



Williams GL System Improves Lighting, Saves Food Processor \$25,000 Annually

Gerber Products Company, Fort Smith, AR - Faced with the mandate to reduce overall energy costs within this 940,000 square foot high-speed food processing facility, Gerber's Energy Team took more than a baby step when they chose to start replacing their 400-watt high pressure sodium and metal halide lighting.

"We wanted to change our lighting everywhere and anywhere we could to become more energy efficient," said Mike Johnson, Continuous Improvement Manager at Gerber's Fort Smith plant. "At the same time, we needed to make sure the maintenance costs associated with any new lighting were minimal."

One critical maintenance issue for Johnson and the Energy Team was to select lighting that could handle extreme temperature conditions. Mark Cloud, a lighting manufacturers' representative at Curtis Stout Inc., told Johnson that the Williams GL system would meet those requirements and cut energy use in half when compared to Gerber's existing lighting. After the first GL units — each with four 54-watt T5HO fluorescent lamps — met the test in the boiler room and cold storage locker, additional units were installed in Gerber's labeling room and in selected manufacturing and maintenance areas. At the same time, the company is pocketing the savings from reduced energy costs.

"The 200 existing 400-watt high pressure sodium and metal halide lights we replaced with the Williams GLs will save us about \$25,000 in annual energy costs," said Johnson, estimating the overall return on investment at less than two years. "I'm already preparing my capital request for additional GL fixtures, which I plan to install in our warehouse."

Job Specific Information:

- 200 400-watt high pressure sodium and metal halide fixtures were replaced one-for-one with Williams GL 4-lamp 54-watt T5HO luminaires with door frame and lens
- Mounting height: 30' above the floor
- Spacing: 20' on center
- Footcandle level: 60 average maintained on work surfaces
- Energy costs: Reduced 50%, providing a two-year return on investment



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