

Ihre Zeichen/Nachricht vom

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PL B&L MK/PM1-ELM

OSRAM GmbH
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Stabilising fluorescent lamps

To meet the electrical and photometric requirements, all fluorescent lamps have to be aged/operated for 100 hours according to IEC 60081 (double capped fluorescent lamps) and IEC 60901 (single capped fluorescent lamps). This is necessary to stabilise the lamp operation and get the emitter material on the electrodes into its final shape.

Fluorescent lamps operated with dimmable electronic control gear must always be stabilised at full (100%) light output. Intermittent operation at full light output is acceptable to reach the 100 hours criteria.

Insufficient aging can result in flickering and early blackening which finally yields to reduced life of the lamps.

1. Recommendation for new installations:

We recommend to operate all lamps during the construction phase at the building site, at full output and **NOT** in dimmed mode. Under these conditions the electrodes will be stabilised at the time of hand over to the final user.

Especially in light ceilings or light fittings, in which the fluorescent lamps are not visible directly, stabilising the lamp for 100 hours is highly recommended.

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2. Recommendation for the replacement of lamps in existing lighting installations:

Fluorescent lamps have a long life span and are manufactured to tight tolerances. Dimmed and non dimmed applications have the same effect on life span and mortality and the same lumen maintenance of the lamps. Therefore, we recommend bulk replacement, and, for dimming applications again, an 100 hours aging process.

In some installations with BMS control (Building Master Control System), it may be difficult to age the lamps at 100 % light output. In such applications, we recommend a separate aging of the tubes.

This can be realised in vertical operation, although designated operation afterwards might be realised in horizontal operation.

Some advanced BMS controls have an automatic detection of lamp replacements and allow the stabilising/aging phase for 100 hours before dimming is applied.

Conclusion:

It is necessary to stabilise the lamps for 100 hours at full light output. Failure to do this will result in a shorter lamp life.

With best regards,

OSRAM
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