



**WILLMAR ELECTRIC SERVICE**

DESIGN † BUILD † BEYOND



## CAMP RIPLEY

**CLIENT:** *Camp Ripley*  
**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**

**LOCATION:** *Little Falls, MN*  
*Nor-Son, Inc.*

**TIME FRAME:** *21 Months*

As the demands for technology and education change, the military is like all other institutions—needing to keep up with all the advancements. Therefore, the Minnesota National Guard saw the need to update and enlarge the Education Center Complex at Camp Ripley, located near Little Falls, MN.

Willmar Electric Service had the privilege to partner with Breitbach Construction in the construction of the Camp Ripley Education Complex Addition by contracting to complete the electrical installation, which included the Data, Visual, and Fire Alarm components. The new facility consists of an Auditorium, 2 large classrooms, 6 smaller classrooms, a state of the art cafeteria and billet rooms (hotel rooms).

With all the new initiatives to conserve energy, the design for the addition to the Camp Ripley education complex is no exception. The design called for a very complex lighting control system which incorporated a daylight harvesting dimming system in the main dining hall, as well as a keycard activation system for the resident billet rooms. The daylight harvesting system consists of a sensor in the ceiling which determined the amount of natural light coming in the room. This would then activate the lighting system to adjust the amount of lighting output each light would provide in the room depending on how much natural light was being emitted into the rooms.

Willmar Electric worked alongside union and merit shop companies throughout the whole process of the project. It began with Willmar Electric selecting the most qualified subcontractors for the project, not just the lowest bidder. This was accomplished through an interview process. Willmar Electric continued to exemplify the Merit Shop philosophy by working with union and merit shop contractors on site during the project—sharing information and working to reach the common goal of building a new facility.

*"Thank you Willmar Electric Service for the job well done and for the effort to complete and close out the Electrical, Audio/Visual, and Data/Communications systems in our flagship Classroom Facility on Camp Ripley."*  
*-Patrick T. Rolph, Architectural Supervisor, Project Manager, State of Minnesota, Dept. of Military Affairs*