

Taking a dim view

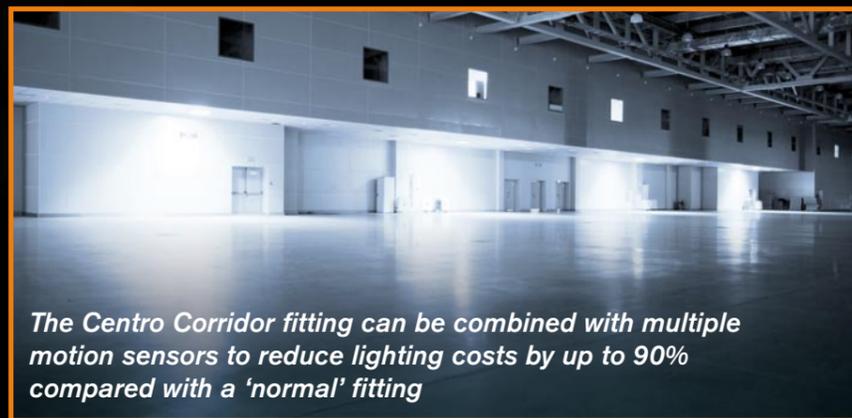
IT MAY HAVE THE SUSPICION OF AN OXYMORON ABOUT IT, BUT INTELLIGENT DIMMING IS A VERY REAL IDEA, AND IT'S VERY MUCH AVAILABLE IN CENTRO'S INNOVATIVE CORRIDOR LIGHTING SOLUTION. IT COULD SAVE YOU A LOT OF MONEY.

How much energy does industry use in lighting? How much does it waste? Although precise answers are hard to give for either question, we can be sure of one thing: it's a lot, on both counts. In fact, while statistics vary, many sources estimate that lighting accounts for some 20% of total industrial energy consumption, and that it is responsible for 20-40% of electricity cost in most organisations. Other sources estimate that a typical SME can expect to save around £20,000 a year merely by adopting more efficient lighting systems.

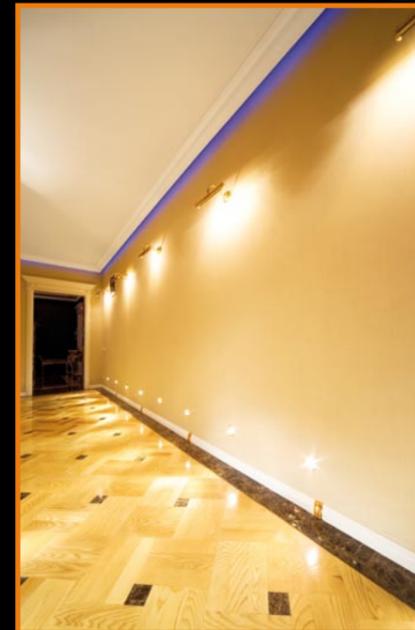
This, of course, is unlikely to come as a surprise. In recent years, the need to reduce carbon footprint has become part of the public consciousness, and an attempt to cut energy costs is now pretty much a reflex action by management across all sectors of industry and commerce. But, while the problem itself might not be news, there still remains much debate about the solution – especially in the lighting arena. After all, various low-energy technologies are now available, and others are appearing on the horizon. Which one is likely to be most effective over the long-term for your application may not be completely clear.

That's where ERIKS can help. With many experts in energy saving and a comprehensive understanding of lighting technology, we're ideally placed to advise you on the optimum solution for your needs. Of course, the solution our engineers will recommend always depends on the specifics of the application, but one highly innovative system which is increasingly appropriate is the Centro T5 Corridor Fitting. Perfect for usually unoccupied areas such as stairwells, stores, warehouse areas and corridors with many doors or narrow aisles, the Centro Corridor fitting can be combined with multiple motion sensors to reduce lighting costs by up to 90% compared with a 'normal' fitting!

The obvious question is: how? How does the Centro system cut energy consumption so dramatically? The answer to this is, in principle at least, simple – by ensuring that lights are only on when they're needed. But the Centro solution isn't just an ordinary system based on presence detection. On the contrary, it uses an intelligent dimming system that taking presence-controlled lighting to a new level by offering not only energy efficiency, but enhanced comfort, safety and security, too. This is a major differentiator from conventional options.



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Intelligent dimming is at the heart of the Centro system. When no-one is present, the light is smoothly dimmed to a lower lighting level (10%) instead of being switched off completely. However, when someone enters the controlled space, a light level of 100% is available immediately. This means that, if the sensor fails, the lighting is already working at 10%, ensuring minimum health and safety levels are maintained and further cutting costs by adding to the lifespan of the installed tube. Because any number of motion sensors and luminaires can be connected in parallel, long corridors or large areas such as underground garages can be fully covered.

And the Centro system offers more than just superb functionality – it's easy and cost-effective to install, too. In fact, thanks to a straightforward connection between the Centro control gear and the motion sensor, wiring is very simple, and the entire system requires just a few standard components. The Centro luminaires are available with IP65 ingress protection, and the high frequency versions give an average 40% energy saving over the standard switch-start version. When used with a T5 fluorescent tube, they last – on average – 12000 hours longer between lamp changes.

Try ERIKS – they're grrrrreat!

When Kellogg wanted to install an energy efficient lighting system at its highly-automated production facility in Manchester, the company turned to ERIKS. Why? Because, like many large companies, Kellogg had custom requirements that could be met only by a partner with recognised know-how in the lighting field.

Some of these requirements were necessary to ensure compliance with the standards of the food industry. Take, for example, the stainless steel and glass elements of the fittings. As both are a potential risk in a food production environment, Kellogg wanted safe alternatives. This was no problem for ERIKS who replaced the glass-reinforced polyester with polycarbonate, and designed out the stainless steel clip which holds the diffuser, so that it connects directly to the body of the fitting.

Kellogg wanted to keep production shut-down to an absolute minimum. To ensure this, ERIKS delivered all fittings (almost 3000 of them!) not only pre-wired, but with the tubes inside them and suspension hooks in place. This gave Kellogg a true out-of-the-box solution which required the very minimum of expertise and time to install.

The result is a lighting system which offers major savings. In fact Kellogg expects to save 1.6 million kWhrs

