

Making the city of Cardiff, Wales, both safe and smart

With a recent installation of 14,000 connected LED light points and Interact City lighting management software, the city of Cardiff, Wales, is well on its way to becoming a smart city.

“We were confident that Interact City would provide an open platform that is scalable and would give us flexibility for the future.”

Chris Jones, Lead Officer Electrical, Cardiff City Council

Customer challenge

The Welsh capital was looking for a way to support safety and security for its citizens while reducing the city's carbon footprint and improving operational efficiencies. To do so, the city installed new connected lighting. The network of street lights, monitored and controlled remotely by Interact City lighting management software, provides Cardiff with a scalable digital infrastructure that can be upgraded to provide additional smart city services.

Solution

The Welsh capital has over 360,000 residents and welcomes over 20 million visitors annually. By migrating its city lighting to a connected LED lighting system, the city benefited from over 50% annual energy savings, and enabled the management of over 14,000 luminaires via a centralized Interact City lighting management dashboard.

Interact – Now and in the future

“Our connected street lighting will contribute to a safer environment for the citizens of Cardiff and will enable the city to achieve savings in energy and gain operational efficiencies,” said Jacques Letzelter, Head of Public Lighting for Philips Lighting. “It provides a scalable and flexible digital infrastructure which gives

the city options for the future, such as inputting data into smart city dashboards or adding sensors that could, for example, monitor noise or traffic. It’s fitting that Cardiff represents the 1,000th project to use our Interact City street lighting management software: a city and a technology shaping the future.”



Pleasing the people

To determine the impact of lighting on the lives of its citizens, the Cardiff City Council, along with consultancy firm Jacobs Ltd, researched

public views on the city’s current street lighting to assess potential options. The findings were instrumental to Cardiff selecting luminaires producing 3000 K warm white light.



Better responsiveness

Cardiff’s top priorities were to ensure maximum benefit for citizens and capitalize on potential cost and energy savings. With continual

monitoring, the city can now respond instantly—for example, increasing light levels at peak times outside schools and hospitals.



Lighting asset management

Interact City lighting management software supports easy commissioning of new and existing lighting

assets plus remote monitoring of performance, energy consumption, and fault detection. Know exactly what is happening where and take action immediately through a real-time, data-enabled understanding of your city lighting.



Scene management

Remotely adapt city lighting to time of night, year, or context. Turn up lighting if there is a traffic accident or crime. Dim to 30% at night when nobody is

around. Use sensors on the light pole to detect activity to always keep your citizens safe and comfortable.

Project details

- Reduced carbon footprint via more than 14,000 connected LED street lights
 - Lighting electricity consumption reduced by 60%, saving more than £750,000 per year
- Project follows public consultation and offers digital infrastructure for future smart city services

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