

NEWS

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For Immediate Release
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Tualatin Indoor Soccer scores with energy-efficiency solutions *Lighting upgrade saves energy and utility costs, and improves the indoor soccer experience*

Tualatin, Ore – February 2, 2012 – Tualatin Indoor Soccer serves up to 2,000 visitors a week through an active slate of adult indoor recreation leagues, youth and high school leagues and soccer classes for young children. With a full schedule of games to accommodate, the indoor facility's lights are on for long hours with a significant impact on the small business' monthly power bill. A recent investment in new lighting throughout the 24,000-square-foot building has improved the facility's energy and cost savings, and the experience for players on the soccer field.

Located at 11883 SW Itel Street, the sports facility was designed specifically for indoor soccer and draws widely from the Tualatin area. Operating year-round, the business adjusts its soccer leagues with changes in the seasons. In the winter, youth leagues fill the late afternoon and adult league play takes over from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week. Referees, parents, friends and visitors come and go all day long as participants, players and spectators.

Monty Hawkins was well aware that the eight-year-old building's original lights were dated and inefficient, and didn't provide the best illumination for referees and players. Previous plans to upgrade were shelved when the upfront costs proved to be a barrier for his small business.

"Electricity is a substantial fixed cost for my business," said Hawkins. "This fall, with many of the arena fixtures burning out, my choices were to continue to replace the inefficient fixtures or be more energy efficient and invest in a complete retrofit. Thanks to the incentives provided by Energy Trust of Oregon, the project finally penciled out and I was able to move forward."

With the help of Energy Trust trade ally contractors North Coast Electric and T&R Maintenance Services, Tualatin Indoor Soccer replaced 51, 400-watt metal halide fixtures with 51, 6-lamp T8 fluorescent enclosed hi-bays throughout the arena. Hawkins also installed occupancy sensors to control lighting in more lightly used areas. A post-installation inspection showed that at the center of the field, light levels are a vast improvement over levels provided by the previous lighting.

"I'm very pleased with the outcome," continued Hawkins. "The walls in the arena have turned from yellow to white with just the change in lighting. Between a new playing surface and the new lighting, the arena reinvigorated the building and gave it a new life. Our long-time users are appreciative of the changes and comment that they can see a better, clearer playing field."

Energy Trust provided Tualatin Indoor Soccer with \$9,371 in cash incentives for the energy-saving improvements, which are expected to save 56,388 kilowatt hours of electricity per year or

more than \$4,100 in annual energy costs. With incentives, the estimated payback for Hawkins is approximately two and a half years.

Energy Trust of Oregon is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to helping utility customers benefit from saving energy and tapping renewable resources. Our services, cash incentives and energy solutions have helped participating customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural and Cascade Natural Gas save nearly \$800 million on energy bills. Our work helps keep energy costs as low as possible, creates jobs and builds a sustainable energy future. Learn more at www.energytrust.org or call 1-866-368-7878.

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