



CASE STUDY

VALUE ENGINEERING

DESCRIPTION: Value engineering is a method used to improve a project by discovering better alternatives to design, processes and materials.

SITUATION: IEC was hired through a SABER contract at Whiteman Air Force Base, located 70 miles outside of Kansas City, Mo., to retrofit lighting in one of the hangars, from T-12 fluorescent light bulbs to T-8 light bulbs.

SOLUTION: Electrical design and construction management teams conducted an energy consumption audit and provided projected savings using kilowatt/hour captures. Product information was assessed, and IEC recommended LED (light-emitting diodes) installation and leveraged bulk purchasing power and supplier relationships to allow the government to expand purchasing power and upgrade equipment. LED installation was more cost-efficient compared with the T-8 fluorescent bulbs.

RESULT: Installation of cutting-edge technology saved the government money in long-term energy and maintenance costs. The government was able to fund more buildings, providing extra mileage for their budget while reducing energy consumption and energy costs. IEC secured a second delivery order and an additional large-scale retrofit project by using industry knowledge and expertise to find the best solution available.



DID YOU KNOW?

During WWII, shortages of skilled labor, raw materials and component parts forced Lawrence Miles, Jerry Leftow and Harry Erlicher at General Electric to look for acceptable substitutes. These substitutions often reduced costs, improved the product, or both. Thus began the systemic process of value engineering we know today.



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