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**Changing in the product line shaft lighting system "FixLicht"**

On July 6th, 2005 the European directive 2005/32/EG concerning the "environmentally friendly design of energy-using products" was published, better known as "Eco-design directive". The aim is to increase the energy efficiency of energy-using products. In addition, the energy consumption of energy-using products in stand-by or off-state shall be reduced to the minimum of what is needed for a correct functioning. The requirements of this directive have to be fulfilled for bringing energy-using products into circulation or for putting them into operation.

In order to implement the Eco-design directive, which was kept very general, the EU has adopted several regulations in the last years aiming to fill the Eco-design directive with life. These include, among others, the EC regulation no. 245/2009 "with regard to eco-design requirements for fluorescent lamps [...] and for ballasts...".

Amongst other things, in this regulation the efficiency of fluorescent tubes is determined. Thus a 36W T8 fluorescent lamp (as used for the lighting FixLicht) has to generate 93 lumens per Watt. This means, that a 36W tube has to generate a luminous flux of  $93 \text{ lm/W} \times 36\text{W} = 3348 \text{ lm}$ , which can only be achieved with a 3-band fluorescent tube. The 1-band standard fluorescent tubes (2700 lm) as used in our FixLicht shaft lighting system are no longer permissible.

Furthermore, the colour rendering index does not comply with the new regulation. All leading lamp manufacturers have already removed the "standard tubes" from their product range.

The new regulation also concerns ballasts in lighting fixtures. In the "FixLicht standard" lamp a ballast with an energy efficiency index (EEI) B2 is used, which will be permissible until April 13th, 2017, and therefore an immediate need for action is not required. However we are already working at full speed on the development of a new lamp.

**Conclusion:**

This regulation concerns especially the shaft lighting system "FixLicht" of W+W. In the next months the concerned products of this system will be exchanged for the new fluorescent tubes. As the production of these lamps is more complex (three coats instead of one coat of the fluorescent substance has to be applied), the prices will be raised.

More detailed information can be given by individual request.

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