

Ambitious New Lamp Industry Initiative Shows How Europe Can Cut Annual CO₂ Emissions from Domestic Lighting by more than 60% by 2015

Brussels 5 June, 2007: Europe's lamp manufacturers have today published details of a highly ambitious initiative¹, which, if adopted as legislation under the EU's eco-design of energy using products directive², would lead to the phase-out of the least efficient lamps in the home from the European market by 2015. This would lead to a massive 60% reduction³ of CO₂ emissions (23 Mega tons annually⁴) from domestic lighting and 7 billion euros gain for European consumers from saving 63,000 GWh⁵ of electricity.

The initiative by GE, Havells Sylvania, OSRAM, Philips and other members of the European Lamp Companies Federation⁶ (ELC) comes on the eve of the G8 summit in Heiligendamm Germany, where International Heads of State are examining how best to tackle climate change and promote energy efficiency internationally.

As part of the lamp industry's efforts to promote the switch to more efficient lamps, the initiative calls on the EU to apply binding minimum energy efficiency requirements, supported by strict market surveillance, for Edison and Bayonet cap lamps⁷ as early as 2009. This would not only speed up the delivery of the EU Heads of State conclusions in March 2007 for lamps specifically, but make an immediate contribution to the EU's wider climate and energy efficiency goals.

The majority of the light sources impacted by these energy efficiency requirements would be traditional incandescent lamps. This proposal by the manufacturers will allow time for a switch to high-efficiency halogen and compact fluorescent lamps and the development of LED and high-efficiency incandescent lamps.

Under the proposal, within 8 years from now, 85% of the total EU traditional incandescent lamp market of 2.1 billion lamps would need to meet new efficiency requirements. Starting with highest wattage lamps (over 100W) and gradually covering lower wattages (down to 25W) by 2015 the least efficient domestic lamps (energy efficiency classes E, F and G) would no longer be available. To ensure continued quality and cost effectiveness for Europe's consumers, all lamps placed on the EU market, including the energy saving alternatives, would also have to have a minimum rated lifetime of 1000 hours and comply with relevant International and European safety and quality standards⁸. Specifications for lamps destined for special applications such as refrigerators, ovens and specialist medical equipment are also being reviewed.

This time-phased approach ensures the availability of practical energy saving alternatives in all domestic applications and is realistic for the businesses that must adapt to significant changes in production and supply. It would therefore deliver huge environmental and energy saving benefits while safeguarding the interests of consumers, employees and Europe's lighting supply chain.

Speaking on behalf of the ELC today, Secretary-General, **Gerald Strickland**, said:

"Lamps have become iconic for the growing public effort to rapidly combat climate change in a cost-effective and practical way. Our initiative responds to the challenge set by EU leaders and shows them that it is possible to go further and more quickly – our 60% goal is intended to help achieve the EU's 20% overall emissions reduction target and do so five years earlier than its 2020 deadline".

Welcoming the initiative, **Paul Waide**, Senior Policy Analyst at the International Energy Agency (IEA) and author of the recent study⁹ on the importance of lighting in tackling climate change said:

'This initiative is very timely and is an important step in global efforts to move towards more efficient lighting.'

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Notes to the Editor

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¹ See the background paper "*The ELCs proposal for Domestic lighting*" for full position.

² The ELC is calling for its proposals to be considered for the basis of an *Implementing Measure* under the Eco-Design requirements for energy-using products - EUP Directive (Directive 2005/32/EC). Implementing Measures will set specific and potentially compulsory standards for several of the least efficient street, office/industry and domestic lighting products destined for the European market in order that they meet energy efficiency, as well as other, requirements. Proposals for Street and Office lighting are due to be agreed by the end of 2008. Work on the domestic lighting begun at the beginning of June. The Commission is expected to table a proposal by the end of 2009.

³ See "Chart 1 - *CO₂ saving potential through efficient lighting in the home* - 23 Mega ton" in the background paper "*The ELCs proposal for Domestic lighting*"

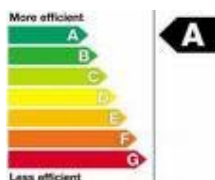
⁴ 23 Megta tons represents a forest of 23,000 square kilometres which is 13,5% more than the area of Slovenia (20,273 km²).

⁵ See "*Chart 2 – Annual reduction of electricity consumption in lighting in the home (GWh)*" in the background paper "*The ELCs proposal for Domestic lighting*"

⁶ Created in 1985, the European Lamp Companies Federation (ELC) is both the forum and the voice of the lamp industry in Europe. It represents the leading European lamp manufacturers, which collectively directly employ 50,000 people, and account for 95 percent of total European production, with an annual turnover in Europe of €5 billion. The members of the ELC are: Aura, BLV, GE, Havells Sylvania, NARVA, OSRAM and Philips. For more about energy efficient lighting see: www.elcfed.org

⁷ This initiative applies to lamps that fall under the European Commission's current labelling Directive for household lamps (Directive 98/11/EC of 27 January 1998 implementing Council Directive 92/75/EEC, with regard to energy labelling of household lamps). This ensures quality and consistency for European consumers.

The *EU Energy Label* rates products from A, (the most efficient) to G (the least efficient). For lamps the EU energy label goes from up to A to G. in all EU Member States by law, the label must be shown on all domestic lamp packaging.



EU Energy Label (left)

⁸ CEN (European Community for Standardisation), IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) Standards

⁹ "*Light's Labour's Lost: Policies for Energy-efficient Lighting*", 2006, IEA

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