



John Paul Jones Arena

Charlottesville, Virginia

Background:

The 16,000-seat John Paul Jones Arena is located on the historic grounds of the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia. Completed in August 2006, the arena is home to UVA's men's and women's basketball teams and hosts a wide range of other attractions, including concerts, family shows and community events.

The facility's Jeffersonian architecture, designed by VMDO Architects, mirrors many of the buildings on grounds, which were the creation of Thomas Jefferson.

Challenge:

Ecoglo was initially specified as the way-finding and emergency lighting system for John Paul Jones Arena, but was not included in the final construction. However, after the first 10 months of operation the university decided it needed additional illumination beyond that provided by the existing overhead aisle lighting system.

Solution:

John Paul Jones Arena is managed by SMG, a worldwide facilities management company based in Philadelphia. SMG previously installed Ecoglo in several other facilities it manages and suggested an Ecoglo solution to University of Virginia officials. "We did our homework, tested a sample and determined that Ecoglo is a superior product that would enhance the arena's lighting system," said Scott Cornwell, SMG's director of operations for the arena. Ecoglo was used for all stair nosings and handrails in John Paul Jones Arena. "We completed the Ecoglo installation last summer (2007), and the university has been very pleased with the performance and low maintenance," Cornwell said.

While Ecoglo products are most commonly associated with providing supplementary emergency lighting in stairwells and aisles in theatres, stadiums and other buildings, they are not just for emergency situations. The combination of photoluminescence and anti-slip mat creates a highly visible edge in all light conditions, preventing slips, trips and falls and allowing people to move about safely and efficiently 24 hours a day. With illuminated seat numbers, handrails, stairs and aisles, Ecoglo products make it easy for people to leave their seats and safely find their way back from washrooms and concession stands. And maximum resistance to UV rays and weather conditions means Ecoglo also can be used effectively outdoors.

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SMG's director of operations