



Wilshire Grand Maximizes Energy Efficiency, Commits to Sustainability

Los Angeles, CA

Challenge

Finding a solution to reduce energy consumption and support sustainability.

Enhancing the guest experience with in-room controls.

Solution

Installing Evolve Controls in-room controls and management solutions.

Results

Reducing energy consumption, contributing to LEED Gold certification for sustainability.

Background

The tallest building west of Chicago, stands a new landmark: the 73-story, reconstructed Wilshire Grand Center.

The Wilshire Grand was always built to be an icon. The massive skyscraper is a revitalization of the nearly 60-year-old original Wilshire Grand Hotel, a historical downtown Los Angeles landmark. First constructed in 1950, the Wilshire Grand Hotel once held the largest single building permit in Los Angeles, costing over \$15 million. Decades later, in 1989, the hotel was acquired by Korean Air. Cho Yang-ho, Chairman and CEO, of Korean Air, envisioned a reinvigorated Wilshire Grand on a monumental scale – as the tallest building in Los Angeles.

In 2014, Turner Construction received the contract to demolish the old Wilshire Grand Hotel and reconstruct the new \$1.2 billion Wilshire Grand Center structure. Construction began in 2014, recycling much of the old building, and completing construction in 2016. Four months following its opening, Wilshire Grand became the first building in Los Angeles to earn U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Gold.

The new upscale multi-use building now features nearly 900 hotel rooms, along with retail shops, office space, observation decks, 95,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor event space, four restaurants, and a lobby lounge. The hotel, occupying the top half of the Wilshire Grand Center building, operates as the InterContinental Los Angeles Downtown.

Challenge

In reconstructing the new skyscraper, building designers planned for solutions that could maximize energy efficiency and support sustainability. When it came to the hotel, builders looked toward the game-changer for hotel energy efficiency: an automated in-room controls and management solution. Specifically, a solution that could streamline efficiencies for its nearly 900 rooms, by meeting the following criteria:

- Enhance the hotel guest experience with in-room climate, lighting and shading controls.
- Increase energy efficiency to support environmental sustainability efforts.
- Adapt to access multi-room data throughout the entire building.
- Integrate with the building management system.

Solution

Turner Construction's MEP Manager, Jose Alday, sought Evolve Controls. After speaking with the sales team, he confirmed that Evolve fit the criteria. However, with such a high stakes project, Alday needed additional assurance that Evolve was indeed the right choice. Evolve decided to invite Alday to witness for himself, one of Evolve's largest installations. "I was impressed by how Evolve's team handled the installation, support and provisioning. Evolve follows a quick, thorough and carefully planned installation process. When I saw how they quickly identify and solve problems, I knew Evolve was the reliable choice."



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-Jose Alday, MEP Manager, Turner Construction

Results

The installation proved to be simple and quick. "We had everything we needed, provisioned and ready in a box. Evolve was easy to work with, and the devices were easy to install," said Alday.

With Evolve installed in nearly 900 hotel rooms, the building now has the ability to enhance the guest experience by empowering guests to control climate, lighting and shading. Wilshire Grand's operators, InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG), is now able to proactively manage room data insights by integrating it with their building management system and property management system.

Leveraging Evolve, is one of the many energy conservation solutions in which builders of the Wilshire Grand have used to demonstrate their commitment to supporting environmental sustainability. Doing so, has led the Wilshire Grand Center to become the first building in downtown Los Angeles to earn U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Gold certification, the second-highest ranking for sustainability.

About Evolve Controls

Evolve delivers wireless room control and management solutions that connect simply, run powerfully, and drive business intelligence that enhance the guest experience, reduce operating costs and maintain sustainability. Find out why major 4 and 5-star hotels choose Evolve Controls. Visit evolvecontrols.com.