

Hiram Walker Wins With Graybar Lighting Solution...



Founded in 1858, Hiram Walker is one of Windsor, Ontario's premier industrial employers and over the years has gone through many transformations, yet has remained steadfast in its culture and heritage. In 2006, a French company by the name of Pernod Ricard purchased Hiram Walker and, in keeping with Hiram's tradition, nothing would be changed, only enhanced, asking employees to think outside the box, looking for ways to reduce energy and mitigate their carbon footprint on our environment.

The Project:

Hiram Walker's main office building housed 722 older, four lamp, 40 watt fluorescent fixtures. These fixtures were also coupled with old magnetic ballasts that consumed a great deal of energy. Not only were the fixtures showing their age, but light levels and maintenance costs were a constant nuisance. It has been Hiram Walker's concern to do their part in reducing energy consumption. Graybar spoke with Neil Bishop, Hiram Walker Project Engineer, about different ways that we could partner with his company and assist in their initiatives. Graybar's initial plan was to look into new technology. With the advent of electronic ballasts, T8 and T5 lamps, we were pleased to start putting in place energy saving proposals that would have a tremendous impact.

The Solution:

The four floor facility accommodates a vast number of employees, however not every employee wanted or needed the same light levels or placement of new fixtures. There were areas where fixtures remained on throughout the day where no traffic or work was being performed for large amounts of time. It was Graybar's mission to coordinate efforts with Hiram Walker to find the best solution fit. Over a number of site assessments, Robert Foss, Graybar Lighting Manager, and Trevor Elliott, Graybar Account Manager, ascertained the optimal layout that would enhance individual work environments and save the most energy possible. By selecting a number of diverse fixtures in the Cooper Lighting line-up, Graybar and Hiram Walker were able to collaborate and come to some major decisions. Not only would Hiram Walker see the number of fixtures go from 722 to 582, but they would also see 2,888 40-watt lamps reduced to 1,746 28-watt lamps.

The Win:

Hiram Walker has installed their entire office structure with Graybar's lighting solution package. The real win comes from eliminating old PCB laden ballasts and mercury filled T12 lamps. The new technology provided Hiram Walker with TCLP, environment friendly lamps and energy efficient electronic ballasts. Four months have passed and the reports look fantastic. Hiram Walker's main office building has realized an average reduction of 50,000 kwh, which equates to savings of more than \$4,000.00 per month.

The reviews are in and employees have been very enthusiastic about the new layout and lighting levels. The staff is also excited about the fact that they are contributing to energy savings and reducing the overall carbon footprint on our environment. To put a nice bow on this prominent venture, Graybar was happy to submit the ERIP paperwork on Hiram Walker's behalf, thus assisting in an overall 10% rebate back to the project's cost.



Hiram Walker Main Office - Windsor, ON

"To date, we have had an average utility reduction of 17% for this building. At this rate, our payback will occur in 2.7 years, not at the modest goal of 3.8 years on the capital expense. I have also received multiple compliments on the quality and level of lighting as compared to the older fixtures. Based on this successful program, we have completed several other installations across the plant".

Neil Bishop,
Project Engineer

"Overall, the level of expertise, planning and implementation from Graybar was outstanding. The project has been a benchmark at the plant based on the adherence to budget and timelines provided through Graybar".

Neil Bishop,
Project Engineer