

# Portraits

## Kaiser Permanente Controls Health Care Costs with MagneTek Energy Efficient Ballasts

**C**ontrolling costs is arguably the most pressing issue facing today's health care providers. One of the less glamorous — but most effective — ways to shrink these expenses is by reducing energy consumption in the health care facilities themselves.

Six years ago, officials at Kaiser Permanente made a commitment to energy conservation in the company's 200-plus health care facilities that dot the southern California map. To fulfill that pledge, the nation's largest health maintenance organization took on a massive renovation plan that began in 1992 and continues today.

"We're taking our 11 hospitals and 200 other health care facilities and renovating them in bite-size chunks," said Kaiser Permanente Energy Specialist Thomas A. Damberger, a certified energy manager. "We've implemented a nine-point energy plan that has helped us reduce our energy consumption considerably in the buildings that we have completed."

MagneTek electronic ballasts are playing a major role in Kaiser Permanente's renovation plans. In fact, when all the buildings have



been renovated by the end of 1996, Kaiser will have replaced more than 400,000 magnetic ballasts with MagneTek's Triad™ RH series of instant start electronic ballasts. Also being installed are new T8 lamps, and, where needed, specular optical reflectors to increase light levels.

Damberger estimates that the entire project will save Kaiser Permanente more than \$5 million a year. And because of the efficiency of the new lighting system, the number of lamps needed to

*Energy consumption at Riverside Medical Center has dropped 41 percent since completion of a nine-point energy reduction plan — including a lighting retrofit using MagneTek RH series, instant start electronic ballasts. The building is one of more than 200 facilities that make up the Kaiser Permanente health care network.*

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# TRIAD Electronic Ballasts

## ABOUT MAGNETEK LIGHTING PRODUCTS GROUP



*MagneTek Lighting Products Group manufactures ballasts for all lighting requirements. Our full line of ballasts is designed for exceptional performance in lamps*

*ranging from 5 to 1,500 watts. They include fluorescent, compact fluorescent, high intensity discharge, sign, neon and emergency lighting systems. As a major manufacturer of electrical equipment and provider of services to utilities and industry, MagneTek plays a lead role in setting industry standards for quality and energy efficiency. We actively participate in the Certified Ballast Manufacturer trade association and help in the development of many standards through ANSI, NEMA and IESNA.*

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

*MagneTek ballasts are available through a nationwide network of several thousand wholesale distributors. You'll also find our ballasts incorporated in the designs of leading OEM lighting system suppliers. Catalogs describing all of our ballast products are available on request. To learn more about the full line of MagneTek ballasts, call 1-800-MAGNETEK.*

produce equivalent light levels has been cut in half, reducing maintenance costs. This reduction in lamp usage also translates into lower cooling costs because lamps generate heat.

"When I began the specifications process back in 1989, I kept hearing how good MagneTek ballasts were, and I'm a big believer in word of mouth," Damberger says. He went on to test several manufacturer's ballasts for longevity, total harmonic distortion, quality of light and efficiency. MagneTek came out on top in every category he tested.

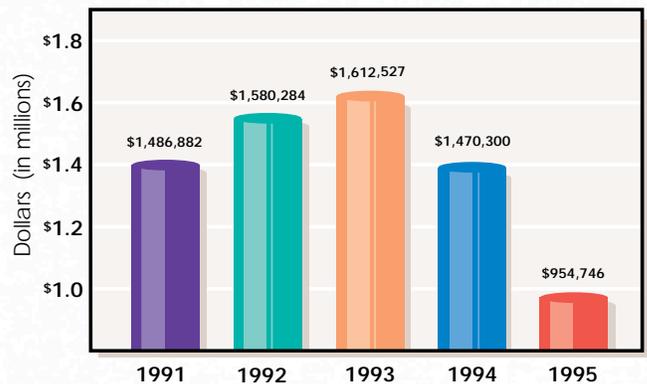
MagneTek's parallel lamp configuration was an appealing feature to Damberger because it allowed him the flexibility to remove additional lamps if light levels were too high. That flexibility exists because parallel lamp configuration provides multiple paths for electrical current to flow, enabling a ballast's functioning lamps to stay lighted when one lamp fails or is removed. With series lamp configuration, only one path is available for the current to flow, preventing any lamps on a ballast to light when a single lamp fails or is removed.

One building in which the nine-point renovation has been completed is the 521,000-square-foot Riverside Medical Center. Finished in December of 1993, the medical center has experienced a 41 percent annual reduction in



energy use, for a cost savings of \$657,000 a year in that facility alone. Damberger attributes a significant portion of that savings to MagneTek's energy-efficient ballasts.

## ANNUAL ELECTRICITY COSTS Riverside Medical Center



\*Retrofit completed 12/93

"The objectives at Riverside Medical Center are the same for all of our buildings — reduce energy consumption, which has a positive impact on the environment as well as on our bottom line. The savings we have achieved helps control health care costs for our 2.3 million members in the Southern California region," Damberger said.



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