



B&Q Lighting Buying Standard

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socialresponsibility
Community | Diversity | Ethical | Environment

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The purpose behind our work on Lighting

B&Q is the leading retailer for light bulbs and light fittings in the UK. Lighting is identified as one of the most important product ranges that through product innovation and changes in technology can help the consumer make significant energy and carbon reductions. We are fully aware of our clear responsibility, therefore we will take the following steps to minimise the impact associated with the sale of lighting products:

We are:

- Working with partners to identify and implement the most effective ways of communicating the benefits of efficient products clearly to our customers;
- Working with the bulb developers to develop energy efficient bulbs that are not only compatible with all light fittings but also deliver an acceptable aesthetical impact;
- Ensuring no incandescent bulbs are supplied in our entire lighting range where bulbs are supplied in the pack; and
- As part of our vendor assessment process (Quality, Ethics, and environment, SafeTy) QUEST, we expect our vendors to identify the energy used in the manufacture of their products as an important aspect of their environmental management process and to develop action plans by which to reduce their energy consumption per product produced;
- Specifying that our suppliers fully action the implementing measures contained within the Energy Using Products Directive (EuP) and to consider Eco-design in their product creation
- Actively considering the issues relating to the protection of dark skies and how we can minimise light pollution relating to our outdoor lighting products.

We will:

- Work towards ensuring all own label Halogen bulbs meet the highest technical standards available, namely Energy Saving Trust Recommended version 7;
- Ensure all energy saving bulbs we sell are A rated;
- Work with our vendors to effectively phase out incandescent GLS light bulbs, 40watts and above by 2011 and ensure alternative energy efficient bulbs are available to customers;
- Work with our vendors to manage the transition in packaging needed to comply with the switch to labelling of lumen output verses the current wattage usage by 2011;
- Introduce the highest standard (EST Version 2) for all own label LED bulbs and press the suppliers of branded lines to seek the highest specification;
- Introduce on all new outdoor light fittings a design specification that minimises the spill of light beyond that which is needed;
- Continue to drive the market to introduce the most energy efficient bulbs and support measures to reduce the impact that lighting has on climate change.

Raising Awareness

- We will provide products, goods and services for our customers to enable them to improve the energy efficiency of their homes;
- We will provide clear and informative advice on our products, through labelling and supporting guidance on measures customers can take to lower their impact;
- We will continue to raise awareness of energy efficient bulbs by using them instead of incandescent bulbs in our store lighting displays/canopies wherever possible and

continue to develop ways to reduce energy consumption from our lighting displays by innovative lighting display solutions;

- We will continue to review market trends and act proactively in adjusting the space allocated to energy bulbs to meet consumer requirements

The future:

- Consult with government on relevant upcoming legislation and regulations;
- We will encourage innovation including supporting research into new technology aimed at improving the efficiency of lighting products and aim to progressively apply these learning's to our own-label products;
- We will continue to invest in the retro-fitting of our overall store lighting to ensure that our retail outlets reduce their overall carbon footprint
- We are trialling light bulb customer take back in our Eco shops and will be seeking to roll out a suitable scheme to all our stores.

B&Q Energy Labelling Standards

B&Q considers energy labelling an important mechanism in helping our customers make informed choices about the efficiency of the products they buy. Whilst continuing to ensure compliance with existing labelling schemes we will also work with external organisations to help improve the clarity and relevance of the information provided.

B&Q recognises the Energy Saving Trust's (EST) "Energy Saving Approved" scheme as providing a clear and simple way of identifying the most efficient versions of products across a variety of product types. We will support and encourage our suppliers to achieve "Energy Saving Approved" status for their products and ensure the Energy Saving Approved logo is displayed on all qualifying products.

Lighting reporting requirements

We will capture the following information annually and use to report appropriate KPI's:

- Energy rating of product lines, e.g. proportion of energy efficient bulbs reaching at least an A rating;
- The percentage of the lighting range that can take energy efficient bulbs;
- Report sales by energy rating over a period and annually;
- Progress on labelling (particularly) own brand goods with energy information; and
- Level and impact of information campaigns.

The Future

We will provide advice and support to help factories maximise the energy reduction potential available to them. We will monitor the effectiveness of this strategy with the aim of gradually phasing out inefficient products and increasing the proportion of efficient products we sell.