



AT A GLANCE

City Market
Burlington, VT

PROJECT

LED lighting
system retrofit

SAVINGS

42,217 kWh of energy
saved per year

City Market/Onion River Co-op LED Lighting Retrofit

Background

The City Market/Onion River Co-op is a 16,000 sq. ft. community-owned food cooperative located in beautiful downtown Burlington, Vermont. City Market is Burlington’s only downtown grocery store, open 363 days per year. City Market provides a critical service to the residents of Burlington and the larger community by providing conventional, organic and local products at a fair price. Over 3,000 customers pass through the doors each day and the Co-op is also extremely dedicated to supporting the local economy and enhancing the sustainability of agriculture. They work with over 1,000 Vermont vendors to feature the widest selection of local products in the state. 73% of the vendors they do business with are located in Vermont and over 60 cents of every dollar in sales stays in Vermont.

Energy costs continue to challenge every business, large and small, and City Market, Onion River Co-op is striving to implement innovative energy-efficient products in their store for long-term sustainability.

Challenge

The existing metal halide task lighting was becoming extremely cost prohibitive to operate and maintain. In the produce and meat sections, the ultra-violet light spectrum from this light source was causing premature aging of the product resulting in shorter shelf life and decreased grocery profitability. Finding the right solution for the customers and the employees was a top priority for facilities manager, Brent Demers. He needed to find an attractive solution with a high color rendering index and proper color temperature to accentuate produce, meat, prepared foods, and deli offerings and still be able to save enough energy to make the overall facility improvements cost effective. With freezer and refrigeration units running 24/7, energy demand is high at the 16,000 square foot store. An energy-efficient LED lighting solution aligned with the organization’s overall green initiatives and will save energy costs and directly benefits its customers.

“The lights have been very well received and the whole store has a whole new dynamic of brightness and colors. The only problem is dirt is more visible so we are cleaning the floors more often!”

— Brent Demers,
Facilities Manager
City Market



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Solution

Leading Edge Design Group (LEDG) worked with the City Market team and tried multiple products and several different LED fixture types to come up with the right solution to fit the demands of the grocery sections and improve the store's overall aesthetics. LEDG consistently ran energy-efficiency assessments on each option while ensuring that whatever solution was agreed upon would meet City Market's budget and long-term sustainability goals. Once the fixture selection process was finalized, LEDG worked closely with the account representative from Burlington Electric Department to provide a very generous financial incentive for City Market that will help them achieve an outstanding ROI sooner.

The team selected Electra LED TLC series 33 Watt track heads with a color rendering index (CRI) above 85 and a color temperature of 2750 K. This solution not only improved the overall product presentation in all grocery sections, it has drastically reduced operating and maintenance costs. AC loads have also decreased as a result of the corresponding wattage reduction and overall the new LED lighting is saving 42,217 kWh of energy per year and removing 29 tons of carbon. The lamp heat output has changed from 550 to 750 degrees Fahrenheit to less than 110 degrees. An added benefit of the LED solution is the substantially increased life cycle of the LED product (60,000 hours) compared to the old metal halide system (8,500 hours). This dramatically reduces the maintenance costs while providing for consistent light levels and colors throughout.

City Market/Onion River Co-op has received very positive reviews from their customers and employees on the LED lighting in the produce and meat sections. Shelf life has increased and profitability in these areas has improved benefiting the grocery store and its loyal patrons in many ways.



Previous metal halide task lighting



Produce section lit with the new Electra LED TLC series



Bananas never looked so good at the City Market!



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About

Leading Edge Design Group is a leading national provider of energy optimization services that delivers significant energy savings to the public and private marketplaces through efficient data center designs and emerging LED lighting and wireless lighting control technologies. Founded in 2007 with the goal of pursuing, promoting, and providing the finest energy optimization solutions available, we help our customers minimize the environmental impact of their businesses while improving operational reliability and reducing costs. Leading Edge Design Group is dedicated to encouraging, challenging, and contributing to energy industry innovation with an ongoing commitment to our community and our environment. Visit us at www.ledesigngroup.com and connect with us on Twitter @ledesigngroup.