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Should LEDs Work Better?

Lucifer Lighting Executive Says Yes – and Shows How

*Valuable advice on selecting LED sources can help architects and lighting designers excel, merging design and technology to create better, more sustainable lighting solutions.*

SAN ANTONIO, TX., November 30, 2012 – If you ask Alexandra Mathews, she’ll say that LED lighting is not living up to its potential. True, these long-life lamps last 40,000 hours or more, operating at efficiencies six times greater than incandescent sources. And they are the light engines of choice for Mathews’s company, Lucifer Lighting, which exports high-quality, precision lighting fixtures around the world.

“Yet, the color of most LEDs sources – the essential aspect of light quality – is unpredictable and often poor across the market,” says Mathews, Lucifer Lighting’s vice president of international sales and marketing. “Three different LED arrays may have the same published Kelvin ratings, yet the color temperature and rendering properties will vary all over the map. That’s not acceptable.”

For that reason, architects and lighting designers who select and specify lighting systems have to work with only state-of-the-art LED technologies, especially in retail stores, museums, schools, custom homes, showrooms and other places where light quality is critical. “We can’t settle for less than superior color rendering, absolutely consistent color temperature, and evenly maintained color and light levels,” Mathews insists.

**LEDs that works better, longer**

Another issue with LEDs has been their loss of light power over time, says Mathews, a phenomenon called *lumen depreciation* that has hindered the adoption of LED sources for general lighting. LEDs rated for 10,000 to 50,000 hours of service life may lose their light quality prematurely, effectively cutting their installed life by half or more.
“That’s the whole point of using LEDs,” says Mathews, who is a frequent speaker and authority on the commercial use of LED lighting. “They are meant to last a long time and deliver excellent lighting quality while also reducing energy use and cost.”

The flip side of the lumen loss issue is called lumen maintenance, a quality that Lucifer Lighting strives to ensure in all its fixtures, regardless of the light source. For LEDs, that means avoiding the plastics, silicones and complicated electronics that have plagued commodity-grade LEDs for years.

Lucifer Lighting sources LED modules that are proven, elegantly design and rugged for real-world applications. Long-term maintenance of the LED’s light-emitting properties and quality is a hallmark of the sources, which are applied to high-end architectural lighting fixtures widely regarded as innovative and of exceptional design quality. Appealing to acclaimed architects and designers around the world, the products are found in museums, five-star hotels, top restaurants, corporate headquarters and luxury residences, among countless other uses.

About Lucifer Lighting Company
For more than 30 years, Lucifer Lighting has created precision-engineered, original lighting solutions with a focus on leading-edge technology and aesthetic appeal. Made in the USA, Lucifer Lighting fixtures and systems are favored by architects and designers worldwide, choosing from downlights, light strips, track and spot lights, and landscape lighting with powerful, efficient light sources, from halogen and metal halide to LED and fluorescent. The company is regularly recognized for distinction, and its robust, appealing fixtures are found in installations for five-star hotels, distinguished institutions and cultural venues, high-end retailers, luxury residences, corporate headquarters and more. Acclaimed for innovative products and contributions to award-winning architecture, Lucifer Lighting manufactures from its headquarters in San Antonio.
For more information, please visit www.luciferlighting.com.