




Architectural Lighting

Minnesota DOT

How Philips Lighting revitalized a bridge for a national audience



The ActiveSite system helped revitalize an iconic bridge, enhancing the Minneapolis skyline with spectacular displays and providing residents and visitors with improved pedestrian lighting. The cloud-hosted connected lighting system has also improved efficiency by simplifying programming and enabling remote monitoring.

The big game provides a big opportunity for a city to shine

When the big game came to Minneapolis in February 2018, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) saw an opportunity to upgrade the aging lighting system on the I-35W St. Anthony Falls Bridge—and put the city in its best light for a national audience.

The bridge spans the Mississippi River and is a highly visible part of the city skyline, so the new system had to provide impressive aesthetics while withstanding harsh outdoor conditions.

Philips ActiveSite System

MnDOT officials collaborated with the Philips team to ensure that the solution would address all their needs: improving operational efficiency, simplifying maintenance, and benefiting the community by enhancing the recreational environment and attracting visitors.

The system was built on the Philips ActiveSite platform, which provides remote monitoring, maintenance, and management capabilities.

The system also includes more than 650 Philips Color Kinetics outdoor architectural LED lighting fixtures selected for their individual configurability, rugged construction, and expanded range of colors and light distribution patterns.

- MnDOT can configure, manage, and monitor the system remotely, increasing efficiency and reducing downtime.
- A combination of Philips ColorGraze and ColorReach fixtures provides maximum flexibility to remotely program lighting displays for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike.
- Reporting tools and historical analysis provide unprecedented insight into system operations and enable system managers to evaluate and optimize performance.

“The revitalization of the I-35W Bridge lighting system is a great story for the state of Minnesota. The light shows confirm the bridge as an icon in the city skyline—and a source of pride for the entire region.”

John Pedersen, Lighting Operations Supervisor at MnDOT

ActiveSite system: Collaboration for success

The MnDOT worked closely with Philips bridge lighting experts, providing valuable insights and expediting the project. Together, they created a new tool for the city to drive economic development and tourism while optimizing performance and improving efficiency.



Operational efficiency

Philips ActiveSite provides MnDOT with remote monitoring, maintenance, and management capabilities, enabling managers to program and troubleshoot the lights without physically traveling to the bridge.



Transforming environments

ColorGraze MX4 Powercore fixtures were installed end to end to provide a uniform look, while powerful ColorReach Powercore gen2 exterior LED floodlights dramatically illuminate the bridge from below. The combination enables MnDOT to program exciting static and dynamic displays while providing a sense of security on the jogging and bike path that passes underneath.



Optimizing management

More than 650 connected luminaires offer an expanded palette with millions of colors and hues in a variety of beam angles. Each fixture is individually addressable, providing greater control and the ability to produce more dynamic lighting displays.



Durability

The exterior lighting fixtures were specially designed to withstand extreme vibration, temperature, and corrosive conditions on the bridge.



World recognition

Lighting shows displayed around the big game provided a unique opportunity for Minnesota to help capture the imaginations of more than 100,000,000 people around the world.

About the Minnesota Department of Transportation

The Minnesota Department of Transportation oversees all modes of transportation in the state including land, water, air rail, walking, and bicycling. The 1,907-foot I-35W St. Anthony Falls Bridge spans the Mississippi River with 10 lanes of traffic. It is lit on special occasions and in recognition of significant events such as one of the largest sporting events in the world.



The 2018 theme, "Bold North," came to brilliant life on the I-35W Bridge in Minneapolis in February. More than 650 multicolored LEDs were programmed to simulate the northern lights and sync with big game activities.

Find out how Philips Lighting can transform your business

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