Sparkling Hill will see $1.3 million lighting cost reduction over 10 years

GE LED lamps selected to showcase Swarovski Crystal elements

THE SITUATION

Carved into a granite cliff in the North Okanagan near Vernon, British Columbia, Sparkling Hill Resort is celebrated for its organic and modern flair—notably its creative use of $10 million in Swarovski Crystal elements that provide an atmosphere of calm and serenity. Recently, the European-influenced resort and wellness center went searching for new, more energy-efficient lighting to showcase the stunning environments of its award-winning facility.

THE SOLUTION

GE and Brite-Lite, a British Columbia-based lighting and electrical wholesaler, met with the resort’s management team to determine the best solution to showcase Sparkling Hills’ many and varied crystal decorations while also reducing energy use. It was decided that existing 50-watt halogen bulbs would be changed to GE’s 7-watt PAR20 LED and 12-watt PAR30 LED replacement lamps in guest suites, penthouses and dining venues as well as meeting and activity rooms, among other areas.

“Everything at Sparkling Hill has been designed to fit perfectly into the landscape, just as GE’s proposed lighting solution perfectly fit our one-of-a-kind luxury environment.”
-Wolfgang Hoppichler, chief engineer, Sparkling Hill Resort

Following the installation of 2,200 PAR20 LED and 300 PAR30 LED lamps, Sparkling Hill reduced its annual electricity use by 828,000 kWhs—a nearly $66,300 lighting cost savings based on an $0.08 kWh rate and 24 hours of operation a day.

• $138,000 total lighting cost savings/yr
• Major maintenance reduction (~2,500 fewer lamps replaced/yr)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

828,000 fewer kWhs used:
= 111 cars off the road
= 158 acres of trees planted

crystal clear savings
Synergizing the new light with decorative crystal elements was Sparkling Hills’ foremost concern.

“To change the lighting design, it has to be the absolute right thing for a resort as unique as ours.”

-Hoppichler

THE SOLUTION CONTINUED...

Maintenance expense, meantime, has fallen sharply at the resort where staff had changed from 10 to 20 bulbs a day on average—totaling nearly 2,500 a year. Since the swap, only five LED lamps have been changed in less than two years. Including purchase, labor and disposal costs, Sparkling Hill now spends $68,000 less in annual upkeep thanks to longer-lived LED lighting technology. Totaling electricity, maintenance and related expenses, lighting costs are down $138,000 a year at Sparkling Hill Resort—a projected $1.3 million reduction over 10 years.

GE and Brite-Lite also helped the resort fund its lighting upgrade by helping it qualify for rebates from the local utility company for each new LED lamp installed. Factoring for the purchase price of the product, project payback was achieved after only three months.

Since opening in the spring of 2010, Sparkling Hill has been recognized internationally for its location, design and unique offerings. It has earned the prestigious Senses Wellness Award for “Best Mountain Spa Resort” in 2011 as well as the Elite Traveler Award for “Top 101 Hotel Suites in the World” in 2012. Incorporated throughout the resort, Swarovski Crystal creations—designed exclusively for Sparkling Hill by the famous Austrian crystal company—emulate the coolness of waterfalls and warmth of fireplaces, emanating light and vibrancy to spaces with their extraordinary brilliance, purity, and absolute precise cut.

Most recently, Sparkling Hill was named one of 11 “Trendsetting” hotels by Fodor’s Travel in its 2012 “Top 100 Hotels in the World” rankings.

For more information about this GE Lighting project, visit gelighting.com/SparklingSavings.