

Career Sheet: Lighting Engineering



NEOFYTOS SOLOMONIDIS - LIGHTING ENGINEER, LIFESTYLE TECHNOLOGIES

I studied electrical engineering at the University of Patras in Greece and currently I work as a lighting engineer at the Lifestyle technologies. The company designs and creates commercial and residential building automation solutions, and I am a specialist in the lighting sector.



OVERVIEW OF THE JOB

As a lighting engineer, I design lighting control systems using computer software and then I am the person responsible to visit the construction site and communicate with the electricians in order to install the system I created.



WHAT INSPIRED YOU

I first heard about this specialization of the electrical engineering sector from a friend of mine who was and still he is an employee at the Lifestyle technologies. Up to that point, I did not know that with my degree I could do this kind of creative work.



TYPICAL WORKING DAY

During the days that I work at the office, I mostly design lighting control systems in my computer and communicate with people related to the project, for example electricians, electrical engineers and of course the owners of the building. When I visit the construction site for the installation, I am responsible for checking with the electricians that everything is under control and the installation is happening as planned.



STUDY & CAREER PATH

I finished senior high school following the scientific direction elective courses. I obtained my bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and when I started my job as a lighting engineer at the Lifestyle technologies, I attended several professional development courses about lighting engineering and automation solutions for buildings. Some of my colleagues followed the same career path, meaning they have a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and some of them have a background in computer science.



KEY SKILLS

Every project that I am designing is a new problem-solving task because I need to design and test solutions for the buildings so that everything can function properly and upon the customer wish. During the design and installation of a lighting system, I need to communicate well with people outside my company, such as electrical engineers and electricians. I use computer software, specifically AutoCAD, to design lighting systems for buildings and I hold KNX (open standard for commercial and domestic building automation) certification. Negotiation is another important skill for my job since many times I have to deal with delays in the construction site and find ways to reschedule the installations without dissatisfying anyone. The personal skills that are necessary for my job and I use them daily are creativity, initiative, team spirit and time management.



CAREER PROSPECT

With my professional skills, I am capable to work at any electrical construction department, at the electrical and electronic engineering industry and in the programming sector of the above.



CHALLENGES

The communication with others during the design of a project, but most importantly during the installation, are considered the most challenging parts in my job.



YOUR ADVICE TO STUDENTS

Meet people and ask them about their jobs. Choose a job that will make you feel creative and important.



YOUR ADVICE TO TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Teachers and parents can use resources from the internet to show their students and children what a career in a specific sector looks like. There are many resources available nowadays and it is easier for students to get inspired if they are aware.



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<https://www.facebook.com/LifestyleTechnologies/>

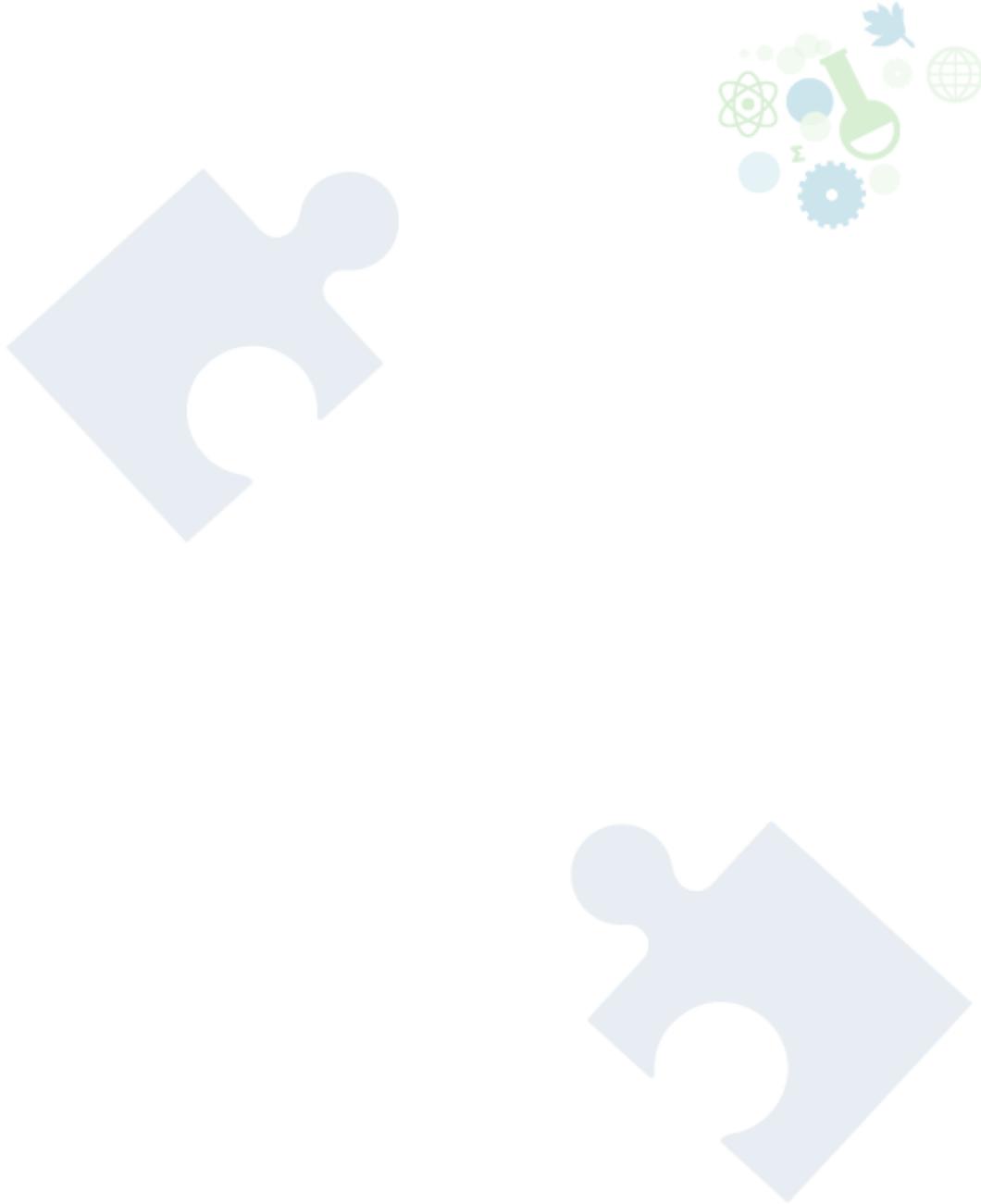
<https://lifestyle.sk.com/home/products/lighting/>

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