



## **Shri Swaminarayan Mandir (Temple) Lilburn, Georgia USA**

In August 2007 Lamina added another landmark to its growing list of prominent installations: the Shri Swaminarayan Mandir.

It's brand new. And, it's centuries old. It's hand-carved from marble and limestone according to religious tradition. And, its visual impact is made possible by cutting-edge technology.

It's the Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, a temple recently constructed in Lilburn, Georgia. And it's a study in how the marriage of ancient custom and cutting-edge technical partnership can create surprising and unique results.

### **Three entities come together.**

The project represents collaboration between three primary entities: Illinois-based North Star Lighting, a lighting solutions design and engineering firm; New Jersey-based Lamina, a developer and manufacturer of state-of-the-art, solid state LED light engines; and the Bochasanwasi Shri Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS), a socio-spiritual organization which to its followers represents the Hindu religion in its purest form.

The intricate, proper display of religious idols and figurines inside and outside the structure led to extraordinary effort in lighting design, both technically and logistically. "At one point, there was a section of marble that had already been carved out in India to accept a lighting product that had not even been designed yet," said Tom Rotkis, Vice President of Sales and Marketing for North Star Lighting Group. "They said, 'this is how we want it to look' and we said, 'if that's your concept, North Star will design a product to meet your needs. And thanks to the Lamina, we were able to do that.'" Lamina specializes in super-bright solid-state LED lighting arrays that allow for optimum light output and extraordinary heat management. Their products, which also allow for color variability and sleek, compact designs, have introduced LEDs to applications that were until recently only possible with traditional lighting sources.

The ongoing ability of North Star and Lamina to work as a team in response to the highly sensitive and unique needs of the BAPS project is a source of pride at both organizations. "I believe the BAPS were able to create the lighting effects they really wanted on this mandir due in large part to the ability of North Star to come through with solutions," said Rotkis. "And I also believe North Star was able to come through with those solutions in large part because of Lamina."

### **Impressive numbers.**

In the end, North Star used a total number of over 2,000 fixtures in its lighting design for the interior and the exterior of the mandir. The products consisted primarily of Lamina Titan and Atlas LEDs integrated into North Star Lighting RAF Series floodlights, recessed column lights and recessed step lights. The result is a testament to the "above and beyond" effort of the two companies working together.



Not ironically, working together was a recurring theme in the overall construction of the Atlanta mandir. Followers of the BAPS organization believe that spiritual and social activities should go hand in hand. According to custom, over 10,000 volunteer laborers, all BAPS Swaminarayan followers, came together to donate thousands of hours of their time to make the project a success and keep costs down. The building was completed in a staggering five months.

- **Industry Sector:** Architectural
- **Lamina Products Used:** Titan and Atlas line of LEDs integrated into North Star Lighting RAF Series floodlights, recessed column lights and recessed step lights.
- **Project Credits:**  
Temple Designers: Bharat Patel and Sanjay Parikh  
Principal Architect: Smallwoods, Reynolds, Stewart & Stewart  
Head of Manufacturing & Engineering for NorthStar: Mike Patel
- **Photo Credit:** courtesy BAPS Media Relations

