Registers of Scotland

Case Study
Case study: Registers of Scotland

A smart lighting control system from Casambi is helping Registers of Scotland to increase the level of satisfaction the staff have with their working environment by providing lighting conditions that boost employee productivity, mood and concentration.

Registers of Scotland, which looks after the Scottish land and property register and other vital public records, has recently introduced the Casambi system to its new offices in the brand new, BREEAM ‘Excellent’ rated St Vincent Plaza in Glasgow.

The new 18,000 sq ft office, which occupies one floor of St Vincent Plaza, brings together approximately 200 staff from various departments, who were previously spread across seven floors of an older building.

In line with its ongoing digital transformation project, Registers of Scotland wanted to create an adaptable working environment for the staff at St Vincent Plaza, encouraging collaborative working, and with a strong focus on staff wellbeing.
As part of this, the organisation chose to install ‘human-centric’ lighting, to support the employees’ circadian rhythms and improve their alertness, contentment and productivity.

The human body is designed to respond to sunlight, which changes gradually in intensity and colour temperature throughout the day. The body uses these changes to decide when it needs to be alert or restful.

When working indoors, the wrong kind of light at the wrong time can leave people tired, meaning they are more likely to lose concentration on tasks. It can also contribute to a reduction in motivation and productivity. Human-centric lighting is designed to shift in intensity and colour temperature during the day to mimic natural light, helping to stabilise people’s circadian rhythms.

For Registers of Scotland, M&E consultant Atelier Ten, working with contractor EMTEC, needed a control system that could provide changes in colour temperature and intensity based on a time curve, including scene-setting and dimming to 0%, but that was also easy to install, easy to use and cost-effective. Casambi was the clear choice.

Andrew McNair of Atelier Ten elaborates on some key advantages delivered by Casambi, saying: “Registers of Scotland’s long-term vision is to move its work and processes into the digital age and providing staff with wireless, easy controllable...
lighting controls from their iPads helps to encapsulate this idea. Casambi’s cost saving on installation time and cabling are also impressive along with the system’s flexibility and ease of use to end users.

“Tuneable white lighting allows Registers of Scotland to create different moods and contrasts throughout the office. Staff can adjust lighting from a very bright cool 6000K setting to a more relaxing and dimmer warm light setting depending on their work tasks,” he adds.

The Casambi system at St Vincent Plaza controls around 450 tunable white luminaires. The luminaires deliver human-centric lighting, while also dimming to save energy when there is sufficient natural light coming through the windows, or when an area is not being used.

It’s a completely wireless system, so installation couldn’t be easier, as no new cabling is required. All that’s required are Casambi-enabled luminaires, which contain Casambi’s Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) communication chip, and an iOS or Android mobile device with the free Casambi app.

This unique system enables users to communicate directly with the luminaires, individually or in groups. There is no router, gateway or any other hardware involved.

The Casambi app is designed to be simple and intuitive, so anyone can use it without specialist expertise. For example, the unique gallery feature lets users
upload their own photos or plans of a space, mark the positions of the luminaires, and then use this to select and control them. At Registers of Scotland, this feature is used to provide detailed plans of different sections of the office so staff can easily find and control the lights in their area.

The Casambi app also supports Philips Hue lamps, allowing Registers of Scotland to control them seamlessly through the same interface.

The app updates itself automatically when required, and delivers firmware updates wirelessly to the luminaires, making the whole system futureproof.

 Registers of Scotland Facilities Manager Kevin Stewart commented: “The whole system is programmed to support circadian rhythms. The lighting changes all day long, but it’s very subtle.

“We’ve got iPads across the floor space equipped with the Casambi software, so rather than having to ask the facilities team, the staff can change lighting levels themselves right away. We can see the whole floor plan with every fixture in the app and control the light level and colour temperature individually or in groups, and create scenes. It’s very easy to use.

“The feedback we’re getting is that the whole lighting control system works really well. The staff are glad they’re able to change the level of lighting. They are happy, and we get better productivity out of them.”
The energy savings enabled by the Casambi system, which ensures lights are only on when they’re needed, has contributed to a massive 90% cut in the office’s carbon footprint since the move to St Vincent Plaza and also contributed to the ‘excellent’ rating in the BREEAM certification.

Following the success of the project at the Glasgow site, the Registers of Scotland facilities team is planning to introduce Casambi’s smart lighting control system to its headquarters in Edinburgh, a significantly larger site which is currently being extensively refurbished, and will house over 1000 staff.

At Registers of Scotland, Casambi has proven itself to be a flexible, scalable, cost-effective system that saves energy and supports wellbeing.

www.casambi.com
www.ros.gov.uk
www.atelierten.com
www.emtecgroup.co.uk