



FACT SHEET: Energy Efficiency Lighting Upgrades

So, you are considering ways to improve the energy efficiency of your business. Well there is certainly more to consider than meets the eye. Lighting is an obvious starting point with most offices consuming between 25-40% of their energy bill on lighting. With a myriad of offerings out there, there are some things you might like to consider...



REPUTATION

Be sure you are dealing with a reputable brand that is established in the marketplace. Is the business just a supplier or does it provide end-to-end project management?

EXPERIENCE

Seek evidence of the experience of the company you are dealing with and its people. Case studies, time in business and the background and experience of the people you deal with can give you great confidence in their advice and solutions.

LIGHT DISTRIBUTION

Make sure that your replacement is fit for purpose. Changing the lamp diameter, colour, beam angle or position in a luminaire will affect the light output and produce a different light distribution. This may affect visual comfort associated with display screen equipment and other tasks. The installation may not meet its original design parameters, including glare.

LAMP LIFE

Many different methods are used to describe lamp life e.g. some describe the time at which lumen output has degraded by a certain percentage – 10, 50% etc. Another method is to describe the percentage of lamps which have failed by a certain time. Obviously a 50% failure rate will take longer to happen than a 10% failure rate so the “life” will appear to be longer. Claims of 50,000 hour “life” may be true but if the output has degraded to less than 50% of that when new it is unlikely to be meeting your needs. Regardless of the method used, make sure that you compare like with like when making your choice.

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MEETS REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

There are a number of Australian standards such as AS1680 that apply to individual lighting products and the environment in which they are to operate.

Most lighting products must comply with very strict requirements for electrical safety and electromagnetic emissions. It is mandatory that they carry labelling to show that they comply, such as RCM mark, approval number or C Tick. Installing non approved product can be dangerous and have significant business risks.

Make sure that whatever energy efficient lighting solution you are considering meets relevant standards.

Remember reducing energy consumption should not come at the cost of unacceptable light levels.

WARRANTY

Some lamp manufacturers have restrictive warranties. Be sure that you have a warranty on your lamps that will be honoured and that the fine print will not leave you without warranty cover.

DISPOSAL OF OLD FITTINGS

There are strict rules around the disposal of fluorescent tubes. Once your energy efficiency project is completed how will you “safely” dispose of old fittings and lamps?

SO WHERE TO NOW?

The above are just a few considerations on your journey to energy efficiency. Consulting a reputable company that will listen to what you want to achieve and can offer good advice is always a good starting point.

If you're considering upgrading your lighting system to a more energy efficient option, Ilum-a-Lite can provide you with a project estimate.



Contact Ilum-a-Lite for more information

1800 133 666

