

UV-C Lamps and Luminaires

Illuminations Article

The emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the search for environmental controls to contain the spread of the virus.

Lighting Council Australia is aware that some product suppliers would like to market UV-C products in Australia. The Queensland Electrical Safety Office has provided the following advice:

ESO has had an inquiry from a RECS certifier on if a portable UV room disinfectant lamp is a level 3 luminaire – portable type or any other level 3 classification if they are supplied for household or similar use. ESO has determined these devices are not level 3 luminaire - portable type, or any other level 3 classification and would therefore be level 1 equipment.

As level 1 equipment they do not require certification, while the responsible supplier must ensure the equipment is electrically safe.

The ESO notes there is no specific relevant electrical safety standard that has these products within their scope. Therefore, if a certificate was sought, the Certifier would need to follow the process for an alternate solution standard report of the Equipment Safety Rules.

Note: Although these products are not within the scope of AS/NZS 60335.2.27, certifiers may want to consider that standard as it has information relating to certain UV limits and certain types of UV appliances that are not permitted.

ESO is consulting with the EESS Standing Committee of Official Equipment working Group and the ERAC Equipment working Group and will advise if anything different is determined

We also note the following:

- The European Commission of the Scientific Committee on Health, Environmental and Emerging Risks (SCHEER) has published its final opinion on [Biological effects of UVC radiation relevant to health with particular reference to UVC lamps](#)
- The International Commission on Illumination has published a [Position Statement on Ultraviolet \(UV\) Radiation to Manage the Risk of COVID-19 Transmission](#).
- The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency regulates radiation in occupational environments and has published the Radiation Protection Standard titled [Occupational Exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation](#).
- The Illuminating Engineering Society North America has prepared a report to explain germicidal ultraviolet (GUV) disinfection - [IES CR-2-20-V1, Germicidal Ultraviolet \(GUV\) – Frequently Asked Questions](#)



- The International Electro-technical Commission (IEC) lighting standards committee will likely discuss UV-C product standards during its next meeting in June 2020. Lighting Council Australia will keep members informed of developments.