FOU UNITARY CONTROLLER



III O∏-ProZone™

ADVANCED UNITARY CONTROLLER

25 WEST 18th STREET

jay youngdahl



















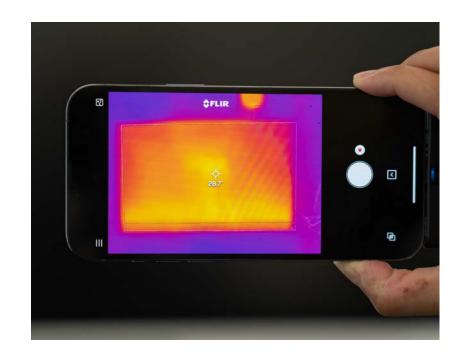
























WHAT IS NEEDED FOR A FRICTIONLESS LIFE?

All photographs taken at 25 W 18th St. New York, NY 10011 in May of 2022.

Thank you to the SEIU Local 32BJ Training Fund and the administrators, instructors, and workers for sharing this space with me.

These images were made at a training center of New York City based SEIU Local 32 BJ. Here, unionized workers learn functional skills necessary for the smooth operation of buildings in which many local residents live and work.

In the summer of 2022, the *Financial Times*, the town crier for the global corporate elite, bemoaned the expiration of the "frictionless life" enjoyed by a select group. The *Financial Times* attributed the end of this utopia to the pandemic and an increasingly rickety economy caused by extreme inequality among citizens. In this recedingly frictionless life an "approximation of rock-star convenience" was enjoyed by "millions of people across several international cities." For the lucky ones, a "zenith of civilization" was reached in which travel, service, and convenience moved at "lightspeed."

It is the usually unseen men and women who train in centers like this one, which allowed this status. Capitalism hides what is necessary for societal operation – the unseen hands behind the curtain. Except for a few brief moments in human history this working class is most often ignored and hidden.

The paper grudgingly admits that life is not so good for the "workers who enabled" the frictionless life. Because of the class nature of global society, frictionless life will never be a term applied to the lives of workers who train in this center. Fortunately, however, because of the strength and solidarity of their union, the workers who train in this space are themselves able to live a middle-class life.

And, as long as there are buildings, there will be building workers.



COLOPHON

jay youngdahl 2022 graphic design by Nick Ferreira typeset in Franklin Gothic

