LIMELIGHT VOL. 8

The Polo Bar: NYC Lighting Upgrade

The Ralph Lauren Polo Bar opened the beginning of 2015 on 55th street NYC directly across the street from the St. Regis hotel.

The first-floor street level is home to the sophisticated bar and the lower level basement space features a honey hued coffer ceiling creating an intimate dining experience for up to 140 guests.

Over time the light emitting fibers (from the fiber optic light engines to each of the recessed fixtures) had deteriorated from the original installation, reducing light levels to a visually unacceptable level in the space.

At 100% of light output from the fiber optic lighting, the light levels were too low to properly illuminate the space, causing the picture lights and decorative fixtures light levels to be raised to compensate for the inadequate light levels from the recessed fiber optic lighting system.

Clarté Lighting's retrofit roots and module architectural LED fixture allowed an easy retrofit of the existing fiber optic recessed fixtures, to 300 of Clarté Lighting's 1" recessed PAR8 scale adjustable downlights, with a .40" optical reducer to mimic the aesthetic of the fiber optic lighting.

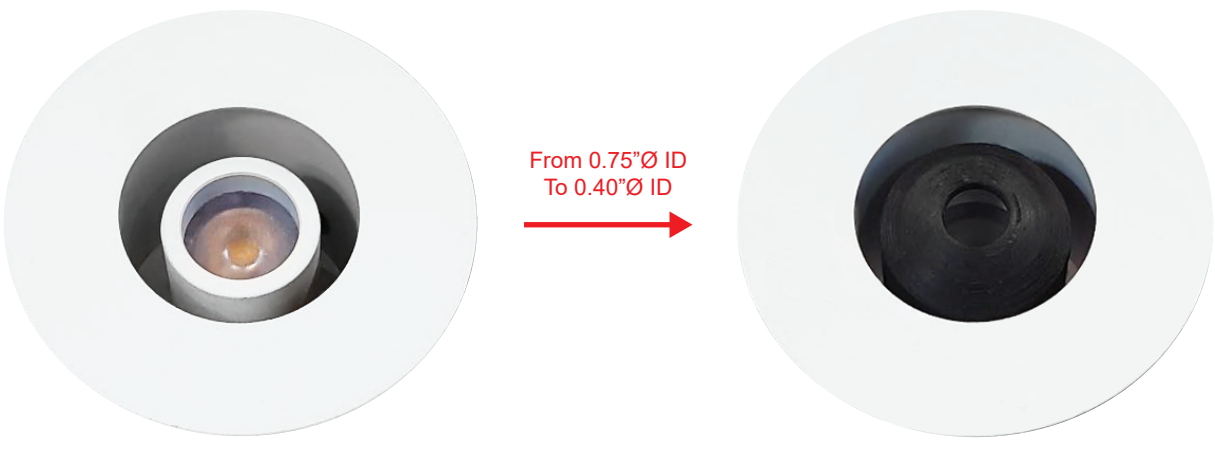
The existing fiber optic light engines were replaced with similarly sized 60W magnetic low voltage transformers, located remotely in the same locations in the soffits. 18 gauge wire was pulled to connect the MLV transformer using the existing fiber optics to fish the wire.

The new Clarte' Lighting MLV .01% dimmable 2 wire fixtures worked seamlessly with the existing Lutron Lutron LCP Panel System, once the system was switched from an ELV to MLV load profile. Light levels needed to be adjusted, based on the considerably brighter Clarté Lighting PAR8 scale recessed lighting fixtures, once installed to create the proper ambiance in the space.

Clarté Lighting was able to achieve the warm 2300K color of light in the space desired from 1% to 100% of light levels. The 2700K 90 CRI LEDs, with the dimmed halogen lens (DH), created the needed -400K color shift needed to achieve the warm golden hue in the space. In contrast, the fiber optic system had to have light levels reduced to -55% to achieve the desired golden hue of light, further exasperating light level issues created from deteriorating fiber.

The decorative fixture were then dimmed down from 45% to 25% after the lighting upgrade, since the recessed lighting levels met the desired light levels, which allowed the decorative lighting fixture to return to a subtle low light level accent throughout the space.

Clarté Lighting designed and 3D printed a sleeve that slipped on over the PAR8 optic reducing Clarté Lighting PAR8 scale optic from .75" to .40", to match the form factor of fiber optic recessed fixtures. The .40" friction-held sleeve made the PAR8 scale fixture disappear visually in the ceiling once each fixture was illuminated.



The conversion of the legacy halogen fiber optic recessed lighting system to Clarté Lighting's .40" optical fixtures visually upgraded the space from analog TV to 4K high definition with improved color, depth of space, and enhanced sparkle, giving the restaurant the appearance of a complete remodel.

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