

Check-In



Healthcare - Upgrade

Watson Clinic

Lakeland, FL

State-of-the-art medical facility upgrades to Cree® LED lighting for operational savings and improved patient experience.

- More than 36.5 million watts saved per year
- Almost 115 million BTUs saved annually
- Annual operating savings of \$3,650





BETTER LIGHT, BETTER HEALTH.

Established in 1941, Watson Clinic is one of the largest multi-specialty medical clinics in the Southeast, providing comprehensive healthcare services to residents of the greater Central Florida area. Watson Clinic has grown to include more than 200 board-certified physicians representing more than 40 medical and surgical specialties at its main clinic in Lakeland and 17 other locations in Polk, Pasco and Hillsborough counties.

The Watson Clinic staff consistently assesses and improves operations wherever possible to benefit both the quality of care it provides and its bottom line. In the summer of 2009, Assistant Director of Facilities, Gary Picklesimer, began a study of the clinic's lighting infrastructure to assess how to cut costs while looking to continue to improve operational efficiency.

Picklesimer was introduced to Cree® products while attending a national lighting conference, where, he says, it became very clear that Cree "offered the best product from a design, cost and functional standpoint."

Picklesimer chose to replace the clinic's 75-watt halogen lamps with Cree CR6™ and LR6™ LED downlights. Watson Clinic is also now using Cree CR22™ and CR24™ LED troffers, and has introduced 0-10V dimming control as it rolls out daylight harvesting throughout its buildings.

With daylight harvesting, as the sun rises the lights dim down from the edge of the rooms to the middle, saving energy and providing for consistent lighting throughout the day.

While advancing its efficiency objectives with this Cree lighting system, the clinic also now has more light per space. Its patients have been noting how much brighter and cheerier the lobby areas now seem, and staff has particularly appreciated the improved lighting in the clinic's diagnostic exam rooms. Thanks to the improved lighting, Picklesimer has been able to remove eight fixtures in one lobby and twelve in another.

Watson Clinic is now reducing its energy demand by 100,045 watts per day, for a yearly reduction of more than 36.5 million watts saved. It also has now reduced its BTU output by nearly 115 million BTUs a year. Given that Picklesimer is still in the early stages of the implementation process, he anticipates these numbers to continue to climb dramatically.

It's estimated that the Cree system will have paid for itself in efficiency savings in approximately two and a half years.

“ Our doctors love this new lighting system, and our patients love it too – most particularly, our older patients, whose eyesight isn't generally quite so good. They notice something different, without knowing what it is, and comment on how much better the lobby areas look. ”

Gary Picklesimer

*Assistant Director of Facilities,
Watson Clinic*

Read more case studies at:
www.cree.com/lighting

