

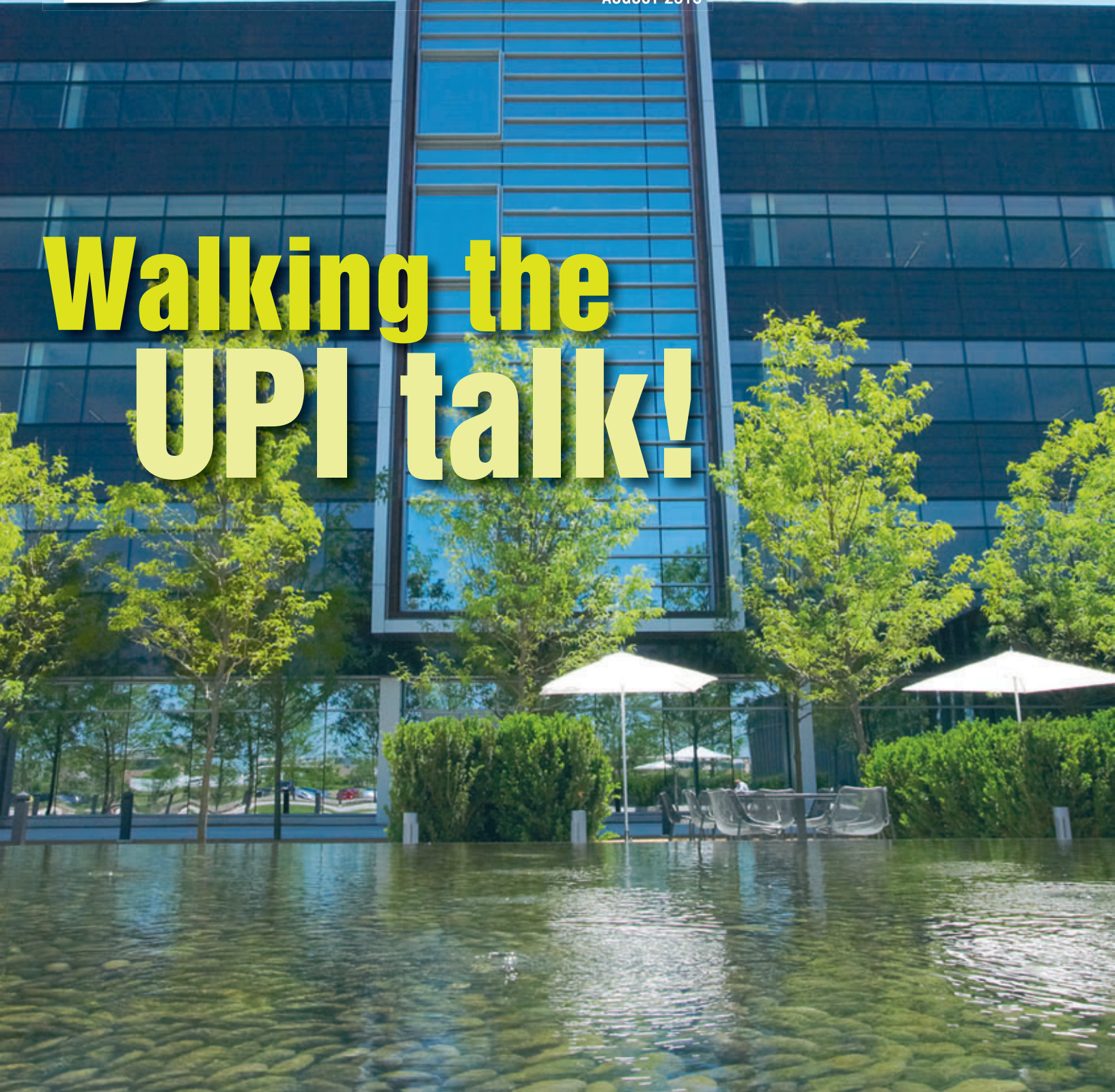
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Walking the UPI talk!





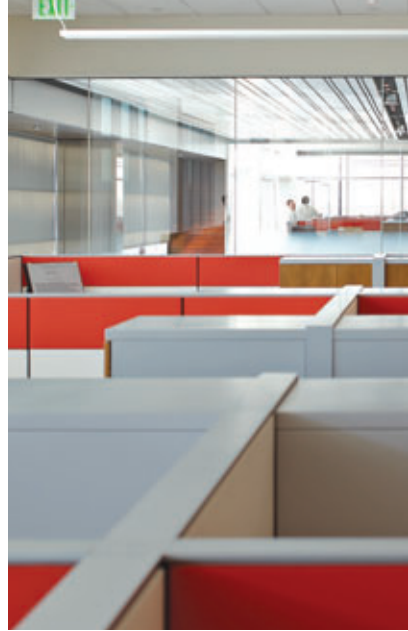
The Nature of Transformation

A tour of Panduit's new World HQ

John Gilson

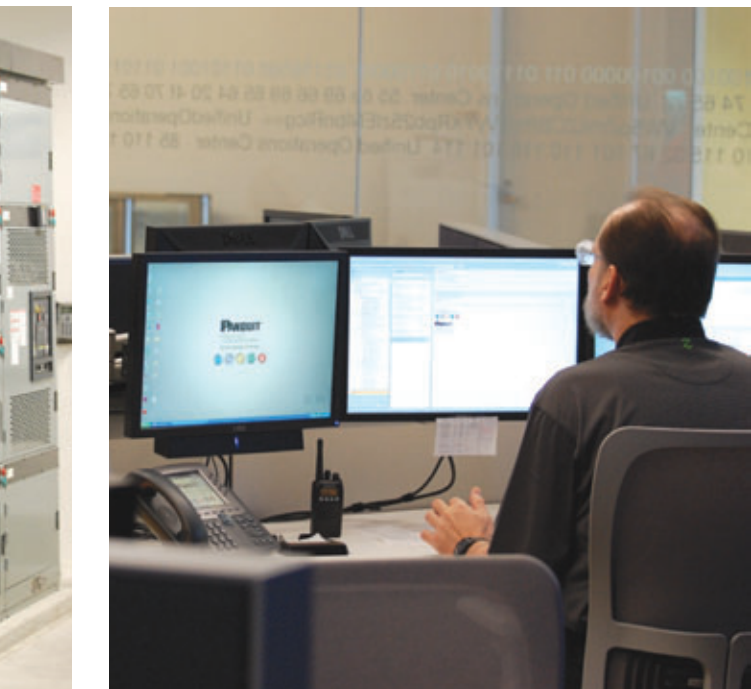


PANDUIT
building a smarter
united business foundation



Panduit recently celebrated the completion of its new world headquarters in Tinley Park, Ill., with a special, grand opening event. Guests were invited from around the world (including Electrical Business magazine as part of the Canadian contingent) to tour the cutting-edge facility, as well as sit in on informing keynote speeches and breakout sessions—much of them centred around sustainability and Panduit's UPI (Unified Physical Infrastructure) approach.

The theme of the two-day event was, aptly, "The Nature of Transformation".



enclosed office space makes up 90% of workspace and open workspace only 10%, the reverse is true in Panduit's HQ, allowing for maximum sunlight and reduced lighting loads/costs.

The building features a bare-bones design, revealing conduit and cables—Panduit's handiwork. Other unique features include a raised-floor system, which allows for heating and cooling, data cabling and desktop power. The building also has a green roof; the vegetation on top protects the roof from harsh elements and insulates the building. A water reclamation system collects rainwater for non-potable uses, and is projected to save the building 910,000 gallons of water annually.

Unified Physical Infrastructure (UPI)

Panduit's HQ was designed to serve as a living example of Unified Physical Infrastructure. Major attractions for guests were the UPI-based smart data centre, connected building architecture and unified operation centre (UOC), all of which make the building smarter and easier to operate.

At first glance, Panduit's UPI approach to design may seem complex, but it's really quite straightforward. In an effort to minimize risk, lower costs and heighten agility, UPI enables organizations—from hospitals to industrials—to connect, manage and automate critical systems (i.e. communication, computing, control, power and security). This approach differs markedly from traditional designs where critical systems operate independently from one another.

"We have really taken up the opportunity to bring all the networks together very early in the design process," said Darryl Benson, global solutions development manager for Panduit's Connected Building Solutions. "We refined a lot of our strategy around converged networking so that it allowed us to take all the different pathways that cabling takes—all the pieces of the infrastructure from the device to the user, to the telecom infrastructure, and all the way back to the data centre."

"We looked at a lot different technologies to make the building smarter," continued Benson, "giving us a 35% energy savings over a regular building. We're able to save \$0.63 per square foot just by making the building smarter."

"The Nature of Transformation"

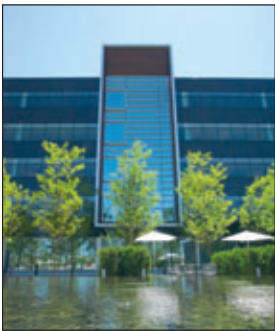
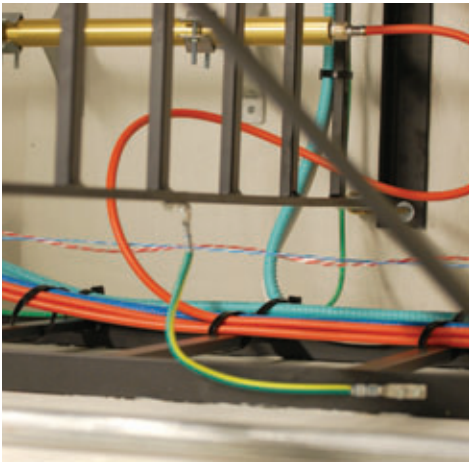
During the opening evening of keynote speeches, Panduit CEO John Caveney said businesses must transform if they are to survive in a rapidly changing environment. Using the hometown favourite Chicago Blackhawks—recent winners of the Stanley Cup—as an example, he said, "Everything starts with a vision... but in order for this to work, you need plenty of execution".

The following day, Jim Young, co-founder of Realcomm, spoke about his exploration of high-tech buildings in Asia (an exhausting journey of seven cities and 38 projects) and the pressing need—especially in

The yellow brick road to innovation

On the flat, Illinois plain, Panduit's new world HQ resembles something from the Land of Oz. With LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) specs in mind, Panduit and architectural consulting firm Gensler teamed up to design a building with plenty of water- and energy-conserving features. Much of the surrounding landscape, for example, comprises indigenous prairie flora (which is pretty unique considering that virtually all of the original Midwestern grassland was eaten up by the plough a century ago). The property, which also contains a small golf course, is dotted with small reservoirs of water. In the parking lot, there are spaces reserved exclusively for alternative-fuel vehicles.

The interior of the building is well-lit, with much of the light harnessed from the sun. Panduit was able to achieve this through the use of light shelves with integrated window shades, which help redistribute sunlight deep into the building. Compared to traditional offices where



On the cover


**“The Nature of Transformation”:
A tour of Panduit’s
new World HQ**

EBMag was recently invited to the official opening of Panduit’s new world headquarters—a facility that walks the Unified Physical Infrastructure talk.

North America—for buildings that are smarter, more integrated and more efficient.

Panduit and its many business partners—including Cisco, Rockwell Automation, IBM/Tivoli and Fluke Networks—believe that buildings such as Panduit’s HQ will be the norm in the future, not the exception. According to Panduit CTO Jack Tison, UPI is the perfect solution.

“Sustainability and environmental responsibility are good things: Panduit has always been in that operating mode,” said Tison. “But what’s important now is that being energy-efficient and sustainable are also green in terms of dollar savings. Facilities that deploy these technologies are saving a lot of money... In today’s environment, with energy costs continuing to rise, these things can help your business survive by becoming more sustainable and lowering your costs.”

To learn more about UPI, visit www.panduit.com. 

John Gilson is a regular contributor to—and correspondent for—Electrical Business. He is also the new editor of Energy ManagementCanada.com, an online resource geared specifically to professionals who are working to make a difference in their plant and building portfolios through the introduction of energy-efficient technologies and management practices. You can reach him at jgilson@clbmedia.ca.