

## **Aid Association for Lutherans Reduces Annual Electric Cost by \$12,000 from Isolé Use**

When Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL) decided to install new furniture in their 800,000 square foot headquarter buildings in Appleton, Wisconsin, the project team realized their energy usage would increase because two fluorescent task lights were added to each workstation. These lights are located under the bookshelves of each Haworth furniture workstation.

Isolé plug load controls from The Watt Stopper were installed to turn off the task lights when employees are away from their workstations. An important goal for this project included reducing the facility's demand charge, which is based on peak energy usage. Since peak usage usually occurs at midday, switching unused workstation equipment off at a time when workers often are away from their workstations at lunch is a good use of the technology.

Isolé combines occupancy sensors with surge-suppressing power strips to manage desktop plug loads. Key to AAL's decision was the flexibility Isolé features provide, such as the availability of both controlled and uncontrolled outlets in each plug strip. Another important feature was the large



**Aid Association for Lutherans equipped the new workstations in their headquarters with Isolé to reduce their plug load energy consumption.**

number of outlets available in the Isolé units.

With more than 1,900 employees in its Appleton headquarters, AAL serves over 1.7 million members nationwide. AAL and its affiliates offer financial services to their members, including insurance products, annuities, mutual funds, trust services (available to the general public), and credit union services. Employees in Appleton administer these services to members as well as provide support for field staff and the more than 10,000 volunteer branches across the country.

Initially, AAL installed the Isolé devices underneath work surfaces but discovered that positioning them above individual work surfaces enhanced the sensors' detection capability. While the Isolé units were originally

intended to control the new task lights, they currently are used to control other desktop equipment, including microfiche readers, pencil sharpeners, calculators, and monitors. Computer hard drives continue to operate without interruption.

In all, AAL implemented more than 2,000 Isolé units, including IDP-2050 and IPS-2 models. Post-installation monitoring of controlled workstations using The Watt Stopper's Plug Load Analyzer indicated an average annual energy usage savings of 75 kWh per workstation. AAL's Robert Starner, Director of Building Operations – Downtown, anticipates annual cost savings of \$12,000.