

Regulatory & Standards Update

Illuminations Article

Regulatory issues

Product certification and marking for NSW: The NSW electrical safety regulator is saying they may want to see additional certification and product marking on 'declared articles' when sold in NSW. The NSW regulator is saying their Act and Regulations do not recognise the 'Recognised External Certification Scheme (RECS)' and Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM) as endorsed and required by other state regulators.

Lighting Council Australia will continue to discuss this topic with the NSW regulator to gain a clear understanding of the legal requirements and report back to Lighting Council Australia members as soon as possible.

Application of standards in NSW: NSW electrical safety regulations apply the latest standard at all points in the supply chain. Other jurisdictions apply the standard that is in place when a product is manufactured, imported or registered. This difference is creating a trade barrier, confusion, administrative burden and unnecessary non-compliance that can add cost and significantly impact on suppliers.

Lighting Council Australia will soon meet with the office of The Hon Kevin John Anderson MP, Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation, to discuss our concerns and the impacts.

Standards update

EL-041 Lamps and related equipment

Positively, Standards Australia's lighting committee, EL-041, has been taking standards proposals to the international standards committee for lighting (i.e. IEC TC34) rather than implementing change at a national level.

Most significant proposals come from Australian electrical safety regulators. IEC meetings are now conducted by videoconference so it has been easier for Australian regulators and others to participate.

Energy efficiency standards: The LED MEPS and halogen phase out standards are in draft stage and will soon be issued as public comment documents.

Lighting automation standards: DALI standards are in the process of being adopted as Australian Standards.

Rulings: EL-041 will soon issue rulings to clarify the testing requirement for recessed luminaires and independent drivers is to be conducted at 25°C rather than the temperature rating of the independent driver. (Suppliers and laboratories are advised to read the rulings when published).

IEC proposals

Flammability testing: An Australian proposal has been put to the IEC seeking alignment around flammability testing. There are significant commercial implications (re-testing and re-certification) for the rest of the world's products so the IEC will carefully assess this proposal.

Cleaning of luminaires: Australian regulators have identified a potential safety hazard when luminaire covers/diffusers are removed for cleaning. There are significant potential commercial consequences due to the potential need to re-design some luminaires. IEC will soon discuss this proposal.

UVC product standards: UVC radiation used for disinfection purposes is topical due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Neither Australian nor international standards cover UVC luminaires. The IEC committee will produce an information bulletin and develop a publicly available specification.

The Australian Radiation Protection Agency has issued a [product warning to advise consumers of the dangers of portable devices that emit ultraviolet radiation](#)

However, as Lighting Council Australia members heard recently during a presentation at our August General Meeting, some UVC systems that are professionally designed, tested and certified are effective to kill COVID-19 and safe to use.

LG-009 Sports lighting

The sports lighting standard is at drafting stage. A public comment document may be released in third or fourth quarter 2020.

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