Meeting Minutes

DLC Industry Advisory Committee Meeting Q4

Wednesday December 13, 2023

2:00pm – 4:00pm ET

Zoom Meeting

Welcome & Agenda Review

Welcome New IAC Member & Introduce Current Members

General Updates

2023 Summit feedback

- The topics of discussion were diverse, focusing on control systems, incentive programs, and education on the benefits of controls.
    - Attendees noted seeing regression in NLC market, so NLC needs more support. Low traction even where great NLC rebates are available. Utilities seem to be backing off, possibly missing the fact that NLC market will go backwards without support.
    - In schools, ESCOs need education on value of NLCs. Nobody pushes for best option, they just do quick and cheap to stay competitive.
    - One distributor noted that their projects used to be 70% lighting, 30% mechanical. Now they are seeing the opposite, with utilities pushing mechanical.

2024 Summit Planning

- A poll to gather feedback on the 2024 control summit was shared, asking questions about the most suitable quarter, preferred regions, and topics of interest.
- Some attendees indicated an interest in a longer meeting to allow more time for networking.

Strategic Planning

- Highlighted the successes achieved in the past five years and emphasized the need for a deeper dive into the evolving lighting and energy efficiency industry.
- Announced the release of the Decade of Impact report to be released in January

Direction and Objectives – Program plans 2024

SSL

- Discussion to analyze the capacity potential from hybrid solar lighting systems, building on a previous study.
- Announced that the Energy Star TM 21 calculator will be retired and replaced with the IES web-based TM 21 calculator. A transition plan was proposed, with questions about adopting the new calculator and a 12-month transition timeline.
- Additional work includes planning improvements, publishing a glossary, and evaluating potential new users and tools.

LUNA

- Discussion regarding the updates to the LUNA V1 technical requirements, removing mounting hardware goniophotometric testing requirements and clarifying new incremental testing requirements.
- Plans to work on an energy efficiency report, convene an advisory group, expand the LUNA QPL, and investigate the need for policy and educational resources were also discussed. Several IAC members indicated interest in joining the advisory group.

NLC

- Outlined the focus areas for the DLC NLC program, which include maintaining the qualified products list, developing tools for integrating NLC with HVAC controls, creating prescriptive programs for NLC local, developing a multi-year roadmap, and promoting connected lighting in large buildings.

NLC System Integration

Call for case studies

- DLC plans to develop a decision tree to guide projects based on building and HVAC equipment type, a primer on lighting and HVAC, and a list of case studies to share lessons learned from completed projects.

NLC Process Mapping

- The DLC conducted a research project in 2023 to map the value chain of LED retrofit projects that involved networked lighting controls.
- The goal of this project is to identify pain points along the value chain, particularly those pain points experienced by stakeholders who do not typically engage with the DLC such as facility owners and electricians.
- The outreach consisted of stakeholder interviews as well as an online survey that reached beyond DLC's typical network. The IAC participated in interviews in September, which helped to inform the structure of the stakeholder interviews and survey.

- The findings of this research will be used to inform the DLC's approach to transforming the NLC market.

Horticulture

- Discussed V2.0/2.1 Delisting reminder in Q1 2024.
- Discuss plans to refresh market assessment report for the Hort sector and form a horticulture lighting controls working group.
- Focus on making the Hort QPL more user-friendly for growers.

Discussion Topics

- Policy drivers for networked lighting – what can we focus on collectively?

- What is holding us back as an industry from moving to all digital drivers?

  o Suggested to promote D4i.
  o Problem: Digital drivers more expensive, minimal supply chain. Difficult to convert the US market from price-only focus, while incentives going away. Digital drivers more expensive. Analog drivers less expensive.
  o Others noted this is not requested by customers. Need education, only need "something that dims", and they go with cheapest.
  o Cost and availability a problem. Improve analog drivers, quicker solution.
  o if the customer demands, can deliver, but customers don't see value. They are not willing to pay extra cost, over a standard analog driver.
  o Wattage ranges / driver sizes for luminaires limited resulting in larger luminaires
  o It will take time to recover these real issues, much like going from no dimming to 0-10VDC drivers as standard. Noted that the customer did not demand 0-10VDC. It was just easy to add in the driver when they were developed. Over time, it became important.
- Impacts or response to the continued state legislation for banning mercury in fluorescent lamps

2024 Meeting Dates and Wrap up

- Doodle poll will be sent to establish meetings for 2024