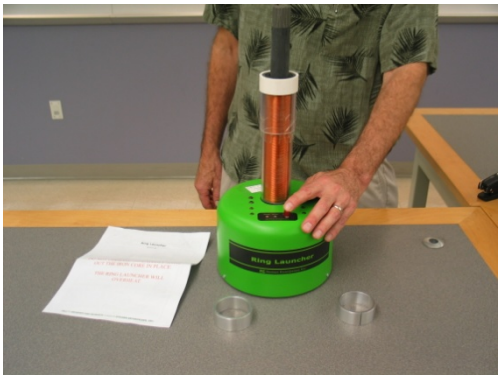
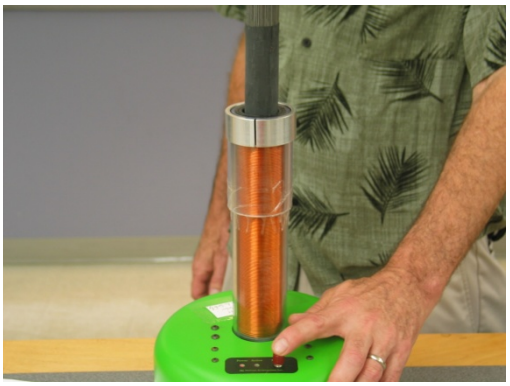
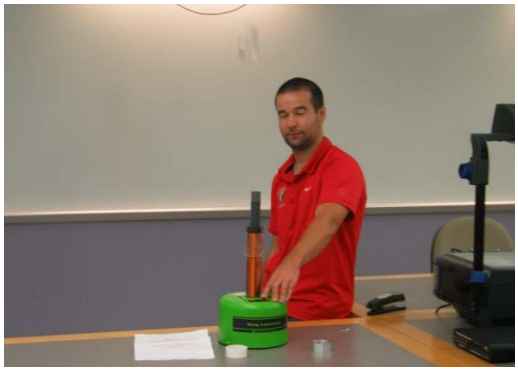
Ring Launcher







Purpose: To demonstrate Lenz's Law and electromagnetic induction by launching a ring into the air.

Location: Room 146; shelf N2

There is an adjustable plastic collar that determines how high the ring will be launched. We have it fixed so that when launched from a table the ring will not reach the ceiling. However, the device should not be placed directly below a light. Press the white button to energize the coils and the ring will launch into the air. The instruction manual has a description of why the phenomenon happens. To sum it up, the current in the coil induces a current in the ring, which creates an opposing magnetic field to the core. The iron core can be removed to show that the magnetic field produced by the coil is weaker. (i.e. The effect is less dramatic.) Also, there is a plastic white ring, to show that a non-conductive object will not be launched, and an aluminum ring with a slit to show that the ring it will not be launched if the current cannot go around the ring.