

"An educational non-profit organization committed to developing solutions and disseminating information to our members about 21st-century needs pertaining to Building Automation Systems education, training, certification, accreditation, and marketplace opportunities."
ACP Leadership Team

The combined knowledge, expertise and experience of our team in all aspects of STEM and the BAS Industry empowers us to reach our company goals and objectives. Meet our leadership team:

Brian J. Lovell, President

Brian Lovell has been working in the Building Automation Systems (BAS) field for over 25 years in every role from technician to BAS contracting firm business owner in the Atlanta area. Experiencing the need for more trained BAS technicians first-hand, he led the development of the nation’s first BAS Associate’s Degree of Applied Sciences, and has disseminated that program to several dozen colleges around the country through his on-going work with the National Science Foundation, Department of Energy and others.

In response to the need for better training and definition of skills standards in the BAS industry, Brian co-founded the Association of Controls Professionals in 2014, and has served as its president. He holds various technical degrees, industry certifications and licensures, and postgraduate degrees in education.

Sudeep Vyapari, Executive Vice President

Dr. Sudeep Vyapari, Executive Vice President of ACP, is a solutions-focused leader with a comprehensive understanding of sustainability, business intelligence, emerging strategies, creative opportunities, and 21st-century ready workforce preparedness priorities. He is the Project Director of the A STEP in STEM project. He is a highly accomplished, innovative transformational leader and educator with an extensive record of success developing an informed workforce to meet the needs of the emerging building automation systems (BAS) industry.

His extensive research work and reports on the impacts and potential outcomes of intelligent automation on the 21st-century workforce offer clarity on complex topics related to the Building Automation Systems (BAS) ecosystem occupations. As a trusted expert and recognized resource of pragmatic workforce solutions, Dr. Vyapari advises companies and organizations on solving building automation workforce challenges. He has authored 47 fact sheets, 32 mini-reports, concept papers, executive summaries, and technical reports on diverse topics about the BAS Ecosystem occupations.

Candace Haynes, Outreach Director

Candace Haynes has an extensive background deeply rooted in the Arts and Entertainment. She has worked as a creative director, choreographer, professional touring dancer and more on various stages, movie and television sets nationwide. Candace is now the Outreach Director for the Association of Controls Professionals, where she spreads national awareness about the career opportunities within the Building Automation Systems industry. She incorporates her creative, unorthodox methods in establishing and cultivating relationships with K-12 systems, higher education colleges, and employers in high demand for BAS talent. Candace is also the director of the A STEP in STEM musical, host of the ACP Automation Adventure podcast, executes events and hosts STEM Champion workshops.
Siemens Foundation Launches New Training Program To Fill Building Technology Industry Skills Gap

Together, the organizations will create community college training programs and develop career pathways into local K-12 systems, both aligned to new, non-proprietary industry certifications under development by ACP. This innovative program will focus on reaching traditionally underserved or underrepresented student communities and providing them the opportunity to excel in a software-driven field. The Foundation will invest more than $1.6 million in the workforce training program over a three-year period, with the first iteration expected to launch in DeKalb County in metro Atlanta.

Robert Croom, Program Director - Air Conditioning, Building Automation & Commercial Refrigeration
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
"A STEP in STEM is providing the much needed awareness to communities and families of what the Building Automation Systems industry is and how joining it will provide a truly rewarding career path for one entering the work force or to one needing to diversify their field of expertise due to challenging times. Community Leaders will continue to benefit from A STEP in STEM by having a resource and tool to use in helping to provide direction to many youth who have potential but that may be disillusioned with traditional pathways towards a good career."

Candace Little, STEM Champion & Environmental Science Teacher
Arabia Mountain High School
“The A STEP in STEM approach is sorely needed because it brings the energy and knowledge needed in DeKalb County, Georgia. It’s something the youth listens to, remember and share with other people. One thing that’s been missing is getting on the students' level and this performance does just that. It’s powerful because it’s on their level and they can understand it more that way. There is a wonderful balance of laughter, seriousness and true possibility of changing lives of the students and their families and generations to come. This is a major impact on DeKalb County, no question about it!”
ACP Products & Services

**Certifications**
We will be offering non-proprietary industry certifications setting skills standards for educators and expectations for employers.

**Accreditation**
Comprehensive evaluation of public and private educational programs to become ACP accredited and aligned ACP certification competencies.

**Marketplace Data**
Regional or national data, statistics and trends on key BAS skills, job characteristics, and employment.

**ACP Reports**
Research reports and white papers serving the interests of ACP Membership.

**Membership**
Customized and exclusive value-added benefits and services specifically crafted for students, collegiate, corporate and agency members.

**Partnerships**
Advancement of industry and government-related initiatives through deep collaborative partnerships.

**BAS-STEM Career Pathways, Resources & Activities**
Create nontraditional approaches to preparing students for careers in STEM.
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