



Rockliffe Hall

– where lighting versatility complements grandeur

Built in the 1700s, Rockliffe Hall near Darlington, County Durham, England has been carefully and lovingly restored and extended to create a luxury hotel, spa and golf course while retaining the grandeur of its heritage.

Set on 152 hectares on the banks of the River Tees, Rockliffe Hall has 61 spacious guestrooms and suites, two bars, a restaurant, 12 meeting and event rooms, an 18-hole

championship golf course, an extensive 4,500 square metre spa and wellness centre and an 20 metre indoor swimming pool.

Central to the refurbishment project was the incorporation of a sophisticated Philips Dynalite lighting management system to deliver highly flexible scene setting, intelligent energy management as well as enhancing the architecture and interior design of the hotel.

PHILIPS

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Client requirements

The key criteria for the lighting controls included ensuring ease-of-use for both guests and staff, providing the capacity for substantial variation in scenes and achieving economical and energy-efficient operation of the lighting.

Obviously creating ambient lighting in a hotel that blends heritage features with contemporary design was also a key requirement of the project.

The hotel also required a high level of flexibility in its lighting controls so that different lighting scenes could be easily selected to suit different functions. For example, lighting for a wedding reception can be selected to complement a particular colour theme.

It was also vital that the lighting management system could control a range of different light sources, including LEDs, fluorescent, tungsten halogen and metal halide.

The Philips Dynalite solution

The Philips Dynalite solution was to install an innovative lighting control system that would meet the functional and architectural criteria. With ease-of-use a key component of the brief, it was critical that the lighting control system was intelligent and flexible.

Answering the challenge

The level of flexibility required of the system, considerably more than in most projects, presented a major design challenge. When designing the lighting to meet the hotel's requirements it became clear that a conventional system would require a lot of cabling. Not only would this be costly, it would also present installation problems, particularly in the older parts of the building.

The design team – comprising KLS, consulting engineers White Young Green and contractors Shepherd Engineering Services – worked closely with the hotel in considering a number of options. It was quickly recognised that a DALI-based system would reduce costs and simplify wiring requirements and the Philips Dynalite system was selected as offering the required functionality and technical support.

Using a digital addressable lighting interface (DALI) protocol, a single lighting control system manages the lighting in five separate buildings.

“Phillips Dynalite has provided a flexible and adaptable energy-saving solution for superior lighting control in the refurbishment of Rockliffe Hall, to create an ambience suited to the grandeur of the setting and to rival that offered by any other luxury resort.”

Products and technology used

The Phillips Dyalite DALI system enabled the team to make each individual luminaire addressable, so there are no circuit limitations and the possibilities are almost unlimited. Rather than having to plan everything months in advance before the cabling began, the team were able to fine-tune the lighting scenes on site.

Advanced lighting control

It was also vital that the lighting management system could control a range of different light sources, including LEDs, fluorescent, tungsten halogen and metal halide. In some case this required special combinations of control gear or drivers and DALI interfaces, which were tested on-site before installation.

Control of the lighting scenes is through master control panels in management locations and key staff have been trained to set scenes.

Simple guest interfaces

Meanwhile, in guest rooms there are simple, custom-engraved panels that enable guests to choose their preferred lighting scene from a simple description such as

bright, low or reading. Guests are also able to turn off all the lighting in their room with a single switch, which delivers significant energy savings.

Other energy saving features of the system include presence detection in areas of variable occupancy and daylight harvesting where it is practical to incorporate daylight into the lighting design.

Time clock functionality provides master overrides and control of external lighting in car parks, activity and circulation areas.

The lighting system is controlled by Philips Dyalite Mapview graphical and system management software from a central position of the building.

A high-speed network facilitates the communication between different parts of the site, including the golf clubhouse, which is more than 100 metres from the main building. This enables all of the lighting to be controlled from a central location using Philips Dyalite EnvisionManager graphical and system management software, enabling the hotel to monitor energy consumption and many other aspects of lighting performance.

Key client benefits

The intelligent design of the Philips Dyalite lighting control system has made it possible to deliver functional and flexible lighting in keeping with the hotel's heritage and luxury design.

The lighting system also delivers significant energy savings for the hotel.

As well as saving a lot of money on wiring compared to other systems, the Dyalite system greatly facilitates system monitoring and makes day-to-day maintenance considerably easier for hotel management and staff.

To ensure the ongoing efficiency of the system, Rockliffe Hall have signed a bespoke Aftercare service agreement with Philips Lighting.



Headquarters & All other countries/regions

P: +61 (0) 2 8338 9899
E: dynalite.info@philips.com

Australia, New Zealand

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
P: +61 (0) 2 8338 9899
E: dynalite.info@philips.com

North Asia

SHANGHAI, PR CHINA
P: +86 21 2412 8035
E: china.dynalite@philips.com

South Asia

SINGAPORE, SINGAPORE
P: +65 9170 1974
E: asia.dynalite@philips.com

India

DELHI, INDIA
P: +91 124 460 6333
E: dynalite.info@philips.com

Europe (ex.UK)

EINDHOVEN, THE NETHERLANDS
E: info.lightingcontrols@philips.com

United Kingdom

GUILDFORD, UNITED KINGDOM
P: +44 (0) 148 329 8950
E: lcuk.sales@philips.com

Middle East & Turkey

DUBAI, UAE
P: +971 4 446 1100
E: met.controls@philips.com

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

RIYADH, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
P: +966 1 462 8060
E: ksa.controls@philips.com

Africa

CAIRO, EGYPT
P: +20 2 2480 1450
E: africa.controls@philips.com

United States

DALLAS, TEXAS
P: +1 800 526 2731
E: controls.support@philips.com
W: philips.com/lightingcontrolsna

Canada

LACHINE, QUEBEC
P: +1 514 636 0670
E: controls.support@philips.com
W: canlyte.com

South America

SAO PÁULO, BRAZIL
P: +55 11 2121 0203
E: luz.spot@philips.com



asimpleswitch.com

For more information, please contact

Melbourne 03 9701 2500	Sydney 02 9737 8988
info@lightmoves.com.au	www.lightmoves.com.au