A Consumer Guide to Buying Good Quality LEDs

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Original Objective

- *lites.asia* stakeholders had previously identified importance of ensuring consumers received positive experiences of LEDs
  - Avoid initial negative consumer experiences with CFLs which slowed long term market penetration
- Difficult for consumers to make choices
- To assist in consistence of approach in the region, request by *lites.asia* stakeholders to produce:

  "independent and unbiased basic text for use by governments, suppliers, retailers and other stakeholder in publications to guide consumers in selecting a good quality LED products for appropriate applications"

A Consumer Guide to Buying Good Quality LEDs

- Following extensive stakeholder review, guidance now published
  - http://www.lites.asia/news-and-events/news/led-consumer-guidelines-version-2
- Contents
  - Useful Performance Indicators for Good LEDs
  - Light Appearance
  - Energy Efficiency
  - Safety
  - Choosing the Right Light

Suggestions

Useful Performance Indicators for Good LEDs

- Incandescent and Halogen Lamp Replacement Claims
  - Look for sensible numbers on any claim of equivalence with incandescent and halogen lamps and compare with other products
- Light Output
  - Look for a clear statement of light output in lumens (lm) and compare with other products
- Lamp Lifetime
  - Look for realistic claims of life and manufacturers that can back up their lifetime claims, either with testing or certification indicated on the product packaging
- Lamp Guarantee Period
  - Look for a guarantee of at least 2 to 3 years, or longer for lamps claiming a lifetime over 25,000 hours

Suggestions

Light Appearance

- Colour Temperature
  - Choose the lamp colour that you are most comfortable with in the same way you would with a compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) or fluorescent tube
- Colour Rendering Index (CRI)
  - Choose a CRI number to suit your application. The higher the CRI value the better. Better still, if possible, purchase one LED and try it to see if it makes colours of objects appear appropriate before buying more

Suggestions

Energy Efficiency

- Look for an energy efficiency rating in lm/W on the lamp and compare with other lighting products such as linear fluorescent lamps or CFLs

Safety

- Look for confirmation that the lamp has been certified to your national safety standard (eg UL, CE or CCC). At the very least the lamp should claim to comply with the IEC 62560 safety standard.

Choosing the Right Light

- Think about alternatives to LEDs before buying to make sure you are buying the best and most cost effective lamp for your needs

Encourage Appropriate Stakeholder Adoption

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