



## Boise Manufacturing Plant Upgrades Lighting to Improve Work Environment and Cut Costs

### SITUATION

A Boise firm had a large manufacturing facility that used T-12 fluorescent lamps in the office area and 1000 watt metal halide lamps in the manufacturing and warehouse locations.

### CHALLENGE

The company saw an opportunity to reduce energy usage, enhance safety and improve the quality of the workspace for its employees by upgrading its lighting.

### SOLUTION

The plant contracted with Enterprise Electric to install 175 High Intensity Discharge 6-lamp T-5 fluorescent I-beam fixtures in the manufacturing area and 660 T-5 fluorescent fixtures in the offices. Enterprise Electric retrofitted all of the office fixtures, installing a clean lens and reflector. This

provided like-new performance while saving labor expense. The new lighting was installed after normal hours so that the upgrade did not impact production schedules.

### RESULTS

The project was completed safely, on time, and within budget. The company was pleased with the professionalism and safety regimen of the skilled electricians Enterprise Electric provided. The increased light output of the lamps allowed Enterprise to delamp many fixtures, reducing overall energy costs while enabling more functional and pleasant lighting for workers.

### BENEFITS

Energy costs dropped over \$53,000 a year—from \$67,000.00 per year before the upgrade to only \$14,400.00 per year afterward.

Comments from workers indicate that the workspace is now brighter and that some have experienced less fatigue after the upgrade.

Additional energy savings were realized because cooling costs were lower due to the reduction in heat produced by the new fixtures. Total costs of the lighting upgrade were recouped in less than one year.

NOTE: This project was completed before Idaho Power introduced its Easy Upgrades Rebate Incentive program, which reimburses businesses for upgrading to more efficient electrical fixtures, such as lighting. If the Easy Upgrades program had been in effect when this project was undertaken, it's estimated the business would have qualified for approximately \$32,000 in rebates, reducing time to payback to less than six months.