

## Combining Low-Voltage and Line-Voltage Wiring Devices in a Multi-Gang Box.

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### Introduction

The NEC® (National Electric Code) allows line-voltage wiring devices, e.g., light switches, dimmers, and receptacles to be placed in the same multi-gang box as low-voltage wiring devices, e.g., cable jacks and phone jacks. The benefit is that multiple devices can be combined in a single multi-gang electrical back-box with a multi-gang faceplate for complete functionality and clean aesthetics.

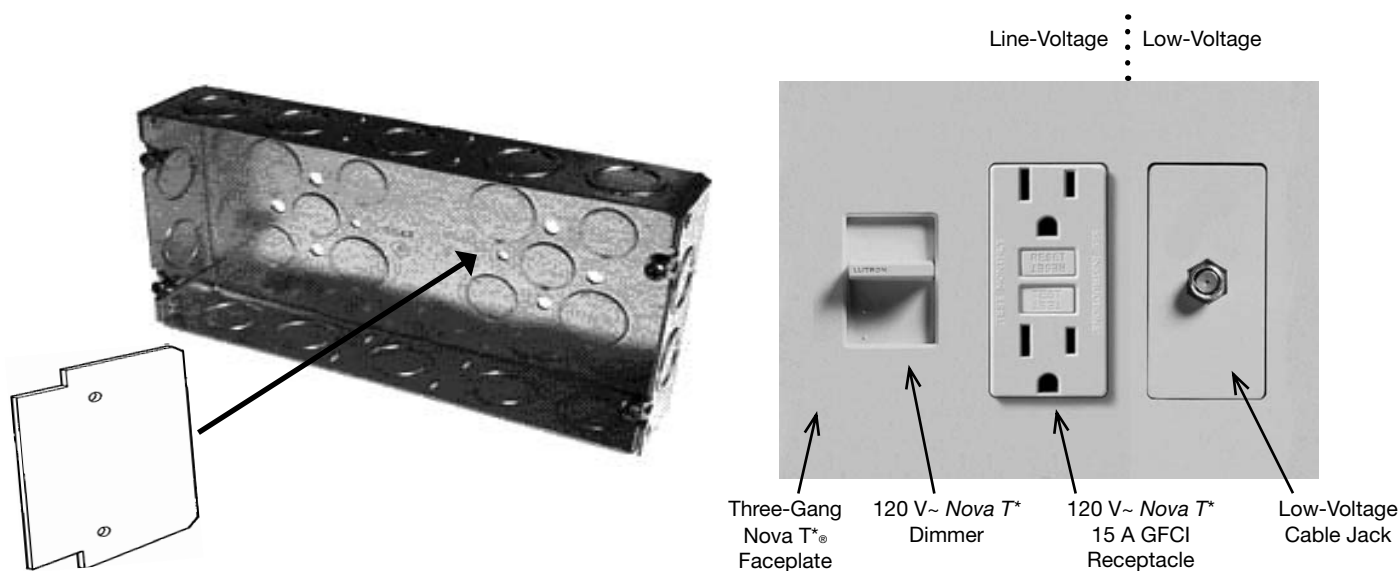
### Excerpts From the *NEC 2005, Article 800.133 (A.1.c)*

Communication conductors shall not be placed in any raceway, compartment, outlet box, junction box, or similar fitting with conductors of electric light, power, Class 1, non-power-limited fire alarm, or medium power network-powered broadband communications circuits.

Exception No. 1: Where all of the conductors of electric light, power, Class 1, non-power-limited fire alarm, and medium power network-powered broadband communications circuits are separated from all of the conductors of communications circuits by a permanent barrier or listed divider.

### Explanation

Manufacturers of multi-gang boxes also produce low-voltage partitions that can be installed into the electrical back-box. For example, the Hubbell RACO® catalog includes a partition for 1-5/8 in boxes (Model #974) and a partition for 2-1/2 in boxes (Model #949). Once this partition is in place, each side of the partition is considered a separate box. Therefore, all of the devices can be placed within a multi-gang box and can use a multi-gang wallplate.



For more information on how to configure a multi-gang wallplate, visit <http://www.lutron.com/lutron/wallplate>

## Lutron Contact Numbers

### USA, Canada, Caribbean

TEL: +1.610.282.3800  
FAX: +1.610.282.1243  
Technical Support:  
1.800.523.9466  
Toll-free:  
1.888.LUTRON1  
intsales@lutron.com

### Germany

TEL: +49.(0)30.9710.4590  
FAX: +49.(0)30.9710.4591  
Freephone:  
00800.5887.6635  
lutrongermany@lutron.com

### Singapore

TEL: +65.6220.4666  
FAX: +65.6220.4333  
Technical Support:  
800.120.4491  
lutronsea@lutron.com

### Japan

TEL: +81.3.5575.8411  
FAX: +81.3.5575.8420  
Freephone:  
0120.083.417  
asuka@lutron.com

### Brazil

TEL: +55.11.3885.5152  
FAX: +55.11.3887.7138  
brasilsales@lutron.com

### France

TEL: +33.(0)1.41.05.42.80  
FAX: +33.(0)1.41.05.01.80  
Freephone  
0800.90.12.18  
lutronfrance@lutron.com

### China, Beijing

TEL: +86.10.5877.1818  
FAX: +86.10.5877.1816  
Technical Support:  
10.800.712.1536  
lutronchina@lutron.com

### China, Shanghai

TEL: +86.21.6288.1473  
FAX: +86.21.6288.1751  
Technical Support:  
10.800.120.1536  
lutronchina@lutron.com

### Central/South America

+1.610.282.6701

### United Kingdom

TEL: +44.(0)20.7702.0657  
FAX: +44.(0)20.7480.6899  
Technical Support:  
+44.(0)20.7680.4481  
Freephone:  
0800.282.107  
lutronlondon@lutron.com

### Spain, Madrid

TEL: +34.91.567.84.79  
FAX: +34.91.567.84.78  
Freephone:  
0900.974.452  
lutroniberia@lutron.com

### China, Guangzhou

TEL: +86.20.2885.8266  
FAX: +86.20.2885.8366  
Technical Support:  
10.800.120.1536  
lutronchina@lutron.com

**Indonesia:** 001.803.011.3994

**Taiwan:** 00.801.137.737

**Macau:** 0800.401

**Thailand:** 001.800.120.665853

### Italy

Freephone:  
800.979.208  
lutronitalia@lutron.com

### China, Hong Kong

TEL: +852.2104.7733  
FAX: +852.2104.7633  
Technical Support:  
800.901.849  
lutronhk@lutron.com

**Other Asian Countries:**

+65.6220.4666

### Spain, Barcelona

TEL: +34.93.496.57.42  
FAX: +34.93.496.57.01  
Freephone  
0900.974.452  
lutroniberia@lutron.com

### Mexico

+1.888.235.2910

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**LUTRON.**

Lutron Electronics Co., Inc.  
7200 Suter Road  
Coopersburg, PA 18036-1299 U.S.A.  
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