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European Lighting Manufacturers welcome draft EU decision to phase out traditional incandescent lamps in European homes

The European Lamp Companies Federation (ELC), representing leading lamp manufacturers in Europe and CELMA, representing luminaires and ballasts producers in Europe, welcome draft EU decision aiming at restricting incandescent lamps in Europe by 2012 and low efficiency halogen lamps by 2016.

Already in December 2006, the European lighting industry took the initiative to approach the EU with a call for action to collectively look for ways to accelerate the switch to energy efficient lighting solutions in the home. The Lighting industry is pleased that this call has been taken up positively by the European authorities.

In the context of the recent decision, the European lighting manufacturers are keen to collaborate with European regulators and consumers in switching to energy saving lighting solutions. The switch will reduce energy consumption for domestic lighting by 30% in Europe and fight climate change by preventing 23 million tons of CO₂ emissions per year.

Today, 85% of lamps used in European homes are not energy efficient. The progressive switch in the homes of nearly 500 million citizens by 2016 will have a considerable impact. In order to facilitate a smooth transition, the industry is investing significantly in innovation and the further development of its production capacity.

Energy efficient lamps can reduce energy consumption by as much as 80% and can last up to 15 times longer than their less energy efficient equivalents. Energy efficient lamps come in a whole range of shapes and sizes and give a high quality light, similar to incandescent lamps.

“The phase-out of traditional lamps represents a substantial change for consumers and the industry. As lamp manufacturers, we are prepared to mobilise our production capacities to help Europe make the switch to energy efficient lamps.” said Gerald Strickland, ELC Secretary General.

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The ELC represents the leading lamp manufacturers in Europe:

Aura Light AB, BLV Licht- und Vakuumtechnik GmbH, G.E. Lighting Europe Ltd, Havells Sylvania, Narva Lichtquellen GmbH, OSRAM GmbH and Philips Lighting BV. www.elcfed.org

CELMA represents 18 National Manufacturers Associations for Luminaires and Electrotechnical Components for Luminaires in 13 EU countries. www.celma.org