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PERMIT #1

Imagine relighting a fifty-story tower that, for decades, has been an icon of the New York City skyline and holiday lighting program. The MetLife Tower recently completed a comprehensive renovation and refurbishment of its historic façade including all exterior lighting. Automating the system, developing a custom color-changing floodlight and supporting scheduled events as well as dynamic lighting shows were the challenges.

HLB used a reliable show controller and developed a network addressing each lighting fixture individually, overcoming maintenance and budget concerns. Ultimately, whether as seen from afar on Easter or Christmas, or from the newly renovated Madison Square Park immediately adjacent, the recreated lighting of the MetLife Tower is a first for New York City. Horton Lees Brogden has redefined the term "floodlighting" for the new millennium.

Architect/Restoration Consultant: Building Conservation Associates, Inc.

Photographer: Elliott Kaufman