

Case Study

Companies House

- Customer: Companies House
- No of units installed: 600
- Electricity Bills: Reduced by £6,900+ / year
- CO₂ Savings: 43 tonnes / year



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Companies House in Cardiff installed energy-efficient fluorescent lighting using retrofit converter, 'Save It Easy®', within its multi-storey car park – a process that reduced the on-site energy bills by almost £7,000 a year.

CLIENT TESTIMONIAL

“ The cost of replacing the entire installation with new ballasts and lamps was extreme, including dismantling and disposing of old fittings, purchasing new fittings and the labour-intensive process of installing them. Discovering that the option of retrofitting was available made it a far more feasible project.”

Gareth Leek

Environmental Manager at Companies House

BACKGROUND

Companies House, an Executive Agency of the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), registers all limited companies in Britain – more than 2 million in total. The Cardiff base of Companies House was keen to extend its dedication to efficiency to the way its premises are lit. The organisation's multi-storey car park – which is lit for 12 hours per day, 6 days a week – was identified as a key source of energy waste.

THE CHALLENGE

Installing energy-efficient T5 lighting within the car park seemed like the natural route forward. However, due to size and technical differences between the old-style fluorescent lamps and new T5 lamps, previous practice for upgrading to energy-efficient lighting was to rip out and replace all the

light fittings. With hundreds of 5ft T8 tubes in the car park that needed to be replaced or substituted for lower energy versions, complete overhaul would have generated a huge amount of waste – and not a small amount of stress!

THE SOLUTION

The innovative Save It Easy converters allowed Companies House to avoid the waste and disruption associated with replacing all the car park light fittings. Instead, the in-house team was able to replace 600 5ft T8 lamps with 5ft T5 equivalents using Save It Easy, which allowed the new lamps to be slotted into the existing fittings.

RESULTS AND OUTCOME

The project's energy savings exceeded the predicted figures, with annual cost savings of £3,719 and annual CO₂ savings of 23 tonnes achieved. Even better, during the refit, Companies House realised that the car park was overlit, allowing 430 lamps to be removed completely. By virtue of eliminating so many obsolete lamps, total cost savings added up to £6,927 per year, with a total annual CO₂ saving of 43 tonnes.

What's more, the project paid for itself in just 9 months.

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