

Outcomes and Actions from Lites.Asia Meeting No. 1 held in Beijing, 22-23 June 2010

Summary

The first official meeting of lites.asia was held in Beijing on 22 and 23 June 2010. The meeting was attended by 40 representatives from 11 countries, including Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, Australia and the US. A list of attendees is available from the link below¹ (please email info@lites.asia with any corrections / omissions).

The meeting was focused primarily on integrated CFL lamps and LED lamps.

The meeting heard presentations from all countries regarding their own processes for developing lighting efficiency standards, and the relationship between those standards and the various lighting efficiency policies and programs in each country.

Also heard were presentations regarding IEC procedures for developing lighting standards, and the processes for improving Asian participation in the IEC. All presentations are available from the link below¹.

Lites.asia will summarise country standards processes and relevant contacts, in a concise format, and ask members to check this information before posting on the lites.asia website. This will include lists of country standards for CFLi, linear fluorescent, LED, etc.

Delegates also discussed a number of future activities for lites.asia, and the outcomes from these discussions are summarised below.

CFLi Standards

As an important exercise for the group, the latest draft of the IEC standard for performance of integrated CFLs (IEC 60969) will soon be circulated to the meeting attendees, who will be asked to submit informal comments. A new committee draft (CD) of the standard may be issued by the IEC lamps Maintenance Team (PRESCO) as early as September 2010.

Attendees will submit their current and draft (country-specific) CFLi standards (or links to these documents) for posting on the lites.asia website. These should include MEPS and HEPS levels, and labeling requirements, etc. Members will also list any existing modifications that their country has made to IEC 60969, as well as any future requirements or modifications they might be considering.

Attendees will also compile a list of lighting testing capabilities in their respective countries.

¹ www.lites.asia/downloads/beijing2010.html

Adapting IEC Standards

Dedicated energy efficiency standards have not been published by IEC, so individual country performance/quality standards have proliferated for lighting products. The meeting identified a number of issues relevant to Asian markets that would be desirable to be taken into account in the development of IEC lighting standards:

- Testing facilities - state of the art test methods require expensive test facilities which may not be available in all parts of the world.
- Lamp lifetime:
 - No accelerated lifetime test exists, so testing is long and expensive.
 - Methods may exist for predicting lamp lifetime, but these do not appear to be public.
 - It may be possible to develop predictive software for lamp lifetime, based on existing data collected from previous testing programs.
- The balance between the relative importance of product quality, durability and affordability is different in different countries.
- Public health and environmental concerns differ between countries.
- Environmental issues differ, such as:
 - Humidity
 - Temperature
 - Dust
 - Voltage fluctuation
 - EMC/harmonics
 - Lamp orientation
- Additional parameters / tests that could be added:
 - Voltage fluctuation
 - EMC and harmonics
 - A voluntary “some countries” clause for power factor.
 - Performance tiers.
- Product marking.
- Translation of IEC Standards into Asian languages.
- Certification and conformity.
- Some countries need more time to consider changes/comments to IEC standards.

IEC Activities

Lites.asia will attempt to keep members informed of developments at the IEC lighting Technical Committee TC 34, lamps Subcommittee SC 34A and lamps Maintenance Team (PRESCO). This should include requests for votes and comments, as well as new work items, etc.

There is a series of IEC meetings scheduled for Seattle USA in October. More information is available from www.iec2010.org. Registrations for committee members close on 6 September 2010. Countries who are not members of IEC committees may be able to attend as observers, with permission from the relevant committee chair person or the country's National Committee.

Each lites.asia country will check their IEC membership status and consider more active participation in PRESCO, which is where the detail of lamp standards are developed. Lites.asia will email a summary to each country and ask if they need assistance.

Basic LED Standard

Lites.asia members will develop a basic, voluntary LED standard/guide (to be lead by EcoAsia).

Future Meetings

Meeting No. 2 – We are currently examining options for a related lighting event, which lites.asia can link with, within next 6-8 months. One suggestion was a possible Sri Lanka lighting symposium to be held in early 2011. Another is a proposed lighting event in Singapore in November 2010. Possible themes and topics for the meeting include:

- CFL standards development, following the exercise mentioned above.
- IEC developments.
- Training in LED basics and LED testing; LED street lighting.
- Testing – cooperation on developing/sharing test lab capacity and training.
- ASEAN Mutual Recognition Agreement for test labs; improving mutual recognition of testing.

Please email info@lites.asia with any suggestions or needs that you might have.

Meeting No. 3 - possibility of holding meeting in Sydney, Australia in June 2011, to link with an event of Lighting Council Australia and IES Australia / New Zealand.

Meeting No. 4/5 – possibility of linking with a lighting event in India in February 2012.