

Middle East Lighting Association

The Newsletter
of the Middle East
Lighting Association
Number 1704



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear colleagues and friends of MELA,

This newsletter aims to highlight our activities to date in 2017. It has been an uncharacteristically busy start to the year with multiple policy developments in a few countries in the region. We now track policy developments in seven focus countries (see page 2) and at Gulf Standards Organisation level.

As a result of the regional phase of consolidation of regulatory initiatives targeting the lighting last year there have been a few new initiatives of considerable note in the UAE (market surveillance and Restriction of Hazardous Substances) and Saudi (new regulatory initiative focusing on Commercial/Professional lighting).

As with other regions around the globe these initiatives aim to prohibit inefficient and low-quality light sources, control gear & luminaires from entering the GCC markets and to set new criteria for manufacturers & marketers of lighting products. This year we see that the Lighting Industry in the region will inevitably move further towards ledification and regulators will continue to look for ways to save energy by moving from residential lighting regulations to regulating commercial/professional lighting applications. We are seeing the first of these developments in Saudi Arabia. These activities fit well with the MELA focus for 2017 which includes support to the following three priority areas:

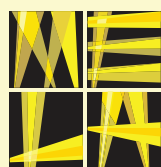
- ② Priority 1 – The development of Commercial & Professional Lighting Application Guide. As a pre-regulatory step MELA members will develop Commercial Lighting Application Guidelines for main applications such as outdoor, street lighting, schools and hospitals of interest to MELA companies and regional regulators. This entails that an assessment of what is available in terms of existing application standards, regulations and guidelines is carried out. Here application benchmarks & regional best practice will be identified leading to a MELA backed lighting application guideline to be shared with regulators and other relevant stakeholders in the region.
- ② Priority 2 – Following a request from the Emirates Standards and Metrology Authority, MELA will support the market surveillance capability by cooperating with ESMA to develop a market surveillance guide for consumers and market inspectors.
- ② Priority 3 – provide ongoing policy support to MELA focus countries on residential lighting regulatory policy but also on a regional format for compliance.

Governments across the region are giving more attention to standards development and for MELA the priority is getting those standards right.

As in previous issues we provide information on the most prominent mover countries starting to emerge in the lighting regulatory field, and we provide an idea of the scope of the various regulations and dates of entry into force, in order to anticipate the necessary business decisions.

We are always looking to bring new lighting companies on board, particularly those representative of the new lighting revolution and those with an interest in the Middle East region. Feel free to make yourselves known to us during the forthcoming lighting conference season later this year, details of which are on our website. I hope you find this edition of the newsletter useful. Please feel free to reach out to our Director Gerald Strickland gerald.strickland@middleeastlighting.ae if you have any suggestions.

Paolo Cervini, President MELA



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G. Strickland for MELA

BAHRAIN

A World Bank Team are currently preparing the Energy Efficiency Strategy in The Kingdom of Bahrain and are considering various initiatives that can involve lighting technologies. One is perhaps an incentive program to accelerate the transformation of the market to LED in the commercial sector. Intention is to harmonize this effort with the standards & regulatory work being carried out by MELA in the MENA region. No change from newsletter dated 1608.

EGYPT

Ministerial Decree no. 975/2014 mandates Egyptian Standard ES 7823/2014 'Energy Efficiency Requirements for Electrical Lamps'. ES7823/2014 establishes requirements for labelling and providing supplementary product information and energy efficiency requirements for electrical lamps such as: filament lamps, fluorescent lamps, compact fluorescent lamps, high-intensity discharge lamps & LEDs. No change from newsletter dated 1608.

JORDAN

Regulation # 2091/2013 which is part of a suite of Technical Regulations on Eco Design & Energy Labelling of Electrical Products entered into force on the 1st Jan 2016. No mandatory pre-registration of products is required. Companies can register on a voluntary basis & expect a smoother process with customs clearing. A Jordanian version of the Restriction of Hazardous Substances Regulation (RoHS) was expected in 2016 but has not yet been issued.

KUWAIT

Kuwait Conformity Assurance Scheme (KUCAS) governs exports to Kuwait. The scheme has been implemented by the Public Authority for Industry of the State of Kuwait (PAI) to verify the conformity of all 'Regulated Products' that are exported to Kuwait. No change to content carried in MELA Newsletter 1603.

QATAR

General Organisation for Standardisation has announced 'a ban on the importation and circulation of incandescent light bulbs (tungsten) 75W & 100W.' It appears from the public announcement that enforcement of the regulation commenced on the 1st May 2016. A ban on the importation and circulation of incandescent light bulbs (tungsten) 40-60W INC came into force on 1st Nov 2016.

SAUDI ARABIA

SASO Regulation 2870:2015 Part 1 lists energy efficiency, functionality and labeling requirements for lighting products. The Standard covers indirect and direct general light sources having a luminous flux above 60 lumens or below 12,000 lumens of the following directional/non directional technologies: Incandescent lamps Compact fluorescent lamps with integrated ballast (CFLi) Halogen lamps Light-emitting diode (LED) lamps (Incandescent retrofit types) Light-emitting diode (LED) lamps (Halogen retrofit types). Suppliers of products in the scope listed above should be aware that product registration can be carried out via the following link www.sls.gov.sa. See developments on Commercial/Professional Lighting under the Spotlight Section.

UAE

UAE RoHS Regulation was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers on 8th January 2017. The final adopted copy of the text is not yet available. The dates of entry into force are set out in Article 9. The restriction of lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, PBB and PBDE shall apply to EEE (other than in clause 9.1.1) placed on the market one year from the date of the publication of this scheme in the Official Gazette. The restriction of DEHP, BBP, DBP and DIBP to EEE (other than in clause 9.1.1) shall apply from 22 July 2019. See also the MELA/ESMA Compliant Lighting Product Requirements Guide For the major lighting product groups included within the scope of Cabinet Decision 34 - Residential Lighting Regulation of the United Arab Emirates on our website <http://middleeastlighting.ae>

Be sure to regularly check our updates on our LinkedIn page:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/10114349>

REGIONAL NEWS

MEED Projects the region's leading projects tracking service reported in April 2017 that the GCC projects market has had its worst start to a year for more than a decade in 2017, with awards for the first two months falling sharply and the rolling six-month average reaching a record low. According to data from the regional projects tracker, the value of new work awarded during January and February totalled about \$11.3bn, down by more than 50 per cent on the \$23.7bn of contracts seen during January and February in 2016. Three of the metrics registered a strong improvement. Turnover increased from 45 to 69, backlog from 40 to 46 and outlook from 45 to 54.

The improvement in outlook or sentiment could be explained by the growing feeling that the market has reached bottom and a recovery will start towards the end of this year. Consultants are expecting to be the first to notice an uptick in activity after a slow year for new work opportunities. Accordig to the report contractors are not expecting a big improvement until late 2018 or 2019.

However, despite the above and the fall in the oil price over the last few years, the Middle East market for LED fixtures and systems¹ is expected to remain buoyant as government investments stabilise and private investments continue. Events such as the Expo in Dubai in 2020 and the FIFA World Cup in Qatar in 2022 will deliver solid impetus to growth in the GCC region, especially in the hospitality market.

Other factors driving the market to LEDs is the reduction in energy subsidies by many governments in the region and changing attitudes to the suitability of LED lighting in the Middle East.

¹<http://luxreview.com/article/2016/03/led-lighting-booming-in-middle-east-say-analysts>

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

SAUDI DEVELOPMENTS ON COMMERCIAL LIGHTING

The Saudi Energy Efficiency Centre (SEEC) has recently announced that it will kick start consultations with industry and other interested stakeholders regarding what it refers to as lighting standard Part 2 also known as the Regulation for Professional and Commercial Lighting in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This follows lighting standard 2870 - Part 1 which came into force on 1 May 2016 and regulates lighting products used in residential lighting applications. It is still too early to know precisely where Part 2 will focus but early indications point to light sources used in professional lighting applications. The intended scope will cover other LED lamps not covered in Part 1, defined energy efficiency limits on control gear/ballasts, Lm/W requirements on key luminaires and functional parameters on all products. It is as yet too early to comment on entry into force dates for Part 2.



MARKET SURVEILLANCE ON LIGHTING PRODUCTS IN UAE

In February 2017, MELA member company representatives met with representatives of Dubai Central Laboratory to be able to better understand the laboratories' capabilities for testing lighting products pre and post registration. Today DCL is accredited for 25 IEC standards mainly in Home Appliances and Tools. An extension to 74 standards is in progress.

- ✦ Current focus is on safety of luminaires (residential) and lamps.
- ✦ Regarding performance testing (lamps), DCL is in the process of receiving a photometer sphere for light output measurements this year.
- ✦ Plans to purchase a Goniophotometer for light characteristics in 2018.
- ✦ Testing capabilities for Cab Decision # 34 are currently limited.
- ✦ Several differing pieces of test equipment were also seen by MELA members (glow wire test, draught proof chamber, thermal test unit, lamp gauges & IP testing room.)



MELA members with Abdul Rahman Mohammad Al Ali - Renewable Energy & Electromechanical Laboratories Section Head - Dubai Central Laboratory

LIGHTING APPLICATION GUIDELINE

Lighting specifications in the region depend to a large extent on consultants who are employed by project managers and building owners etc. They tend to be largely based on EU/US specifications and are very often a combination of the two. They tend to promote the application rather than the product. In the UAE, research shows that there are around ten application guides for indoor and outdoor lighting alone - increasing complexity and compliance requirements! MELA is trying to add value in this area by attempting to harmonise specifications/requirements. This will consist of a review of existing application guidelines, identification of any gaps between what is available and what is needed in the market i.e. energy efficiency requirements, light quality requirements etc. to be identified, leading eventually to the definition of an agreed lighting application design process for the region.

MELA AT FUTURE GENERATION AWARDS



MELA Director Gerald Strickland judging one of the entries at 'The Future Generation' pre & post graduate design awards at Middle east Electricity in February 2017 - Dubai World Trade Centre

