



Elemental Gazette

Volume 2

Your source for the latest news from Elemental Effects.

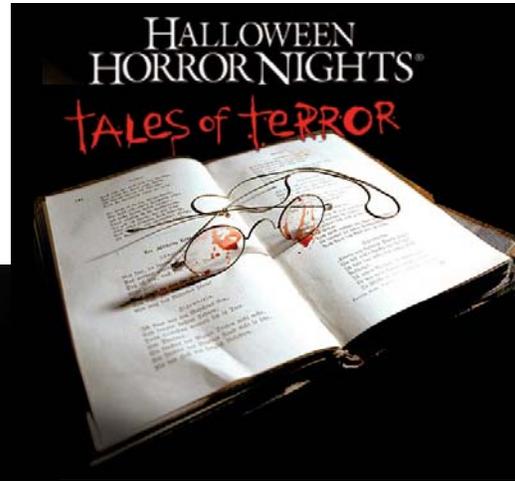
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Scary Stories

Some projects can be a little frightening. Of course that is the point when the project is Universal's Halloween Horror Nights.

Elemental Effects is proud to have been chosen to take part in this annual event that has become a Halloween tradition for many in Central Florida as well as scare fans from across the country.

E2, in association with Artistic Adventures, designed and produced the lighted hardhats worn by guests as they traveled through the Terror Mines.



Performance Update: Universal's operations department reports that they were pleased with the operation of the system throughout the run of the show. Out of 150 hats delivered to Universal only 24 needed service. Most of the units were serviced due to guest damage including 12 hats that ended up submerged in water. Only minor

parts and minimal labor were needed to bring the hats back to operational status.

There isn't anything scary about a hardhat with a light you say. Well what if we tell you that the hat is the only source of light you will have and that only one person in your group is wearing one. Still not scary enough for you? The light has a mind of it's own and the deeper you move into the mine the less you trust it.

This was the challenge put to us by Universal. Our solution was to design a compact LED lighting controller with infrared communication and a programmable microprocessor.

The hats have white, blue & green LEDs each able to be on, off, flicker, strobe, fade up and fade down. We also programmed several timed sequences that worked with scenic and character elements.

Infrared triggers mounted in the scenery communicated with the hats, activating the proper sequence for that area. The triggers could also activate external devices such as strobes, audio and animation elements when a hat confirms communication. This eliminated the need for optical or mechanical triggers for these effects in the attraction.

We look forward to helping Universal integrate the hats into another attraction next year as well as meeting any other challenges they may find for us.

