

Low Profile Ballasts Help Create Energy Savings for Contract Manufacturer

Universal Lighting Technologies' Ballasts Solve Maintenance Headache

From its modest beginning in 1980 as a circuit board fabricator for the electronics industry, Sanmina Corp. has grown to be one of the leading contract manufacturers in the world. Sanmina produces complex printed circuit board assemblies, multilayered printed circuit boards, electronic enclosure systems, and cabling and wiring harness assemblies.

With more than 50 ISO-certified manufacturing facilities throughout North America, Europe and Asia, Sanmina serves a diversified customer base of leading original equipment manufacturers in the communications, industrial and medical instrumentation, and high-end computer industries.

Sanmina's Watsonville, Calif., complex began operation in 1980 and runs continually on a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week schedule. The three buildings originally were lit with four lamp fixtures incorporating magnetic ballasts and F40T12 lamps. As part of an ongoing improvement program, site maintenance supervisor David James was exploring energy-saving options in lighting. "Our industry is extremely cost competitive, so even



the maintenance department always is looking for ways to save money while still maintaining a positive employee production environment," commented James. "The three basic criteria for the project included reducing energy consumption, retrofitting all fluorescent fixtures to three lamps, and standardizing the fixtures to operate with one ballast to reduce inventory expense."

The electrical distributor, Allan Sharp of Western Electrical, recommended switching to a universal input voltage ballast that would standardize the ballasts in all fixtures and reduce inventory requirements. James chose to install Universal Lighting Technologies Triad[®] low profile high performance electronic instant start ballasts.

In Brief:

Project:
Sanmina Corp.

Location:
Watsonville, Calif.

Products Used:
Universal Lighting Technologies Triad[®] low profile high performance electronic ballasts (B332IUNVHP-B)

Number Installed:
270

**For more information about:
Sanmina Corp.**
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Western Electrical Products
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Universal Lighting Technologies' ballasts (B332IUNVHP-B) feature installer-friendly universal input voltage, ensuring the right voltage ballast is available every time. When combined with new F32T8 fluorescent lamps, the new lighting system was projected to provide 15 percent more light while using only three lamps per fixture.

The proposal for the new lighting system projected a four-month return on investment (ROI) with an estimated energy savings of \$50,000 annually, excluding a conservation rebate from the local utility, Pacific Gas & Electric. "The site controller, plant general manager and corporate headquarters quickly approved the project," said James.

Utilizing in-house maintenance personnel, James started the lighting renovation in Building 310. Now, 300 F32T8 lamps and 100 Universal Lighting Technologies low profile ballasts light the 40,000-square-foot



Universal Lighting Technologies Triad® low profile high performance electronic ballasts

building. During the upgrade, all fixtures were cleaned and parabolic reflectors were installed. Sanmina also installed motion sensors and automatic wall switches in Building 310 to more efficiently manage energy consumption around the clock.

Light levels have increased 15 percent in the building, and the employee response has been very positive.

Work is underway to install 420 new T8 lamps and 140 low profile high performance electronic ballasts in the two-story manufacturing building on-site. The third building will be renovated with 90 new T8 lamps and 30 low profile ballasts, as maintenance scheduling permits.

"Stocking a single ballast means we save money and do not worry about having the correct ballast when one is needed. Also, the new ballasts have certainly provided the product quality and operational life we were looking for," James commented.

He estimates that Sanmina's electrical energy costs at the Watsonville site would have risen 30 percent because of California's recent energy crisis. The new lamp/ballast system upgrade has helped offset any projected increase in energy expenses.

Universal Lighting Technologies' low profile electronic ballasts offer the convenience of universal input voltage (108 to 305 volts) as a standard feature. The technology incorporates the intelligence to sense the input voltage and regulate the input current to the ballast so that the output control to the lamps remains constant across the entire range. Universal input voltage is installer-friendly and eliminates the costly problem of installing ballasts into applications with incorrect voltage.

Universal Lighting Technologies low profile high performance ballasts also feature parallel lamp operation, which keeps other lamps functioning when one lamp fails, and operate with less than 10 percent Total Harmonic Distortion (THD). The ballasts also meet ANSI requirements and conform to the Energy Policy Act (EPACT), a key requirement for many utility programs.

Through the combined efforts of Sanmina, Universal Lighting Technologies and Western Electrical, a new lighting system was installed that met Sanmina's requirements of reducing energy consumption, providing a positive working environment and standardizing the ballast inventory.

About Universal Lighting Technologies

Universal Lighting Technologies Inc. manufactures ballasts for all lighting applications. The company's full line of ballasts is designed for exceptional performance in lamps ranging from 5 to 2000 watts. These include magnetic, electronic, and compact fluorescent, high intensity discharge, sign and neon. As a major manufacturer of electrical equipment, Universal Lighting Technologies plays a lead role in setting industry standards for quality and energy efficiency. The company actively participates in trade associations and assists in the development of many standards through ANSI, NEMA and IESNA.

Want to Know More?

Universal Lighting Technologies' ballasts are available through a nationwide network of several thousand electrical distributors and are also incorporated in the designs of leading OEM lighting fixture manufacturers. To learn more about the full line of Universal Lighting Technologies' ballasts or to request a catalog, call 1-800-BALLAST, fax your request to 615-316-5146, or visit the Web site at www.universalballast.com.



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