

TWA Hotel; JFK Airport, Queens, NY



Darkness is key to keeping our bodies on the right wake/sleep schedule or for travels the right flight schedule. It is essential that a hotel of 512 guestrooms with views of JFK's busy runways and the historic TWA Flight Center have privacy and complete light blockage for their pending guests.

THE CHALLENGE

The TWA Hotel at JFK International airport is a 200,000 SF historic New York facility that was originally designed in 1962 by architect Eero Saarinen and declared a city landmark in 1994. Receiving two new hotel wings in the winter of 2016, designed to reflect and defer to the landmark TWA Flight Center. In 2017 Rollease Acmeda Commercial Group worked with Shades by Matiss of Mountainside, NJ and MCR to design a shading plan for their 512 guestrooms that would meet their vision and address their design challenges.

Many of the TWA Flight Center's original details, such as the custom ceramic floor tiles and 486 variously shaped window panels. These details are intended to give the hotel a 1960s-era vibe with brass lighting, rotary phones and hallways contain red carpeting, evocative of the color of the furniture in the original TWA lounge.

Among the design concerns and environment friendly challenges listed by MCR, the rooms would contain modern amenities such as blackout curtains and multiple-pane soundproof windows. Maximizing privacy, reducing heat transferred via windows while blocking light, international guests can calmly sleep any time of day.

Fabric Selection:
Mesa
Custom Color
by Textyle

Lift System:
Contract Series One
- Medium Low Voltage Motorized
Shading System
- Custom Fascia Panel
- Custom Blackout Side Channel

Motor:
Automate Q2

Control Unit:
Automate Single Channel
Wall Switches

Fabricated By:
Shades by Matiss

Installed:
County Line



THE SOLUTION

Motorization is the single most effective way to efficiently manipulate large shading systems over a number of windows. Rollease Acmeda Automate motors were selected for their effectiveness and simplicity in operation. One set of controls per bank of windows or per guestroom affords a quick one touch solution on an attractive surface mount wall control panel gives the operator full control over a dynamic light control shading solution and can also fully deploy the shading systems for privacy.

There have been many recent studies on the positive effects of sleeping in a dark room. It has been well noted by many physicians and in a recent study published by the American Journal of Epidemiology has found a strong link between exposure to even low levels of nighttime light can also negatively affect mood and mental wellbeing.

Blackout shading solutions improve quality of sleep by not disrupting sleep-and-wake cycles.

The Sierra Sol, Mesa blackout Seal fabric was chosen to block light while accentuating the interior décor.

Rollease Acmeda Commercial Group worked with Shades by Matiss on a scheme to reduce the number of motors in the project towards the aim of keeping the project within budget constraints. The Contract Series One Low Voltage Battery Powered Shading System was selected for its industry leading simplicity and versatility, allowing for a completely custom finish that fit with the custom curtain wall and blackout side channels designed in conjunction with Fabbrica, curtain wall manufacturer.

Another drastic cost saving measure was found in the wiring for the motorized shades. Automate Quiet 2 Nm Li-ion Motors were selected and powered independently of the building's electrical system running off of solar power being trickle charged into the Automate battery system located inside the shading system for a sleek and unencumbered aesthetic.



ROLLEASE ACMEDA CONTRACT

Rollease Acmeda customers can realize the tremendous design and installation flexibility for each project. Utilizing our network of local manufacturing and world-class installing subs Rollease Acmeda was able to assist Portman in realizing pristine view throughs, glare control and interior enhancing style on time and under budget.

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