

Princess Alexandra Hospital



Background

Princess Alexandra Hospital in Queensland has had a rich history of health care since it was first opened in 1883. In more recent times there had been concerns over the emergency lighting system as it was failing to provide accurate test reports, replacement spare parts were difficult to obtain and were becoming very expensive. It became evident to the hospital administration that remedial action was required. Up until the late 2000's the facility was spending a significant part of the maintenance budget on emergency lighting. The site had become expensive and noncompliant.

In 2010 Stanilite won the 'Princess Alexandra Hospital ED Department Project', a six story structure with 700+ emergency light fittings. After 12 months of running the new section with its new Nexus RF system the facility manager approached Stanilite with the view to upgrade the entire hospital campus.

Objective

To develop a network within a facility that has a numerous building restrictions and mixed architecture types. The total system size is in excess of 6,000 fittings which required careful planning and execution to deliver a reliable system network. A further objective was to ensure that the Nexus RF signal would be able to penetrate various rooms of the new Oncology Department which has some lead lined walls.

Implementation

- A new network of Nexus RF routers was installed throughout the facility in strategic locations
- A test was run on the existing emergency lighting system, with a failure report extracted
- All fittings that failed or did not communicate were replaced with Nexus RF fittings
- The new fittings were quickly commissioned into the system
- This process is repeated every six months

Ongoing support

The current testing program allows the facility to run diagnostics tests and commission fittings remotely which reduces the impact on the day-to-day functioning of the hospital. The switch from inefficient lamps to LED has reduced the energy consumption of the site by some 85%. Additional site benefits are:

- Lower than 3% annual failure rate from Nexus fittings. Previous system failures were around 20%
- With LED technology in the Stanilite fittings there was a no need for lamp changes each 6-months
- Major reduction in ongoing site maintenance costs
- Nexus RF ran perfectly on the existing mains cable without any need for circuit filters
- Nexus RF is integrated into the Building Maintenance System (BMS)

Regular site visits by ABB service team keeps the site up to date with new products and upgrades.