

Mohegan Sun Resort and Casino Uncasville, Connecticut



Mohegan Sun Resort and Casino features a high-quality lighting control system that creates numerous dramatic visual environments in a large space and is flexible enough to handle the various functions that occur there. Control is provided by Lutron's GRAFIK 6000™, preset lighting control system for total building coverage.





Total building lighting control, a winning solution for Native American Casino.

PROJECT

Casino

CLIENT

Sun International

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

McPhee Electric,
Farmington, Conn.

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Focus Lighting,
New York, N.Y.

EQUIPMENT PROVIDERS

Lutron Electronics
Co., Inc.,
Coopersburg, Pa.

LUTRON PRODUCTS

GRAFIK 6000
preset lighting
control system



Mohegan wall station



Dimming panels

THE CHALLENGE

Implement lighting designer's dramatic lighting plan for budget-conscious owners of 1.4 million sq. ft. Native American-themed casino. The system must create the best plan for lighting and lighting control that is both attractive and affordable, and installation must occur within a 12-month construction time frame.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- Ability to handle large space
- Controls must be easy to operate, quick to change
- Quick shipment and installation necessary for fast pace of project; dimming panels must be able to handle multiple sources, be shipped pre-wired, and offer flexibility to alter lighting system later
- Ability to install complimentary lighting control independent of main system
- 1,500 lighting circuits

"A job like this would normally take two-and-a-half to three years," said Marcus McPhee, vice president of McPhee Electric, of the 12-month construction of Mohegan Sun Casino on the Mohegan tribe's reservation in Uncasville, Conn. "We had to have the system designed and released in 10 months. We worked around the clock with three shifts, six days a week."

As for lighting the large space, the owners wanted dramatic lighting effects to highlight the various themes in the casino. Every detail of the Mohegan Sun was designed for optimum effect, to create a mood or enhance a gaming or entertainment activity. The main casino was divided into four sections and designed to look like an old Indian village. Each area of approximately 500,000 sq. ft. depicts the village as it would appear in each of the four seasons. Although all were part of a large space, there needed to be adjustable lighting in areas within those sections, such as five restaurants, entrances, and pedestrian mall, as well as areas on the perimeter of the casino such as a bingo hall and large sports bar. They also wanted the ability to dim and brighten the lights quickly and easily for creating moods or highlighting specific functions. The owners liked the lighting designer's ideas, but were afraid they would be too costly to implement.

"We needed a high-quality lighting control system that could produce the right visual environment throughout this big facility with the flexibility to handle a multitude of different situations at a cost the owners could live with," said McPhee.

McPhee Electric chose Lutron's GRAFIK 6000™ lighting control system, which controls lighting for the four sections through a single central control panel in which scenes are preset by a personal computer. The restaurants each were given their own individual GRAFIK Eye system since they had individual needs separate from the main system.

McPhee chose GRAFIK 6000 for its quick installation (GRAFIK 6000 dimming panels are pre-wired and delivered quickly) and for its Windows™-based software which allowed easy zoning and scene setting. This simplified design and engineering and made the installation easy to complete within the appropriate deadline.

"The casino is beautiful with a lot of attention to detail," said Peter Manning, who served as McPhee's on-site project engineer. "There are trees, stones, water scenes, you name it. We had to create feature lighting for each area. We illuminated everything from animal skins to Native American artwork."

Overall, the GRAFIK 6000 system provides the design flexibility the casino owners wanted within budget and on schedule. At the same time, the system will save energy costs for them down the road. And as the casino fine-tunes its gaming operation, GRAFIK 6000 can also accommodate changing lighting requirements for different activities without adding expensive new equipment and time-consuming alterations.

LUTRON®

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