

Detroit Metro Airport Project

Romulus, MI

Featured Product: ESI's M50Q Motors

Installed by Creative Windows of Ann Arbor, MI

Architect: Gensler Architects

Many of us have seen our Division 12 bid packages reduced or eliminated from construction projects as real life budgetary limitations come into play on large commercial sites. So it was as a 3-year, \$443 million dollar Detroit Metro Airport North Terminal project came to a close in Romulus, MI. Several rounds of value engineering had eventually led to the elimination of solar shades originally proposed to cover a large expanse of southeast-facing windows. The architects insisted the glass not be tinted.

One year later, blinding glare and heat caused the tenants in the busy 26-gate terminal to insist that the front-facing three story window wall be shaded at certain times of the day. Terminal operations were underway, creating significant challenges for a retrofit which would require installing and wiring solar shades. Creative Windows, an early adopter of ESI Q motors, suggested that Q motors would offer a marked advantage in DTW's North Terminal as they eliminated the need to home run the power and controls. Further, the limited number of wiring runs required by these Stealth motors allowed wires to be hidden with very little modification to the structure. Creative Windows manufactured custom metal brackets which mounted to the existing structure, blending with curtain wall frame. The motors and shades are tied into a Siemens building management system and are programmed to operate automatically based on time of day and current exterior lighting conditions.

This project called for eighty four (84) ESI M50Q motors. A second challenge was the over

1000' control wiring runs. Creative Windows addressed these by adding PSIB's, programmable switch interfaces, powered by DCPM's, DC power module, at strategic locations in the network.

Shortly after the installation was complete, Carl Sly, President of Creative Windows, was checking in at the ticket counter and mentioned the shades. The American Airlines agent leaped through the luggage scale opening in her counter and hugged Sly exclaiming; "Thank you - I can work without my sunglasses now!"





