



## Times Square Arts Center

Comverge energy efficient lighting system benefits property owner, the community, and the environment

### Background

The Times Square Arts Center, an 84-year-old building, is New York City's premier boutique event facility and home to music, dance, and comedy shows. The facility, located at 42nd Street and 8th Avenue, can be used for corporate events, private parties, presentations, or seminars. Covering 17,000-sq. ft., the building houses five art theaters, offices, meeting space, and a screening room.

The property's owner wanted to improve energy efficiency in the building and lead the effort of making Times Square more environmentally friendly. In partnership with the Con Edison Targeted Demand Side Management Program, Comverge evaluated the building's lighting, made recommendations for improvements, and implemented the changes.

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– R. Blake Young, president and CEO, Comverge

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## Solution

The lighting upgrade project began with Comverge performing an energy audit during the summer of 2007. After the extensive evaluation, Comverge replaced the building’s lighting with a more energy-efficient system – a move that provides significant energy and cost savings, as well as a decrease in the building’s carbon footprint.

A significant portion of the project’s costs were covered through the Con Edison Targeted Demand Side Management Program. This program encourages businesses in designated portions of New York to reduce their energy usage by providing financial incentives for energy-efficient projects.

In this case, the project cost \$59,000 to complete and the property owner’s net contribution was only \$20,000.

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## Benefits

The project will reduce approximately 190,000 kilowatt hours and save more than 200,000 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions on an annual basis. The resulting energy savings is estimated to be \$35,000 a year – money that will be reinvested into the community for projects to help the homeless and for other philanthropic efforts.

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