



## **Low cost energy saving initiatives deliver financial gains**

### **Challenge**

Lighting is one of the biggest consumers of electricity in our shopping centres so cutting down on unnecessary or inefficient lighting is a priority across our portfolio. When our GranCasa shopping centre in Saragossa, Spain, had to reduce its electricity consumption to meet its energy targets, as well as cut its costs, it identified a number of opportunities around lighting in the shopping centre's three-level car park and decided to tackle them through a series of cost effective and practical steps.

### **Solution**

Beginning in 2011, three main measures were adopted: first of all, a zoned lighting system was installed throughout the car park that allowed lights to be switched on and off when necessary instead of being kept on all day. Furthermore, during quiet periods the management team closed the top two levels meaning lights could be turned off completely. Finally, employees and maintenance and security suppliers were asked to record where and when they turned on lights to encourage them to think about whether it was necessary to use lights or not.

### **Results**

Between 2010 and 2012, annual electricity consumption at the shopping centre reduced by 189,000kWh, equivalent to a 15% drop. Financially, the solutions have led to significant cost savings of €25,500. The savings demonstrate what can be achieved at a relatively modest expense and the lessons from GranCasa are being used to target similar reductions in other Sonae Sierra shopping centres.