

CASE STUDY

Product: Save It Easy® Inline T5 adaptor
Customer: University of Wollongong
Customer Contact: Available upon request
Location: Northfields Ave Wollongong NSW 2522 Australia
Investment: AUD\$90,000 (including T5 lamps & installation)
Annual Savings: AUD\$12,000 (T12) & \$11,000 (T8)
Return on Investment: 21% (58 mths) T12 & 34% (35 mths) T8
Greenhouse gas savings per year: 133 Tonnes of CO₂ equivalent



Project Description:



Rated as Australian University of the Year by *The Good Universities Guide* over two consecutive years in 1999-2000 for outstanding R&D partnerships and in 2000-2001 for preparing its students for the e-world, the University of Wollongong

EXCELLENCE INNOVATION DIVERSITY

(UOW) has also been ranked the nation's top university for educational experience and graduate outcomes for the last five years. Its Vice Chancellor, Professor G.R. Sutton describing it as: "... a University of international standing with an enviable record of achievement in teaching and research. It is also located in one of the most beautiful settings...an hour's drive south of Australia's largest city, Sydney."

UOW has a long history of being at the forefront of environmental and energy saving initiatives, and has won the prestigious NSW Government "Green Globe" awards on several occasions for its actions in energy saving; consequently, since 2006 UOW has steadily decreased electricity consumption. Striving for excellence and innovation, UOW sought solutions to make its on-campus fluorescent lighting more efficient. Campus lighting mostly consisted of electromagnetically ballasted T8 lamps with some very old T12 lamps operating on a rapid start ballast.

After investigating a number of solutions, UOW contracted Ilum-A-Lite a partner organisation of ecoBright® to use its innovative Save it Easy® T5

electronic in-line adapters to upgrade both the Rapid Start T12 lamps and T8 lighting to T5 efficiency. A simple upgrade system, Save It Easy® adapters are fitted to each end of a T5 lamp, installed in place of the original T8 lamp with the simplicity of a lamp change. Energy savings in excess of 30% are achieved on normal T8, 36 watt fittings and more than 40% with T12 Rapid Start fittings.

Rapid Start T12 technology is quite old and notoriously difficult to upgrade to T5 standard - until Save it Easy® was considered. Whilst a slightly more complex and expensive task than a simple T8 upgrade, the savings in energy are greater. Additionally, the problems associated with obsolescence and the high cost of maintenance of these old T12 fittings are overcome. Perhaps more importantly after upgrade the lighting changed from non-conforming under Australian Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) to complying at the top end of MEPS.

UOW commenced the upgrades in one building totally fitted out with T12 lighting and with students and classes in full swing, Ilum-A-Lite upgraded the lighting over 5 working days; the T8 lighting was upgraded over three days. Minimal waste was generated and all T8 and T12 fluorescent tubes were recycled. UOW is continuing its upgrade program, demonstrating its commitment to energy efficiency, the environment and its own mottoes of "excellence" and "innovation".



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