

Case Study



Client: **RSL LifeCare**

Project: **Emergency lighting network and water level sensor**

Solution Implemented: **Plexus Smart Building Compliance Suite**

Background

RSL LifeCare, one of Australia's leading networks of aged care facilities, operates on large sites with critical emergency systems. Traditional methods for emergency lighting testing proved costly, disruptive, and time-consuming. Additionally, challenges in monitoring water pumps led to flooding around lifts, exacerbating operational issues. RSL LifeCare needed an efficient, cost-effective solution.



Challenge

Manual emergency lighting tests caused operational disruptions and incurred high costs. Tracking test results and maintenance efforts was cumbersome. Delays in identifying the sources of smoke alarm activations hindered swift emergency responses. The absence of real-time alerts for pump monitoring increased the risk of lift flooding.

Solution

Plexus was selected due to its demonstrated expertise in delivering more efficient and less disruptive solutions for large sites like those at RSL LifeCare. The system significantly reduced the time needed for bi-annual emergency lighting tests, minimising disruptions and lowering testing costs. Plexus also provided a comprehensive digital asset list, along with detailed service logs and result histories, simplifying the task of monitoring maintenance activities and tracking system performance.

The system's capabilities were expanded with the integration of IoT-enabled smoke alarms, allowing maintenance teams to quickly pinpoint the exact origin of any alarm, accelerating troubleshooting and improving maintenance efficiency. One site moved from costly manual pump checks to an automated pump monitor, connected via Tether, an IoT-enabled device, allowing for remote monitoring of pump status over the same network used for emergency lights.

Solution (continued)

With the existing networking equipment already in place, the emergency lights served as repeaters within a mesh network, ensuring smooth integration when the pump was connected. The upgraded system sends text alerts when water levels rise too high, enabling asset management teams to act promptly and perform preventative maintenance, thus preventing costly lift flooding damage, which could reach up to \$50 000. The Plexus console also provides real-time visibility of hundreds of emergency lights.

Results

- **Reduced Downtime:** Streamlined testing minimised operational disruptions and lowered expensive testing fees.
- **Enhanced Monitoring:** Digital asset management tools enabled real-time tracking of maintenance efforts, empowering facility managers to keep accurate performance records.
- **Improved Safety:** IoT smoke alarms allowed for quicker identification and resolution of issues, significantly enhancing emergency response.
- **Preventative Maintenance:** The automated pump monitor helped prevent lift flooding, safeguarding assets from potential \$50 000 in damages, while ensuring minimal service interruptions for residents.

Conclusion

Through the implementation of Plexus Network, RSL LifeCare has transformed its emergency systems, creating a model of efficiency and safety. The less disruptive testing process, combined with advanced digital tracking and IoT-enabled safety features, has led to significant cost savings, enhanced system responsiveness, and eliminated lift flooding issues.

