



## LED EXIT SIGNS OFFER REMEDY FOR ENERGY WASTE

With more than 135 years of service, St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital in Effingham, Illinois, has a long legacy of compassionate care. And because they care about the environment, too, St. Anthony's sought a simple remedy for energy waste: LED exit signs.

After hearing about the Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program, Plant Services Manager Dennis Baker saw an opportunity to bring the hospital's exit signs up to the newest standard in efficient lighting technology.

In the summer of 2009, he applied for an Ameren Illinois program incentive to purchase 90 LED exit signs. Ameren Illinois approved the project, granting St. Anthony's \$1,800 in incentives. Hospital maintenance staff completed the work a few weeks later, replacing a variety of exit signs — some up to 50 years old — with new LED signs.

Ultimately, the incentive defrayed nearly 60% of project costs and cut the project payback period from 18 months to six months.

"Ameren Illinois paid for more than half of our project costs, and the reduced payback period was an added benefit that pleased our hospital administration," says Baker. "The new signs are already helping to reduce our power bills."

The new LED technology will save the hospital an estimated \$4,800 in electricity costs every year. "By Christmas, the project was paid for in energy savings — and it's the Christmas gift that keeps on giving," says Bob Baumgartner, Business Program Manager with Ameren Illinois.

Beyond the energy bill, LED lighting gave the hospital's maintenance budget a shot in the arm. As Baker says, "We used to replace several exit sign light bulbs every month, at a cost ranging from \$2 to \$10 a piece; but LED lights last for years, so our maintenance costs have gone down."

Some businesses mistakenly assume that only meager savings can be gained from upgrading exit signs. However, because exit signs operate around-the-clock, the energy savings add up faster over time.

"Many businesses still use incandescent exit signs, and this is an easy place to save money — especially with the incentives we have available," says Baumgartner. "Businesses can recoup their costs in a very short time."

*(continued on next page)*

### Benefits to St. Anthony's:

- \$4,860 annual savings in energy costs
- \$1,800 incentive reduced project payback by one year
- 30,000 kWh saved every year
- Lower maintenance costs



### Benefits of LED Lighting:

- Extremely low energy usage
- Long bulb life; minimal maintenance
- Excellent illumination
- Greater durability

# Sick of Energy Waste? Call Ameren Illinois!

*"Many businesses still use incandescent exit signs, and this is an easy place to save money – especially with the incentives we have available. Businesses can recoup their costs in a very short time."*

— Bob Baumgartner,  
Business Program Manager

## Energy efficiency. It's good business.

Incentives are available for a variety of energy-saving projects, including:

- Lighting
- Heating and cooling
- Water heaters
- Specialty equipment
- Steam traps
- Variable frequency drives (VFDs)
- Retro commissioning

Why wait? Start your energy efficiency project today — and save!

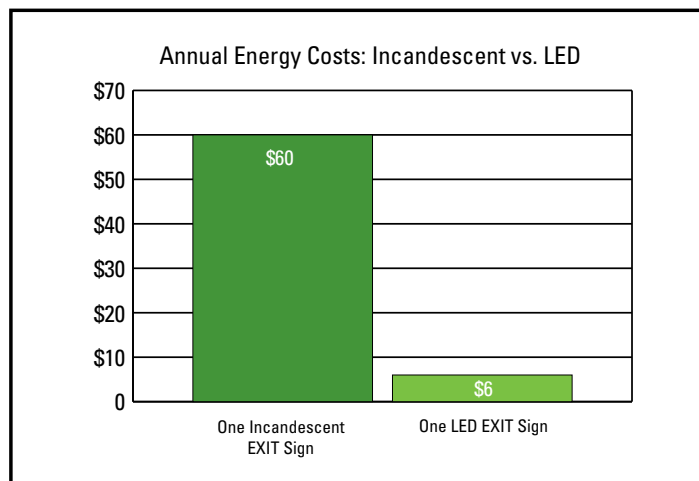
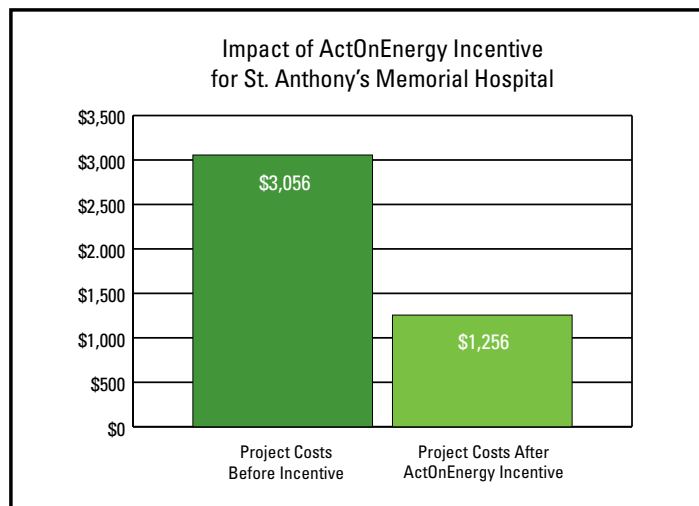
*(continued from front)*

Baker also encourages businesses to take a second look at exit lighting. "It worked out well for us, and the energy efficiency team was excellent to work with."

With Ameren Illinois' incentives for LED exit signs, you too can show energy waste the door.

## The Bottom Line

Ameren Illinois' energy efficiency programs provided St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital an \$1,800 incentive to defray the costs of purchasing 90 LED exit signs. This incentive reduced the project payback by one year and is helping St. Anthony's save more than \$4,800 in energy costs every year!



**READY TO BEGIN?**

[AmerenIllinoisSavings.com](http://AmerenIllinoisSavings.com)

1.866.800.0747

