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A Treasure Trove of SSL Market Data

The escalating growth of DOE's LED Lighting Facts® program has done far more than just increase the accuracy of reported performance claims via its website and widely used labels; it's also created an unprecedented opportunity for manufacturers, buyers, specifiers, and anyone else interested in the SSL market. With more than 26,000 products currently registered and 1,500 new ones added each month (a record 2,000 in March alone)—and with more than 1,000 manufacturers (and counting) using the program to list their lamps and luminaires—the LED Lighting Facts database offers a user-friendly source of instant, timely product performance data.

Unique among publicly available LED product lists, it represents all categories and applications of general illumination lighting and includes the ability to report on the entire range of tested photometric and lumen-maintenance performance metrics, making it easy to customize any type of search desired. Manufacturers can use it to see how their own products stack up against those of their competitors. Analysts can use it to see where the market's strengths and weaknesses lie. Buyers and specifiers, of course, routinely use it as a basis for verifying SSL product performance, to compare various products and identify those that are right for whatever the application may be.

DOE uses LED Lighting Facts data to support analysis that informs

our SSL R&D program planning. Unlike such sources as ENERGY STAR® and the DesignLights Consortium's™ Qualified Products List, LED Lighting Facts does not have minimum performance requirements that products must meet in order to be listed. That means it gives a more comprehensive picture of the actual market, because the low-performing products aren't left out. And, as searching the LED Lighting Facts database readily shows, there are many such products out there, mixed in with others that perform quite well. For example, when it comes to efficacy, the 3,169 troffers currently listed range from 30 to 139 lm/W, the 3,141 arm- or pole-mounted area/roadway luminaires range from 34 to 145 lm/W, and the 352 medium screw-base omnidirectional lamps range from 45 to 133 lm/W. So there are plenty of LED lighting products on the market that are likely to disappoint end-users.

That's why it's so important for buyers and specifiers to do their homework—and for the industry as a whole to keep its collective foot on the accelerator. Even among the best-performing products that are available today, there's considerable energy savings still on the table—not to mention plenty of room for improvement in other areas as well. DOE will continue to facilitate these improvements by using LED Lighting Facts data for analyses designed to help the industry move forward. The database can be accessed by visiting www.lightingfacts.com/products.

As always, if you have questions or comments, you can reach us at postings@akoyaonline.com.