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Tempe Mill Avenue Bridge gets LED lamp upgrade

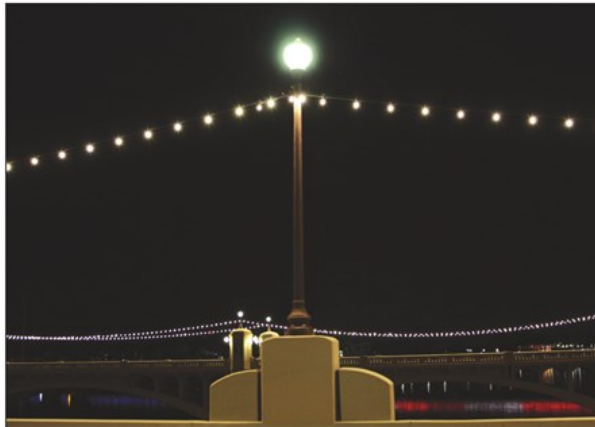
Katie Mayer
Electric Times

Dark spots no longer dot the strings of lights along Tempe's glowing Mill Avenue Bridges thanks to a recent LED lamp replacement project.

The City of Tempe worked with EDGReps and Summit Electric Supply in late June to replace more than 4,000 3-watt cold cathode fluorescent bulbs with MaxLite 2.5 watt LED marquee lamps. According to a MaxLite case study, the new lamps will save 112,500 kWh and \$183,375 in energy and maintenance costs over the 50,000-hour lifetime of the lamps.

"The light doesn't look much different than the cold cathode," said Alan Rady, the city's traffic operations supervisor and former lighting systems coordinator. "They are all lit and staying lit."

Rady said this is the fourth time the city has had to relamp the strands of lights because the bridge's 5-watt cold cathode



More than 4,000 fluorescent bulbs on the Mill Avenue in Tempe have been replaced with LED lamps.

lamps regularly went out and would become filled with water due to moisture from the lakes. The induction globe lights on each pole where the strands connect were not replaced.

The city selected vendor EDGReps because of the company's competitive pricing, Rady said. EDGReps has represented high quality electrical and lighting manufacturers in Arizona, southern Nevada and New Mexico since 1984.

"We chose MaxLite marquee bulbs for the project because of their affordability and wet-location rating and because we knew they were up to the task," said EDG Reprs President of Sales Nicole Bagozzi.

She added, "What made this critical was their timeframe. MaxLite was able to ship material to satisfy the job in one shipment and they were able to close the project in the timeframe needed for the city."

MaxLite is headquartered in New Jersey and has provided energy efficient lighting

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APS completes large transmission line project

Jayme Cook
Electric Times

Arizonans living in more isolated areas of Yuma and beyond may have grown accustomed to difficulty maintaining a steady power supply in their less populated environments, but in June this year, Arizona Public Service (APS) completed work on one of the largest transmission construction projects in the western U.S.

Dubbed HANG2, the 500-kilovolt (kV) power line now connects Phoenix to Yuma to offer Yuma area customers more reliable power supply. The HANG2 project will also improve reliability for all APS desert dwellers throughout the southwest.

Running from the Hassayampa substation (near the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station) to the North Gila substation in Yuma, the 110-mile transmission line is now only the second power line to connect Phoenix to Yuma. The \$200 million project took more than 10 years to come to fruition

from concept to completion.

"When planning for Arizona's energy future, we look out 10 to 15 years to ensure our customers always have the reliable energy they have come to expect from APS," said Pat Dinkel, APS vice president of transmission and distribution operations. "HANG2 is essentially like adding a second extension cord to our customers in Yuma. Residents and business owners in the area will have an ample supply of reliable power to run their businesses and be comfortable in their homes, even as Yuma continues to grow."

APS recognized this need for increased power capacity after noting that since 2000, Yuma County is one of the top three areas in the country in population growth and expansion.

"This project was a huge undertaking, and not just because of its size. The transmission line was constructed in some of the most isolated parts of the state, across



The 110-mile HANG2 transmission line is now only the second power line to connect Phoenix to Yuma.

remote locations of the southwest desert, and through the rugged terrain of the Laguna and Muggins Mountains—with an

emphasis on core APS values of contractor and employee safety, and on environmental

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APEX partners with IECA of Arizona for training

Katie Mayer
Electric Times

More than 40 Independent Electrical Contractors Association (IECA) of Arizona students recently earned their CADWELD certifications after attending a free training day held by Phoenix manufacturer's representative Apex Electrical Sales.

The training featured classroom and hands-on lessons on ERICO's CADWELD PLUS technology, which is a welded connection that promises to never loosen, corrode or increase in resistance for the life of the installation. The first, third and fourth-year students also participated in an interactive seminar that reviewed exothermic connections, grounding practices, lightning protection and surge.

Marc Ramirez, a 10-year IECA of Arizona instructor said the training complemented his curriculum.

"One of the students was able to go out and use CADWELD on the job because he had just gotten certified," Ramirez said.

Ramirez said he has taken IECA of Arizona classes to trainings at Apex Electrical Sales in the past and the experiences have always been valuable.

"Apex is very good to us," Ramirez said.

Kasey Olson, marketing coordinator for Apex Electrical Sales said her company conducts about one to two trainings on various products per month and that her office has a warehouse and conference room which are used as training facilities.

"The biggest thing is being able to help educate and grow the up-and-coming end users in the field and also being able to give back to the industry," Olson said.

Apex Electrical Sales has also held trainings with the University of Arizona and with engineers from Arizona State University, Olson said.

"They are getting factory training coming to them, rather than having to go to a factory," Olson said.

Following the most recent classroom training session with IECA of Arizona, the students participated in hands-on live practice training of the CADWELD PLUS exothermic connections and learned the basic techniques to ensure a safe and reliable connection in the field.



Apex recently hosted over 40 IECA Arizona students during a training for CADWELD.

The steps included basic connection preparation, taking the tamper-proof CADWELD PLUS cup and placing it into the mold along with the grounding wires being connected. Once placed in the CADWELD

mold, the welding material was electronically ignited using a battery-powered control unit with a six-foot lead. The students also took home the samples of the CADWELD connections they completed.

Apex Electrical Sales is located at 9831 S. 51st St. in Phoenix. The company was founded in March 2002 and has grown its electrical manufacturers market share in Arizona and Southern Nevada.

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Bridge

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products for the last 20 years. The company is an industry leader in LED technology and was an ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year in 2014 and 2015.

According to MaxLite, the lights illuminating Tempe's Mill Avenue Bridges are designed for decorative outdoor applications and provide the same warm color and brightness as incandescent and fluorescent light sources while generating energy savings and offering a longer lifetime. Also, the lamps are an environmentally friendly choice because they are constructed free of mercury or heavy metals and do not emit ultraviolet rays.

"There's no maintenance to the lamps," Rady said.

In addition to time and energy savings of the lamps, the glow of the strings of lights beautifully outlines of one of the Valley's most recognizable landmarks. According to the Arizona Chapter of the American Planning Association, the original Mill Avenue Bridge was constructed in 1931. The second Mill Avenue Bridge, located to the east, was opened in 1994 to accommodate additional traffic.

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