

## James R Benya, PE, FIES, FIALD BENYA BURNETT CONSULTANCY

# TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING - WHY MORE LUMENS ARE NOT ALWAYS BETTER.....

AND OTHER THOUGHTS ON LIGHTING TODAY



#### What is "GOOD LIGHTING"?

#### There are three kinds of lighting.

- Bad lighting has faults. It is unattractive, or glaring, or fails to provide appropriate light.
- Nondescript lighting has no faults. It works as it should.
- Good lighting <u>excites the soul</u>.

Peter Boyce



#### Benya's Postulate

## "Lighting can be appealing, efficient and inexpensive. Pick two."

- Cost driven projects (unappealing or inefficient)
- Appearance driven projects (expensive or inefficient)
- Energy driven projects (expensive or unappealing)



# Lighting Quality to a designer is...

- 1. Controlled or eliminated glare
- 2. Proper quantity of light
- 3. Appropriate spectrum of light
- 4. Appropriate spatial luminances
- 5. Mitigated temporal artifacts
- 6. Appropriate style and integration into the built environment
- 7. Controllable to meet project requirements



# Lighting Quality to an Owner is...

- Adds to the market value of the property
- Maximizes return on investment
- Supports productivity and employee well being
- Requires little or no maintenance
- Minimizes energy cost



# Classic Conflicts of Efficiency and Quality

- Glare control negatively affects efficiency
- Color quality negatively affects efficacy
- Application efficiency ≠ efficacy or luminaire efficiency



# **Emerging Conflicts of Efficiency and Quality**

- Light color tuning may negatively affect efficacy
- Mitigation of temporal artifacts may negatively affect efficacy
- Lighting for non-visual benefits may periodically require <u>significantly</u> higher light levels and luminances.



### Glare





- The excessive ratio of luminances
- Absolute luminance
- Spectrum
- At extremes it causes the glare aversion reflex
- Excessive 450 nm blue increases the glare reflex



#### Glare and LED's

- The luminance of the Sun is about 1.5 billion cd/m² (nits)
- The luminance of a high power
   LED package is as high as about
   150 million nits (0.1 suns)
- The maximum comfortable luminance is about 50,000 nits (.000033 suns)





### **Softening Glare**

- Indirect lighting
- Larger area sources (reduce contrast)
- Lower luminance sources
- Shielding
- Optics





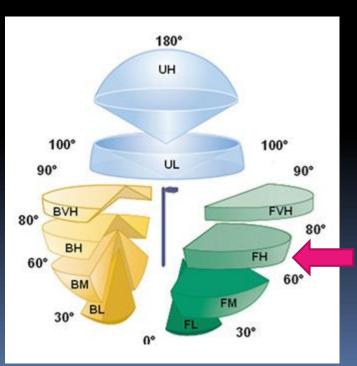


#### **Emerging Issues of Glare**

- Dramatic increases in efficacy continue now over 210 LPW
- Size of LED packages getting smaller
- LED laser technology
- Increasing demand for highest optical and photometric efficiency
- Pixelated glare



All of these luminaires are seen in the FH or FVH zones







## **Proper Light Levels**





#### **Light Levels and Retrofits**

#### Underlit

- Older population
- General lighting<200 lux</li>
- Limited task lighting
- 4. No daylight

#### **Properly Lit**

- Average age population
- General lighting at least 300 lux
- 3. Task lighting where needed
- 4. Ordinary daylight

#### **Overlit**

- Youthful population
- 2. General lighting at least 300 lux
- Task lighting more than needed
- 4. Abundant daylight



#### **Light Levels and Retrofits**

#### Example: "Type A" 4' T8 TLED lamp

- 3,570 Products listed on the QPL on 7/30/16
- 874 Products <4100K (24.5%)</li>
- 248 products at least 2200 lumens on a standard ballast factor fluorescent ballast (6.9%)

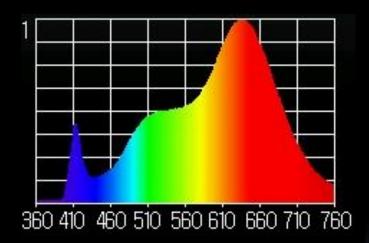


#### **Emerging Issues of Light Levels**

- Aging vision
- Impaired vision
- Glare counteracts visibility
- Uniformity possibly less important
- Variable light levels may be good
- High light levels needed to stimulate the Circadian system
- Location of light source



#### **Proper Spectrum**





#### **Classic Metrics**

- Correlated Color Temperature (CCT)
- Color Rendering Index (R<sub>a</sub>)



#### **Modern Metrics**

- **C**RI<sub>1-15</sub>
- CQS
- λp
- λD
- CIE x, y and u', v'
- Purity
- C78.377-2008
- IEC-SDCM
- Duv
- S/P ratio
- M/P ratio
- TM-30-15





#### **Applications**

#### Classic White Light

- Generally best using Kruithof's curve of increasing CCT with increasing light levels
- Normal workspace levels best at 3500-4100K

## CCT Color Tuning

- Many
  Applications
- User choice2700K through6500K ±
- "Human centric" and circadian applications

## Tuned Spectrum

- Medical
- Industrial
- Agricultural



#### **Emerging Issues of Spectrum**

- Added costs of color variability
  - RGB, RGBA, RGBAW, etc.
  - White tuning
- Decreased lumens per watt in color variability
- Importance of certain spectra relative to Circadian System

#### AMA Adopts Community Guidance to Reduce the Harmful Human and Environmental Effects of High Intensity Street Lighting

#### For immediate release:

June 14, 2016

CHICAGO - Strong arguments exist for overhauling the lighting systems on U.S. roadways with light emitting diodes (LED), but conversions to improper LED technology can have adverse consequences. In response, physicians at the Annual Meeting of the American Medical Association (AMA) today adopted guidance for communities on selecting among LED lighting options to minimize potential harmful human and environmental effects.

Converting conventional street light to energy efficient LED lighting leads to cost and energy savings, and a lower reliance on fossil-based fuels. Approximately 10 percent of existing U.S. street lighting has been converted to solid state LED technology, with efforts underway to accelerate this conversion.

"Despite the energy efficiency benefits, some LED lights are harmful when used as street lighting," AMA Board Member Maya A. Babu, M.D., M.B.A. "The new AMA guidance encourages proper attention to optimal design and engineering features when converting to LED lighting that minimize detrimental health and environmental effects."

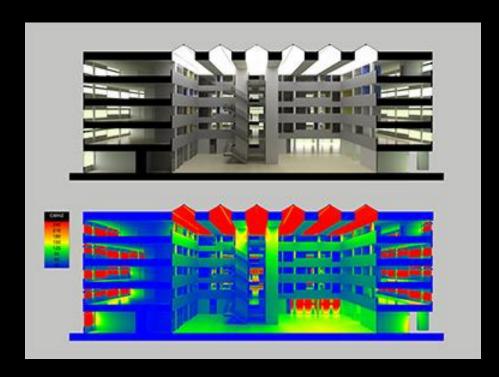
High-intensity LED lighting designs emit a large amount of blue light that appears white to the naked eye and create worse nighttime glare than conventional lighting. Discomfort and disability from intense, blue-rich LED lighting can decrease visual acuity and safety, resulting in concerns and creating a road hazard.

In addition to its impact on drivers, blue-rich LED streetlights operate at a wavelength that most adversely suppresses melatonin during night. It is estimated that white LED lamps have five times greater impact on circadian sleep rhythms than conventional street lamps. Recent large surveys found that brighter residential nighttime lighting is associated with reduced sleep times, dissatisfaction with sleep quality, excessive sleepiness, impaired daytime functioning and obesity.

The detrimental effects of high-intensity LED lighting are not limited to humans. Excessive outdoor lighting disrupts many species that need a dark environment. For instance, poorly designed LED lighting disorients some bird, insect, turtle and fish species, and U.S. national parks have adopted optimal lighting designs and practices that minimize the effects of light pollution on the environment.



### Luminance



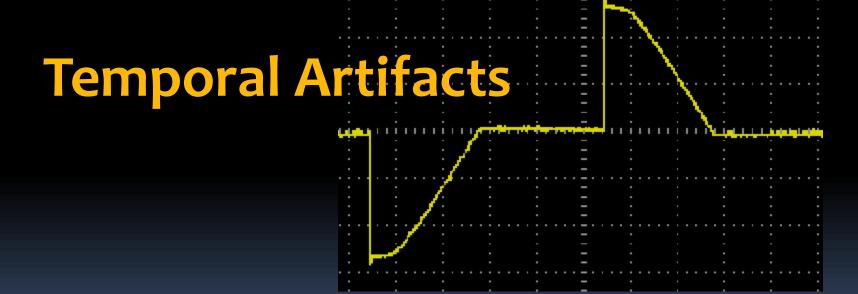
Veluxusa.com



#### **Luminance Based Design**

- The future of architectural lighting design
- Intent: restrict luminance ratios to desired adaptation of the viewer





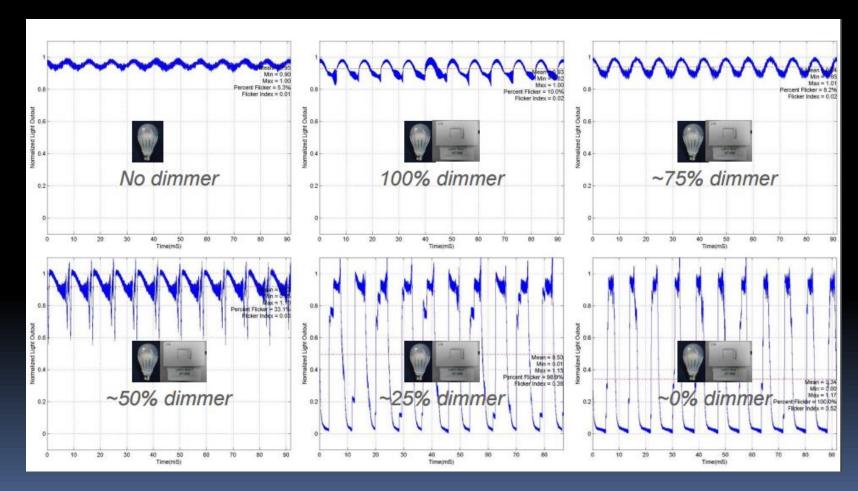


#### **Temporal Artifacts**

- Flicker
- Stroboscopy
- Instability



#### Flicker Compounded by Dimming







## **Architectural Style and Integration**



With Permission from Focal Point Lighting Architect: Eastlake Studio Photography: Steve Hall, Hedrich Blessing



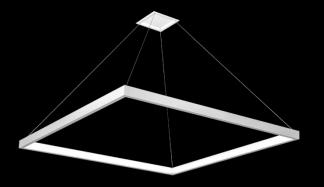
### **Lighting Design Considerations**

- Style
- Shape
- Location
- Detailing

Ceiling









#### **Emerging Issues of Design**

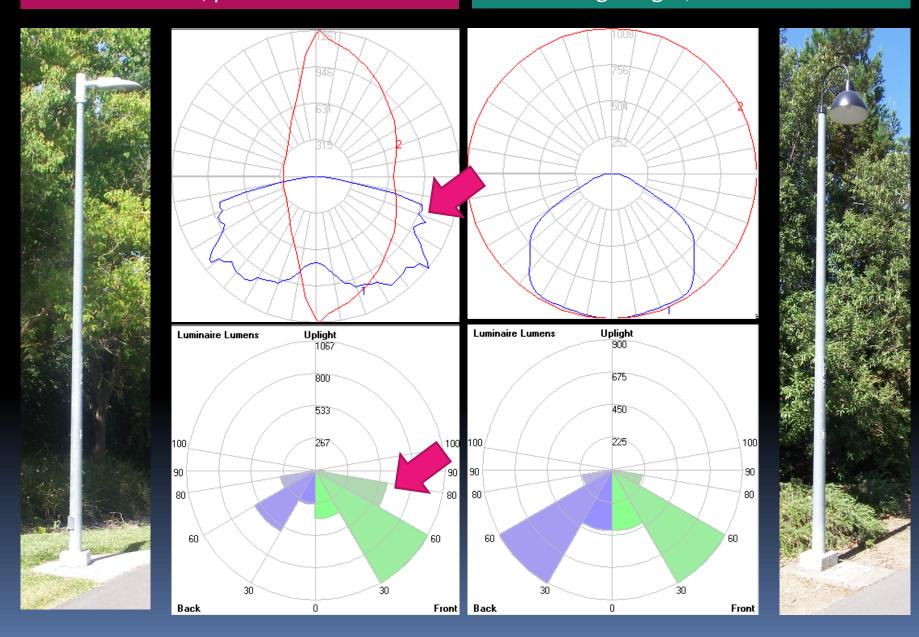
- Style often forces luminaire designs of reduced efficiency
- Appealing luminaires can't compete with efficient and super efficient luminaires
- Hard to make glare free super efficient luminaires



### Efficiency, uniformity Glare, pixelization



#### Simplicity, softness, low glare Pooling of light, non-directional





#### **Results of Demonstration Project**

- By day, the "barn light" system was preferred.
- By night, the "barn light" system was found to be less glaring, but the "cobrahead" system provided more uniform illumination
- The cobrahead system was dimmed until it was found have an "acceptable" level of glare.
- City Council chose the cobrahead system because it was already part of the city-wide LED conversion project and the less expensive barn lights would have added more cost.



### Controllability







#### **Controls Options**

## Switch or Dimmer

- No connectivity
- Limited automatic functions
- Highest reliability
- Typically intuitive and self teaching

## Interactive Devices

- Some connectivity
- Limited automatic functions
- High reliability
- Mostly intuitive and self teaching but require commissioning

#### Lighting Network

- System wide connectivity
- All automatic functions
- Fair to high reliability
- Seldom intuitive nor self teaching and require commissioning



#### **Classic Issues**

- Flicker
- Fade rate
- Limited "smart" features
- Cost effectiveness
- Relatively high installation and wiring costs proportionate to features



#### **Emerging Issues**

- Flicker and stroboscopy
- Color changing or tuning
- Useful "smart" features
- Cost effectiveness
- Relatively high commissioning and programming costs proportionate to features



# What Does All This have to do with Lumens?



#### **Era of Rapid Change**

- Revolution of light sources and controls
- Loss of distinct industry standards and leadership
- Authorities can't or won't keep up
- Persisting issues of quality
- International marketplace
- Emerging issues and conflicts
- Over-arching race to efficiency



#### Very Little Remains from the Past

- Classical and practical physics
- Principles of Photometry
- Basics of Electricity
- Principles of Codes and Standards
- Necessity for CIE, IES, NEMA and other organizations



#### **Lumens Are Also Evolving**

- "Scotopic" lumens and S/P ratio
- "Melanopic" lumens and M/P ratio
- New discoveries in the dynamics of human vision
- Unique spectra for other living beings and environments.



#### As an Industry, we must...

- Dramatically increase the amount and rate of basic research
- Coordinate better with other scientists to thoroughly vet emerging concepts
- 3. Slow down and stop jumping to conclusions from limited research
- 4. Rely on our classical principles to provide successful lighting with ever-decreasing energy use, changing more slowly to ensure that changes to our core science and principles are correct.

TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING - WHY MORE LUMENS ARE NOT ALWAYS BETTER..... AND OTHER THOUGHTS ON LIGHTING TODAY