



Lighting Council Australia

PO Box 1058, Hawthorn, VIC, 3122

Tel: +61 3 9819 9441

Fax: +61 3 9815 2609

Mobile: +61 418 566 647

Email: rmulcahy@lightingcouncil.com.au

Web: www.lightingcouncil.com.au

ACN 130 217 613

Media Release

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Adelaide-based lighting market leader calls for lighter government touch

A locally-based lighting supplier has warned that it may shed jobs should a government proposal to severely cut architectural lighting in new buildings proceed.

Haneco Lighting Australia employs 50 staff at its headquarters in Netley, SA and a further 35 in three other offices across Australia.

“We pride ourselves on our research and development and lighting design work. It’s a key part of our Australian business”, explains Haneco’s National Marketing Manager Sean Larter-Conway.

“We’ve got a team of over 15 staff working on lighting design and product development. This government proposal really calls into question our current approach, let alone our long-term growth plans.”

The government proposal at issue is a proposed change to the National Construction Code that will dramatically cut the scope for all architectural and decorative lighting in commercial buildings across Australia from 1 July 2019.

“We’re in the top 3 suppliers of LED lighting in Australia and this proposal would reduce the size of the lighting market dramatically.”

Lighting Council Australia—the peak body for 100 lighting manufacturers and suppliers—notes that its members’ concerns are shared across other parts of the sector. “Our alarm is shared by the representatives of the lighting design and engineering industries. Taken together, architectural and decorative lighting creates \$400m per year of economic activity and provides thousands of jobs,” explains Lighting Council Australia Acting CEO David Crossley.

“We call for decisive intervention from government to step in and prevent this policy from proceeding.”

Enquiries:

Roman Gowor, National Marketing and Environment Manager, Lighting Council Australia
0478 945 100



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