When the demand for ice time outgrew availability, the city of Ft. Collins decided to add another rink at the Edora Pool & Ice Center (EPIC) recreational complex.

“A survey of the existing rink lighting, twin 400-watt metal halide lamps, showed it didn't supply the quality, flexible lighting the new rink needed,” explained electrical designer Brennan Schumacher, Merit Electric, Inc. “We found light levels inconsistent and ranging from 25 to 65 footcandles; not really adequate for the rink.”

Schumacher recommended a Williams GL Low Profile system with four 54-watt T5HO fluorescent lamps.

“This design reduced the fixture count 12% to 88, while raising light levels to as high as 100 footcandles,” he said.

“In addition, the energy efficient lighting system will save the city $7,200 in annual energy costs compared to the 400-watt lamps, based on a rate of just less than 2 cents per KWh, plus allow the staff to customize the light level depending on the activity.”

The 4-lamp fixtures, mounted in tandem 24 feet above the ice on 19 to 29-foot centers, provide 25, 50, 75 and 100 footcandles, depending on the activity.

“The city is so pleased with the lighting on the new rink,” the electrical designer noted proudly, “they have begun preliminary discussions with us about replacing the existing rink’s old metal halide system with a GL system; what more of an endorsement can you ask for?”