

Lighting the Future - Accelerating the deployment of innovative lighting technologies

About you

Data publication

A synthesis of your contributions received via this online questionnaire, as well as any individual contributions, together with the identity of your organisation/affiliation, will be published on the web.

Therefore, in order to take part in this consultation, you must indicate prior agreement to the publication of your personal data (opt-in).

Do you agree with the publication of your personal data?

-single choice reply-(optional)

I agree (opt-in)

I am replying as / on behalf of a ...

Note: If you represent more than one category, please choose the most relevant one.

-single choice reply-(optional)

Professional association / Non-profit organisation

Please provide your name / your organisation's name (will be published).

Note: If you are responding as a citizen, enter 'Citizen'.

-open reply-(optional)

AIE - European association of electrical contractors

Please indicate the area or sector of activity or field of work.

-single choice reply-(optional)

Electrical installation

Please indicate your country of residence / establishment.

-single choice reply-(optional)

Belgium

Solid State Lighting and European Users

(1) How would you propose to overcome the challenges described in the Green Paper for the wider market penetration of Solid State Lighting (SSL) technologies in Europe?

-open reply-(optional)

The first barrier is the high purchase cost of the products for the customer, both in the domestic and commercial area. Moreover the high investment cost is often not weighted against the gained energy savings. SUGGESTION: 1) the LED products should first of all be more competitive; in the UK e.g. extra duties are levied on imported SSL products there where traditional lighting is not. 2) Manufacturers should guarantee that all LED products last at least as long their announced lifetime. 3) Better information to the end-users on the benefits, the energy savings and the reduced energy bill. 4) Member States should introduce financial incentives and measures that recognise the Solid state lighting technologies in the framework of the EPBD and the energy efficiency Directive. The second main barrier is obviously a huge lack of end-user/consumer's confidence. This is mainly due to low quality products available on the market, lack of information, bad or even false information on the packaging. SUGGESTION: 1) Ensure only quality products on the market; 2) Implement eco-design requirements for LED products; 3) make standards compulsory at national level; 3) simple, user friendly and correct information on the packaging and catalogues; 4) once all the previous measures are ensured and only then, have a wide awareness campaign.

(2) Which *additional* challenges do you see for a wider SSL market penetration in Europe and which solutions would you propose to resolve them?

-open reply-(optional)

- Develop financial solutions for the customer (domestic, commercial and local authorities) - Develop cooperation of financial institutions and SME's offering lighting services - Ensure better solutions to retrofit existing lighting systems - Ban low or obsolete SSL products

(3) What can EU Member States do to reinforce market surveillance of product performance and safety in the area of SSL lighting products?

-open reply-(optional)

- Enforcement of the European standards - Inspection and testing on the SSL product conformity on the market - Random control by accredited bodies on site - Increase the liability of each partner in the whole value chain according to the respective work/service delivered - Require electrical and electro technical knowledge for companies active in this market

(4) What could the lighting industry do to ensure the performance of SSL products?

-open reply-(optional)

- Minimum requirements should be imposed regarding the technical light parameters and electrical parameters (amongst which power quality). Because of lack of standards the LED driver for dimming also causes often a problem. Absence of these minimum requirements and compatibility problems cause most often insoluble problems for the electrical installers. - Manufacturers (in particular big brands) should play fair game and be honest with the product information. This can be done through a quality assurance systems for the SSL products; manufacturers should equally demonstrate efficiency and quality of their products to benefit from any financial incentive

(5) What can be done to raise awareness of consumers and professional users to SSL technologies and which specific measures and incentives would you propose for accelerating SSL uptake?

-open reply-(optional)

See question 1. The financial incentive will however remain the main driver (more than ever in the currently difficult economic period and budgetary constraints), which can be approached through different angles.

(6) What could be done to overcome the landlord-tenant conflict?

-open reply-(optional)

- Ensure that the renovation of lighting systems with new SSL technology is taken into consideration of the Energy efficiency Directive and EPBD.

(7) Which *additional* measures to the ones listed in the Green Paper could help accelerate SSL deployment in buildings?

-open reply-(optional)

The vast majority of the luminaire and installation & services market is composed of micro- and SME's. The electrical contracting companies are the main and usually only contact with the end-user able to offer new technologies. Develop business models of financial solutions (cooperation), these thousands of micro- and SME's electrical contracting companies can include in their offer to the customer

Solid State Lighting and the European Lighting

Industry

(8) What measures, beyond the ones listed in the Green Paper, could *further* support research and innovation and the reinforcement of the SSL value chain in Europe?

-open reply-(optional)

See infra.

(9) Which *other* actions beyond the ones listed in the Green Paper could be taken by industry to reinforce sustainable SSL manufacturing capacity in Europe?

-open reply-(optional)

(10) Which *additional* actions to the ones listed in the Green Paper can reinforce cooperation along the value chain, in particular with architects and lighting designers, electrical installers and with the construction and building industry? What should be the role of the Member States and the EU in making it happen?

-open reply-(optional)

- Enhance communication between the different stakeholders - As said before, a vast majority in this sector and in the electrical contracting sector is composed by SME's, main direct contact to the customer, both domestic and commercial. The EU should be most cautious to the mentioned shift of business from selling lamps to selling lighting systems and services. The business of thousands of companies (350.000 only in the electrical contracting sector) would be in potential danger if big brands are entering the services market. Instead of entering the services market, the major lighting industry companies should focus on backing up and offer cooperation to the SME's services market through education and training, financial support (third party financing/leasing etc.). The EU and MS should be aware and not promote a shift of business which will harm thousands of existing SME's.

(11) Are there gaps in standardisation today which hamper SSL innovation and deployment? If yes, where are such gaps and how can they be addressed?

-open reply-(optional)

see supra

(12) Which actions should Member States and industry take to support education, vocational and lifelong learning and training on SSL and to address the adaptation of educational curricula to include the latest lighting technologies?

-open reply-(optional)

- Training cheques (such as training credits in Belgium) could be given as an incentive to the companies to upskill their workforce on new (SSL) technologies. - Develop together with the lighting industry programmes of 'Train the trainers first!' - Financial incentives or subsidies should be granted for works carried out only by 'competent' companies with regularly trained workforce. This will enhance customer awareness and help avoid the danger to customers which arises when competent contractors are under-bid by competitors who are inadequately qualified or of otherwise unproven competence.