

Project Profile

UNIVERSITY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Augusta

The University Health Care System is anchored by the 581-bed community hospital located in downtown Augusta, Georgia. The hospital was first established in 1818, making it the second-oldest hospital in Georgia. In addition to its main campus, University Health Care System has campuses in South Augusta and in the suburbs of Martinez and Evans. UHCS was named as the 2013/2014 Consumer Choice Award winner by the National Research Corporation (NRC) for the 15th year in a row, cementing its role as the region's top hospital. UHCS is totally committed to quality of care and believes that the patient environment plays an important role in maximizing safety, quality of service and positive healthcare outcomes.

Facility Type:

Healthcare

Square Footage:

1.5 million SF

Products:

T8 Fixtures with Occupancy and Daylight Controls

Savings:

\$443,628 Annually

Incentives:

Credits from Georgia Power

"The solution was custom designed based upon an engineering grade audit conducted prior to project implementation to insure all lighting, safety and healthcare requirements were met."

Situation

A multi-building and multi-purpose facility with unique patient and practitioner needs in each environment, UHCS had undergone separate upgrades to the lighting systems over the years. However, the facility was looking to standardize and save energy while also making sure that all obsolete T12 technology was eliminated. Approved funding required at least a 3 year payback period for the project. However given the vastly different lighting requirements throughout the facility, a comprehensive lighting plan had to be developed based on a thorough room by room audit. Local lighting contractors and manufacturers were unable to provide a comprehensive and turnkey approach.

Solution

The solution was custom designed based upon an engineering grade audit conducted prior to project implementation to insure all lighting, safety and healthcare requirements were met. The energy efficient lighting project incorporated T8 fixtures and the elimination and proper disposal of all non-standard lighting throughout the facility. Occupancy sensors and daylight controls were also incorporated to reduce energy consumption when least needed. Both the design/audit and implementation phases were performed by Eco Engineering — on-time and on-budget.

Results

The project achieved substantial energy savings while creating a brighter, safer and more uplifting visual environment for patients and staff.

Annual Demand Reductions

More than 6,764 kW over the first year

Annual Consumption Savings

Estimated at 4,627,896 kWh per year

Reduced Billings

Coupled with the credits earned from a rebate program offered by local utility provider Georgia Power, the project delivered total energy savings of \$443,628 for the first year following the renovation. The estimated total project payback period was 2.8 years, meeting all financial requirements associated with the renovation.