

Nucor Fastener Goes Beyond the Nuts and Bolts of Emergency Lighting

Nexus® Emergency Lighting Management System automates testing without interfering in day-to-day operations

A safety audit at **Nucor Fastener** in St. Joe, Indiana revealed the need to bring their emergency egress lighting system up to code. The safety and maintenance teams realized that they had to consider both the initial installation of the 89 units needed to cover their 500,000 square foot facility, and meet the fire code requirement that each unit undergo a five minute test each month.

Adding manpower to handle the time-consuming labor required to manually test each emergency lighting unit was not considered a cost-effective, long-term solution. Instead, Nucor Fastener decided to look for a centrally-monitored wireless system that would automatically test each unit, generate reports proving the system was tested, and reserve manpower for repairs only. Several TCIP networked systems were considered; however, they interfered with internal processes in the plant. The Nexus® Emergency Lighting Management

System from Thomas & Betts was chosen for its functionality and because it's channel-changeable, allowing it to run without causing interference.

In a financial analysis, the automated Nexus® system cost comparisons showed that it would start saving money in



The **LS Series** 6 and 12 Volt Steel Enclosure is available in a wide selection of battery capacities for use where many remote fixtures are required.



The **Survive-All™ SV Series** Nema 4X Battery Unit is ideally suited to perform in a wide range of commercial and industrial environments.

For more information on Nexus® product please contact your sales representative or visit our website at: www.nexus-system.com



less than a year and a half by eliminating the maintenance expenses of manual testing. With Nexus®, each emergency lighting unit is tested automatically using two-way communication sending the test request to the unit, with results sent back to the maintenance team in real time. The Nexus® reporting functions automatically document testing and maintenance to satisfy code requirements. Says Nucor Fastener Maintenance Lead Keith Hall, **“I love the fact that I get a report telling me which light needs attention, and the exact part number needed to fix it.”** It not only tells me the Nexus® part number, but includes our internal M-number so I can generate a work order to go out and fix the light without having to send anybody to check anything first. It’s easy for everyone.”

The flexible installation and design options available with the Nexus® system allowed Nucor Fastener to wirelessly

connect all units required for their operations, including a corrosion-resistant NEMA 4X-sealed unit for a sulfuric acid environment in the plant.

At first, the safety and maintenance teams had to remind plant managers about the Nexus® system to let them know why the lights were going on in the middle of the night, but everyone quickly got used to the pre-scheduled automated self-tests being conducted regularly according to the Building Code.

Says Maintenance Lead Keith Hall, “The after-sales support has been phenomenal. I’ve always been able to get my questions answered quickly. Since the installation we’ve had two power outages, and all the egress areas were well lit.”

Nucor Fastener – Payback in less than 2 years

