

Watt Stopper Lighting Controls Produce Savings for Panera Bread Franchisee

Aware of the energy savings potential and convenience of lighting controls, Breads of the World sought a control system for its Panera Bread retail stores. The company's goal was to find a solution that offered both energy efficiency and simple, flexible automated operation.

Before the decision to install an automated control system, executives encouraged managers at the bakery-cafés to turn lights off in an attempt to save energy. Although this worked for short periods of time, lights were often left on when managers became busy with other projects.

After researching lighting controls, Breads of the World decided on an integrated control solution from The Watt Stopper. The system, which includes a lighting control panel, occupancy sensors, and photocells, were installed at select Panera stores in Colorado and Ohio.

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***- Keith Willis
Construction Project Manager***

Panera selected The Watt Stopper's Smartwired™ Lighting Control Panel to provide flexible scheduling. It allows overlapping days and blink warnings of lighting prior to shut-off. The panel works in conjunction with dataline switches for simple timed overrides. With the store's long daytime operating hours combined with nightly baking hours, varying weekday/weekend hours, and with managers often working throughout

the night, this level of control flexibility is essential for maintaining a comfortable and hassle free work environment.

With push-button programming and preprogrammed control scenarios, the lighting control panel is easy for store managers to use and change the settings. Managers trained the maintenance personnel on the system in one afternoon.

For the stores' outdoor lighting, Panera combined time scheduling and daylighting control. Astronomic scheduling through the panel's clock predicts sunrise and sunset times and turns lights on and off accordingly. For additional energy savings, photocells were used to keep outdoor lighting off if enough natural light is present. These two control methods ensure exterior lighting control operates smoothly regardless of the season. Photocell and time-scheduled control from the panel also manage signage, parking, and security lights.

Some of the Panera stores feature skylights that provide significant daylight. In these stores, a Watt Stopper EM photocell transmits daylight level data to the control panel. The panel holds lighting off if enough natural light is present.

To further energy savings, occu-



pancy sensors were installed to keep lights off during times of vacancy. WT-600 ultrasonic sensors control lights in restrooms; able to detect motion through restroom stalls, Panera doesn't need to worry about false OFFs. CB Low Temperature occupancy sensors, designed to work in areas as cold as -40° F, control lighting in freezers.

Keith Willis, Construction Project Manager for Breads of the World, noted that, "the greatest thing for us is that the lighting control just happens without variance."

As Willis reflects, "The lighting control system makes it easy for our sales team to focus on our customer and not have to worry about energy consumption; the store operates by itself."

Working seamlessly together, The Watt Stopper products easily meet each store's needs for automated control, flexible scheduling, and energy efficiency.

Thrilled to find a cost effective solution from one manufacturer, Breads of the World plans to install similar systems at more of its Panera stores in 2004.