



Butler Manufacturing
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Press Release

Energy Savings, Employee Comfort Drive Trend Toward Daylighting

Kansas City, Mo., August 3, 2016 — Business owners are increasingly recognizing the sustainability and productivity benefits of natural light in the workplace. In fact, a recent American Institute of Architects survey listed daylighting and lighting controls among the top nonresidential construction trends for the next decade.¹

Energy savings and improved work environments contribute to the growing popularity of daylighting, according to Harry Yeatman, vice president, Butler Manufacturing™.

Since introducing its SunLite Strip® daylighting system in 2013, Butler Manufacturing has seen a surge of interest in incorporating daylighting into building construction. SunLite Strip systems are now installed in manufacturing plants, maintenance shops, aviation centers — even a preseason training facility for a professional football team. Daylighting installations continue to grow as companies seek energy efficiency and comfort.

“Lighting-related electricity is often the highest operating expense in a building, frequently exceeding heating and cooling costs,” Yeatman said. “The SunLite Strip daylighting system paired with lighting management and control systems can reduce lighting-related electricity expenses by up to 70 percent. Depending on the time of year, some buildings equipped with SunLite Strip systems are able to operate for most of the day without any supplemental artificial lighting.”

The patented SunLite Strip system allows for natural light without concerns about leaking, a common problem in older skylight installations. Unlike traditional skylights that require a high curb around a roof penetration, the frame of the SunLite Strip has a self-curbing design that eliminates risk of leaks. It incorporates seamlessly into the MR-24® standing-seam metal roof system from Butler.

Light quality also drives the trend toward daylighting in new construction, according to Yeatman. “The patented dome construction of SunLite Strips captures more light at low sun angles than traditional lenses, creating a bright, pleasant work environment throughout the day,” he said. Thousands of mirrorlike elements inside the lens of the SunLight Strip® magnify the light entering a building while eliminating hot spots, glare and sun damage.

TMI Climate Solutions, Holly, Michigan, incorporated the SunLite Strip daylighting system into a production facility expansion in 2014. The 70 units deliver 30 foot-candles of natural light. Daylighting helps the company manage electricity use and it also impresses customers.

“We have a fairly steady flow of customers and reps that want to tour our production facility. When we enter the new expansion, every single visitor comments on how remarkable the natural light is. It’s like nothing they have seen before,” said Ryan Whaley, TMI vice president of sales and marketing.

For more information on the SunLite Strip daylighting system from Butler Manufacturing, contact your local Butler Builder® or visit www.butlermfg.com.

¹Efficiency and Sustainability to Shape Future of Nonresidential Construction [news release]. American Institute of Architects; February 11, 2016. <http://www.aia.org/press/releases/AIAB108070>. Accessed July 25, 2016.

About Butler Manufacturing™

Butler Manufacturing™ provides a comprehensive combination of design-build construction solutions and innovative building technology to the nonresidential market. Every Butler® building solution is backed by unrivaled research and testing, ensuring that Butler building systems perform to the highest standards. Through a network of more than 1,400 Butler Builder® dealers worldwide and corporate account services, Butler addresses the demand for environmentally friendly and energy-efficient design in community, commercial and industrial buildings. Butler is headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, and is a division of BlueScope Buildings North America, Inc. For more information, visit www.butlermfg.com.

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