

# SolarZone plays key role in \$7M energy efficiency retrofit project

Description: **Luxury Hotel Energy Upgrade**

Film Type: **SolarZone OptiTune 22**

Project Size: **40,000 sq ft**

Dealer: **Solar Art**



## Project Task

The imposing 23-story, 500-room Hilton Los Angeles Universal is located close to the world class attractions of Universal City. Built 30 years ago to the exacting standards of the Hilton chain, the hotel is a magnet for tourists. However, the hotel's glass atrium, antiquated chillers and soaring room cooling costs made it the perfect candidate for an energy efficiency upgrade.

With the goal of gaining LEED certification, the Hilton Universal sustainability team initially approached the Los Angeles PACE program for debt-free funding of energy efficiency measures. Seeing the opportunity for exceptional savings, the scope of the project was expanded to include total glazing, elevator and water conservation upgrades, and the Hilton retrofit eventually became the largest PACE project to date, with an enormous \$7m investment.

## Solution

Solar Art Window Film, a premier window tinting company in Southern California, was contracted for the installation of highly energy efficient solar control window film for the guest rooms, covering over 40,000 square feet of glass.

The Hanita team recommended installing SolarZone OptiTune 22, which would deliver a 70% reduction in solar heat gain and a 64% reduction in glare. This film's extremely effective solar heat rejection, combined with a lower interior reflectance would deliver the perfect solution to cutting heat gain in the rooms, yet preserving the magnificent urban views.



## Result

With a relatively swift installation, the ameliorating effects of the OptiTune film on air conditioning performance were soon felt, literally and figuratively. In fact, initial estimates showed annual energy savings from OptiTune would reach over \$90,000. Combined with the new lighting and electric upgrades, the film helped cut the hotel's annual energy bill by half.

Mark Davis, Hilton Los Angeles/Universal City General Manager, commented "In our commitment to living sustainably, Hilton Worldwide is excited to transform the Hilton Los Angeles/Universal City into a green destination for our visitors." He added "PACE is the only funding mechanism that is credible in providing verifiable information to our investors, and therefore is the ideal tool for us to move forward in becoming the gold standard in sustainable hotels."