



Idaho Power Chooses Enterprise Electric for Its Own Internal Lighting Retrofit Project

Situation

Idaho Power was remodeling the second floor of their 22,000 square foot facility and needed to run new power lines to address space and cubicle relocation. In addition, they had older, inefficient T12 fluorescent fixtures they wanted to retrofit in order to reduce energy usage—a key strategic initiative for the company.

Challenge

When it came time to choose a contractor for a green project within its own facilities, you can be sure that Idaho Power was going to be careful to pick a provider with stellar credentials. Although initially there was a lower bid for the project, that bidder had not included the required modifications to the fire alarm system (to comply with Boise zoning rules regarding improvements). The missing components and labor accounted for their lower cost.

Due to its expertise in retrofits, Enterprise Electric's bid had no such oversight and had included the necessary fire alarm modifications. Enterprise Electric was awarded the contract once Idaho Power compared the bids on an equal basis.

Solution

A crew of Enterprise Electric electricians replaced 98 older, inefficient T12 lamps with fewer, high-efficiency T8 fixtures. In addition to replacing the fixtures, the new lighting plan—designed by Idaho Power—incorporated motion sensors to turn off lights in unoccupied spaces. The plan also included Light Harvesting. With Light Harvesting, photocells sense lighting levels in the east, south and west areas of the office space as the sun travels across the sky. The photocells turn off lights in appropriate sectors when there is sufficient daylight available.

With the retrofits, Idaho Power will **save about \$2,500 per year and reduce energy usage by approximately 38%. The payback period is projected at 36+ months.** What's more, the payback period may actually turn out to be shorter when energy savings from the motion sensors and Light Harvesting are fully realized.

In addition to the lighting retrofit, Enterprise Electric also rewired power to accommodate the repositioning of cubicles and partitions within the remodeled space. Further, Enterprise Electric also repositioned fire alarm annunciators so that they mapped to the new partition placements (to comply with Boise City zoning regulations).

To learn more, please email Doug Keith at doug@enterpri-seelectricboise.com or phone 208-344-0441.