

Case Study

Richmond Equestrian Centre is the foremost indoor equestrian centre in the North of England. With an event every weekend and constant use during the week. They have over 20,000 horses coming to the site each year, with at least twice that number of people. They approached us to bring their lighting up to specification as the current lighting, which was 400 watt high bay, was very poor, noisy and creating shadows. It made it dangerous for both the horses and riders as the horses treat shadows like holes, and will either shy or try to jump over them.

They also wanted to reduce their maintenance and running costs.

Working with them, we contacted the British Equestrian Federation and found out the required lux level for indoor arenas which was 300 lux. We felt this specification was too low, it's just above what we would normally specify for a warehouse.

We did a design which gave them an average lux level of 570, with 4,800 kelvins and day light harvesting and PIR.

The change that it has made was immediately apparent. The centre has events most evenings and every weekend, being used by everyone from the local pony club, British Dressage and British Show jumping as well as dog agility.

We have reduced the energy consumption by 86%, they were spending £1,300 a year on maintenance. There will now be no maintenance required for the next 12 years. This site is in the process of getting signed off as a flag ship equestrian centre for the British Equestrian Federation.

This is a comment made by one regular user of the site, Elena:

"The difference the lights have made to the indoor arena are fantastic! The arena is so much brighter and inviting for horses that it makes it impossible to find fault. Compared to the old lights which were in the arena the difference is fantastic. The first thing I noticed was the fact that there was no shadows, I popped a few jumps and can safely say there was no issue with shadows, be it on the

fences or underneath them. It was a nice change to be able to jump around a course without struggling to see a stride due to a shadow. I also noticed that the lights don't make a noise when they are on which makes a nice change and seems to keep the horses slightly more relaxed. Having worked in the arenas for 6 years it's very difficult to pick fault with the lights and a lovely change to have ones which are so good".



Donna Wood - Richmond Equestrian Centre owner.

"The difference the new lights have made to our business is amazing. We had three different quotes from LED lighting companies, Energy Oasis were the only ones who took the time and effort to find out what we should have, speaking to the relevant governing bodies, understanding what we needed and then providing a turnkey solution. They also made sure that our site complied with all health and safety requirements and gave us an electrical safety certificate. Their scheme has the advantage of complying with the information technology list, as a result we benefited from the enhanced capital allowance scheme. We cannot praise Mike and the team at Energy Oasis enough and would have no hesitation in recommending them to other companies"

Project Management.

We discussed with the client when would be the best time for us to do the work for them to cause the least disruption to their site. We agreed a project plan and signed this off with them.

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This was complicated by the clients requiring of needing to operate the arenas at night, and also by the access roads to the site being resurfaced and ongoing work on the A1 which closed access to the site. We came up with a solution that worked for every one and the project was completed on time and on budget.

Customer Engagement.

As with all our projects this is a collaborative process. It is initiated by a project meeting with clearly defined goals and objectives, these are then agreed and included within the scope of works and project plan. During the project we communicate regularly with our client and sub – contractors to ensure everything in the project plan is being adhered to. When the site survey was completed we established the current lighting circuit and general wiring in the building was not safe and did not meet current electrical safety requirements. As this project was being funded by a bank loan, we had to produce a document for the clients bank manager and explained how the energy saving would be achieved and how we would support the installation over the warranty period. This was well received by the client and the bank and the project went ahead.

Implementation.

Because of the numerous access issues with the A1 and resurfacing works, we worked with the client and a neighbour's business to ensure we could access the site safely and easily. The neighbour is the Ministry of Defence. We also changed our terms of payment to facilitate the clients and our requirement's to make the current electricity supply to site and ongoing circuit to be made safe before we installed the lighting scheme. This included a new distribution board, new earth spikes and bonds (previously they didn't have any). Correct loading and circuit breakers on each phase.

This project was completed on time and on budget. The extra works were funded by an extended payment plan. This was all agreed with the client.

This site is now a show case for British Equestrian Society, British Dressage and British Show Jumping. We are working with these organisations to help them upgrade and improve the other sites that there members own and use. It also helps them with the funding they give their members to help them reduce energy consumption and meet there "Green Credentials".

Risk Management and Risk Mitigation..

With all projects we place a high priority on health and safety for our clients, staff and sub-contractors. In addition on this site we had to consider animal welfare and the risks that come with this. When working a large canvas sheet was placed on the ground so that any screws, wire or other waste could easily be collected and did not get lost in the floor of the arena which is sand. Neither us, nor the client could be liable for damaging a very expensive horse or pony.

This is covered off in the detailed project plan and RAMs document that is produced before work starts. All our staff and subcontractors comply with any on-site inductions and particular health and safety requirements of each site we work on.

These vary dramatically from a school or sports hall to a heavy engineering or chemical plant. In terms of the performance of our solutions, we offer some clients depending on their profile, funded solutions, effectively this is an ESSCO. We are liable and accountable for our performance. In order for us to offer this model we have to be totally confident in what we do, propose and install. The clients get the same advice, service and turnkey solution irrespective if they are paying for it or if it is funded.

Management of Partners and Sub Contractors.

We have a clearly documented procedure and process which is signed and agreed with all our partners, manufacturers, suppliers and sub – contractors. It is reviewed every 12 months to ensure it is current and compliant with new legislation or changes with legislation.