





Energy · Quality · ControllabilitySM

**The Hidden Cost Of Light:
Specifying Controllable Low CCT And Amber Outdoor
Lighting
To Combat Light Pollution**

September 30, 2 – 3 PM ET
Leora Radetsky, DesignLights Consortium
Scott Lind, Mead and Hunt

designlights.org

1

Light pollution is...



"an increased volume concentration of photons in the nocturnal environment above naturally expected values"

Arroyo et al. 2024



2

2

Light pollution is bad and getting worse

- [Global satellite data](#) indicates ALAN has increased by at least 2% each year over 25 years
- [Citizen science data](#) indicates that ALAN is growing by 9.6% each year over 10 years
- ALAN is causing [negative ecological impacts](#) and [contributes to systemic inequities](#)

3

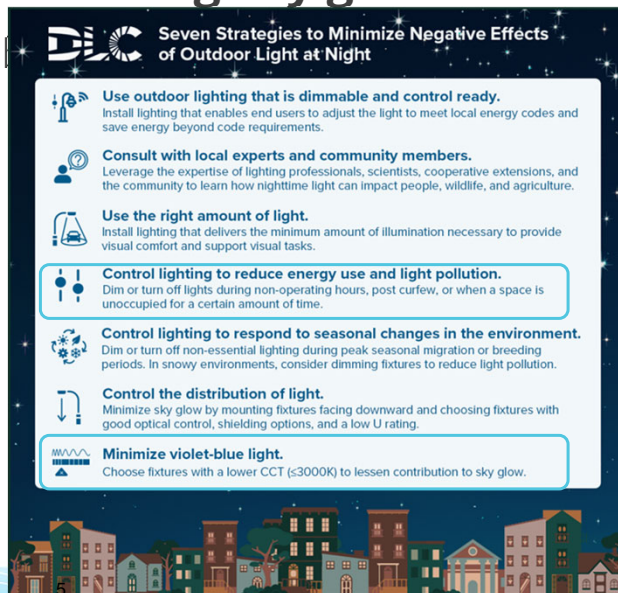
3

What happens in Las Vegas doesn't stay in Las Vegas



4

Reducing sky glow



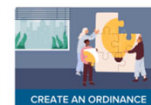
Seven Strategies to Minimize Negative Impacts of Outdoor Light at Night



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Light Usage for Night Applications (LUNA)

- Address the increasing global issue of light pollution
- Educate end users on impacts and solutions
- Focus on all aspects of outdoor lighting: Policy, energy efficiency, controllability and light pollution mitigation strategies
- <https://designlights.org/our-work/luna>



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Why LUNA qualified products?



Minimize light pollution



Minimize energy use



Provide appropriate visibility for people

LUNA V2.0 adds:



Non-white light LEDs



Turtle lighting



Lamps/retrofit kits

7

LEUKOS paper



Esposito and Radetsky [2023] Specifying Non-White Light Sources in Outdoor Applications to Reduce Light Pollution. *LEUKOS* 19 (3): 269–93

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which blue light should I avoid?

8

Just use amber

Amber 590 peak

pc-Amber

1800 K 1900 K

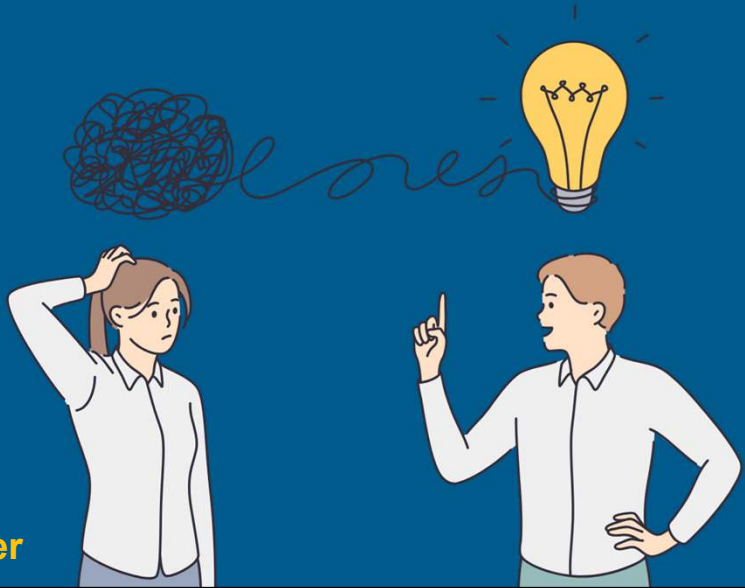
true Amber

limited wavelength Amber

narrowband Amber

pure Amber

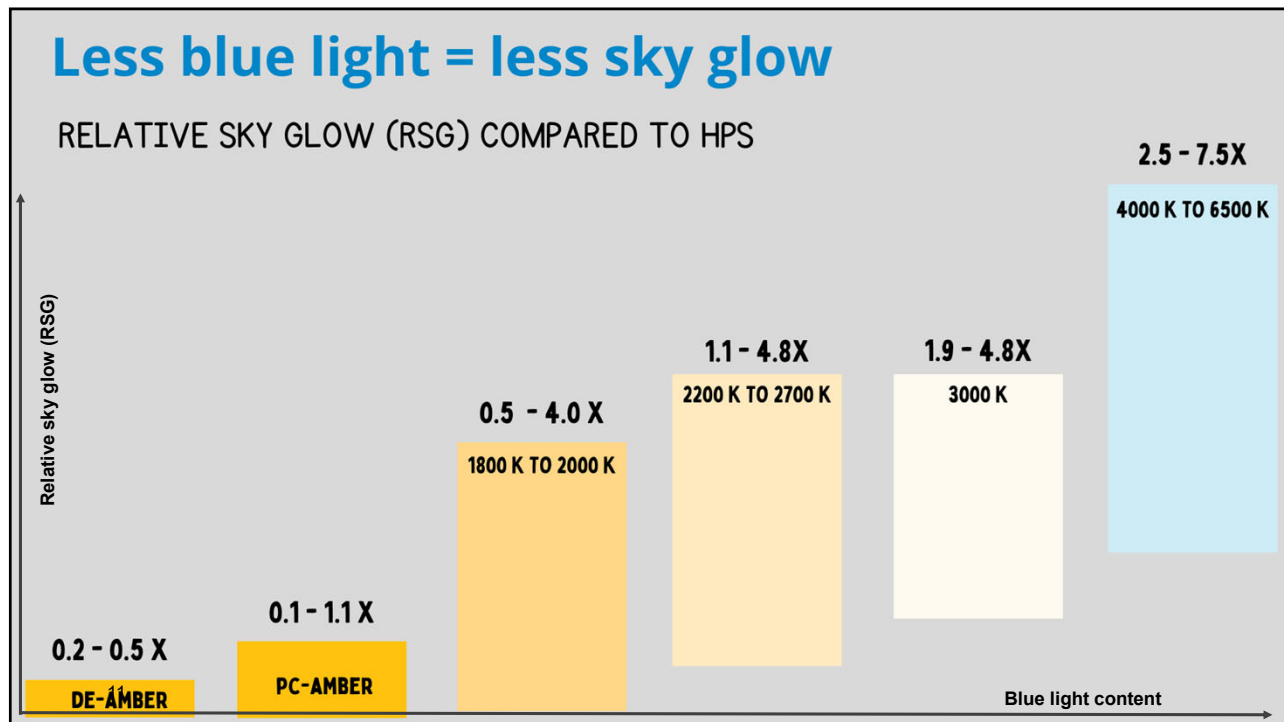
9 direct emission Amber



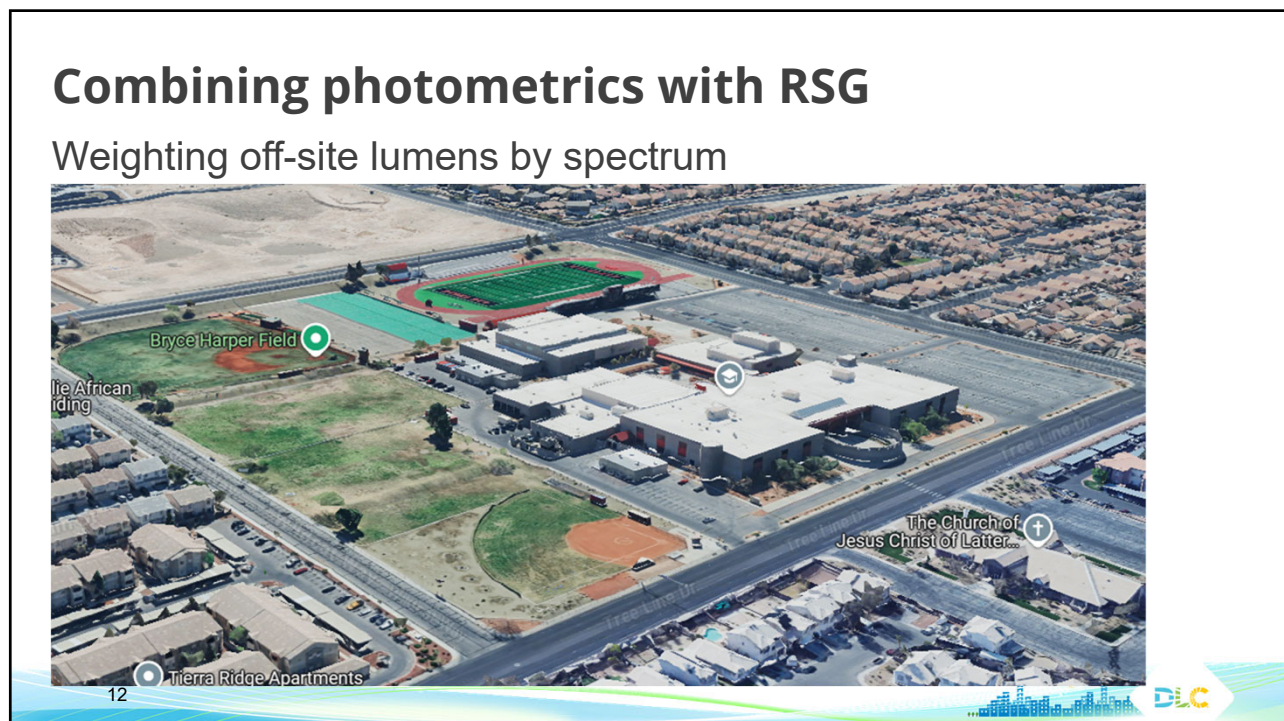
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Combining photometrics with RSG

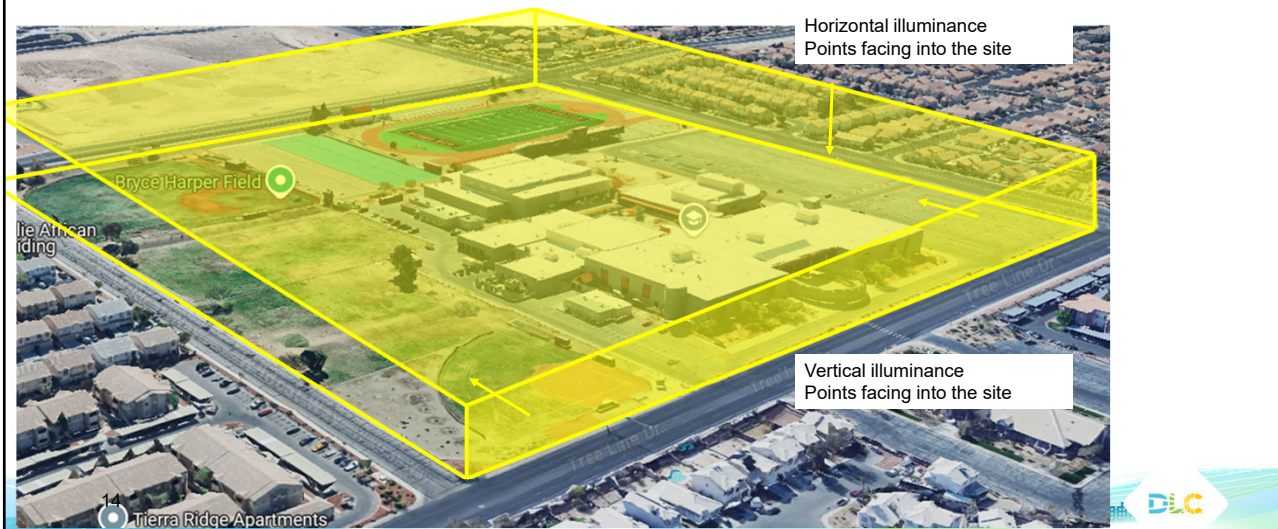
Using an “offsite lumens box” (like the MLO box)



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Combining photometrics with RSG

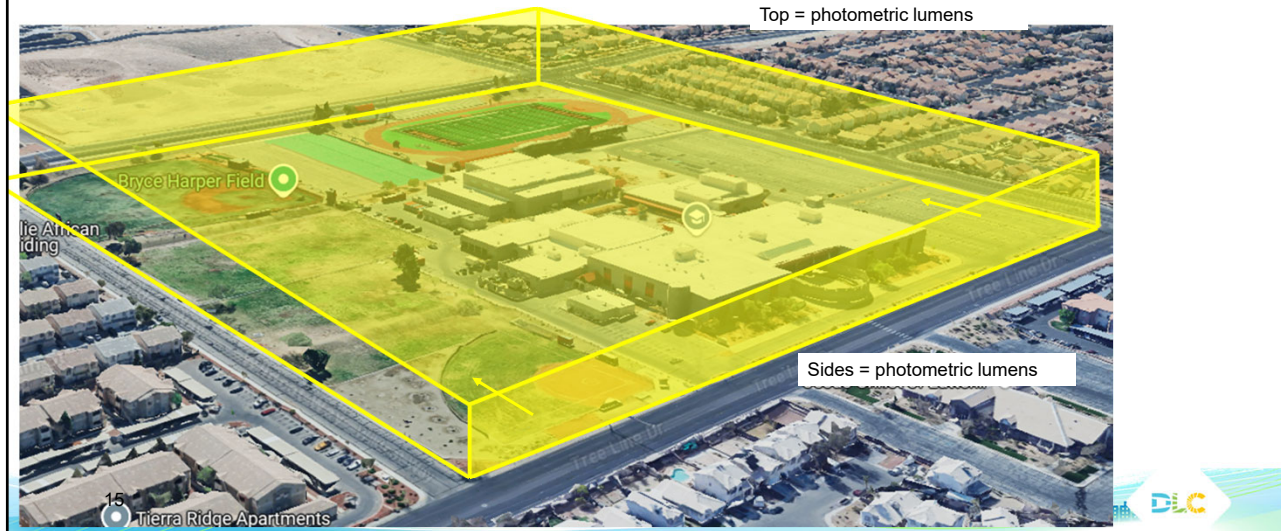
Calculate illuminance values



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Combining photometrics with RSG

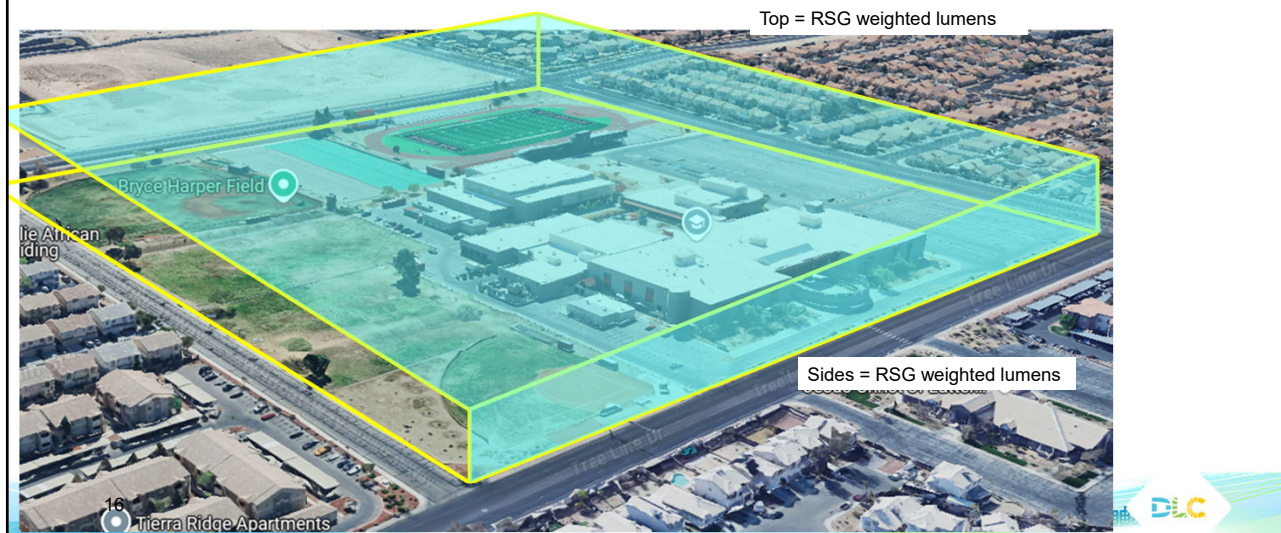
Offsite lumens = $\sum (\text{offsite illuminance} \times \text{area})$



15

Combining photometrics with RSG

Weight offsite lumens by RSG

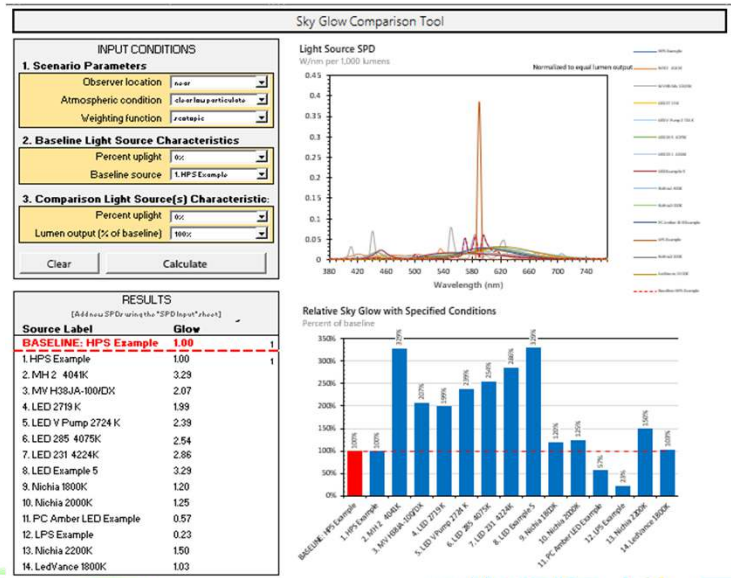


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Reducing sky glow

Calculate RSG from SPD

- PNNL Skyglow tool:
SkyGlowTool@pnnl.gov
- Input SPD data
- Values are **relative** to baseline
- RSG is non-linear



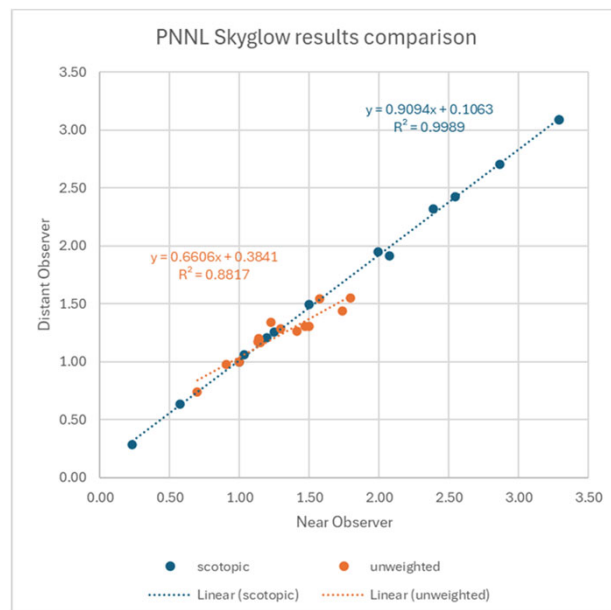
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RSG comparisons

DLC chose “near location” and
“scotopic weighting function”

Scotopic weighting function is more
ideal



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Estimate RSG instead of using calculator

Always better to use SPD data

Baseline →

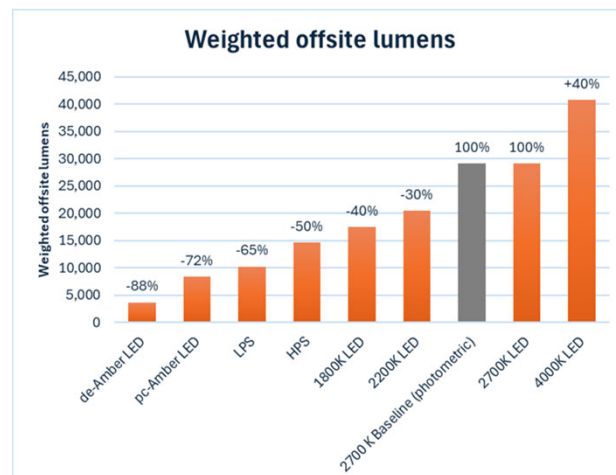
Technology/CCT	RSG (average)	S/P Ratio (average)
HPS	1.0	0.6
LED (2000K)	1.5	0.9
LED (2200K)	1.4	0.9
LED (2700K)	2.0	1.2
LED (3000K)	2.1	1.2
LED (4000K)	2.8	1.5
LED (5000K)	3.5	1.9
LED (5700K)	3.6	1.9
LED (6500K)	4.3	2.2

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Weighting offsite lumens by RSG

Source type	RSG
de-Amber LED	0.13
pc-Amber LED	0.29
LPS	0.35
HPS	0.50
1800K LED	0.60
2200K LED	0.70
2700 K LED Baseline (photometric)	1.00
2700K LED	1.00
4000K LED	1.40



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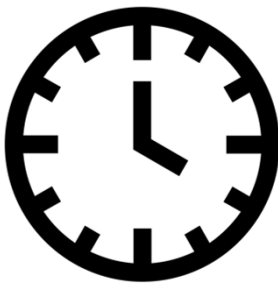
Non-white light trade offs



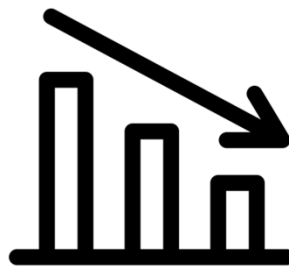
21

21

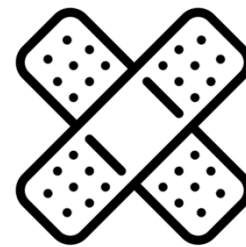
Impact of lighting controls



Meet energy code
Reduce overlighting
Nightly dimming
Seasonal dimming



Lighting controls reduce sky
glow in a linear manner



May not be enough to
overcome spectral impacts
of high CCT installations

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Digital twin example with controls



Choosing Both
Energy Efficiency
and Light Pollution
Mitigation for
Commercial Outdoor
Lighting



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Digital twin example with controls



Base Case

MH fixtures

Not dimmed

RS1

DLC LED V5.1
qualified fixtures

Dimmed 50%

RS2

LUNA LED
qualified/eligible
fixtures

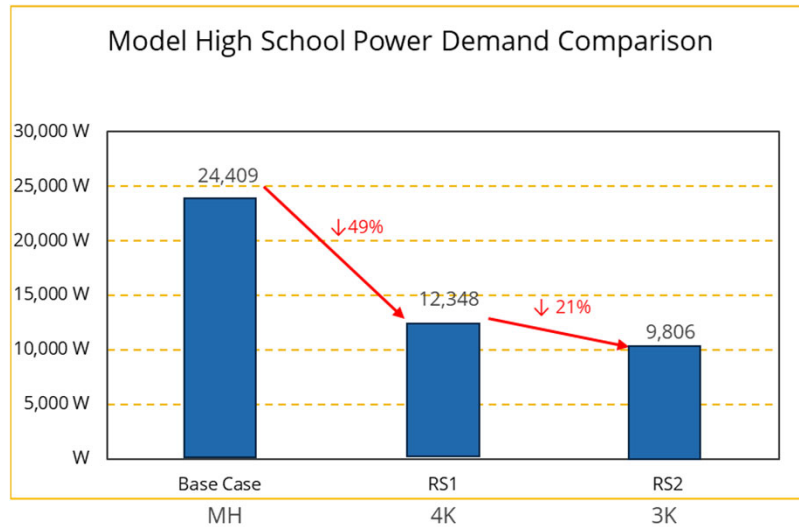
Dimmed 80%

*Pre-curfew light pollution
mitigations: minimizing
overlighting, uplight and blue light
scatter*

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Energy savings are achievable

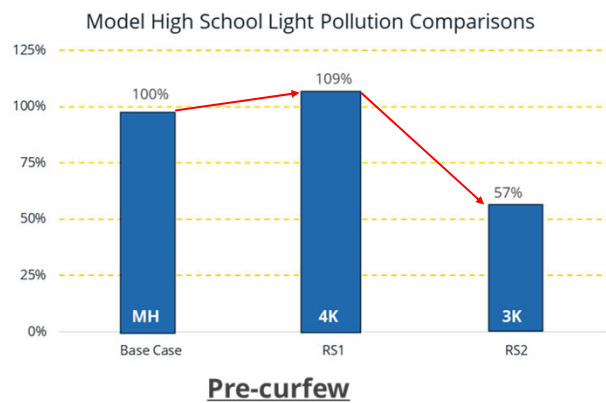


25

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High CCT products increase sky glow

Includes RSG weighting factors

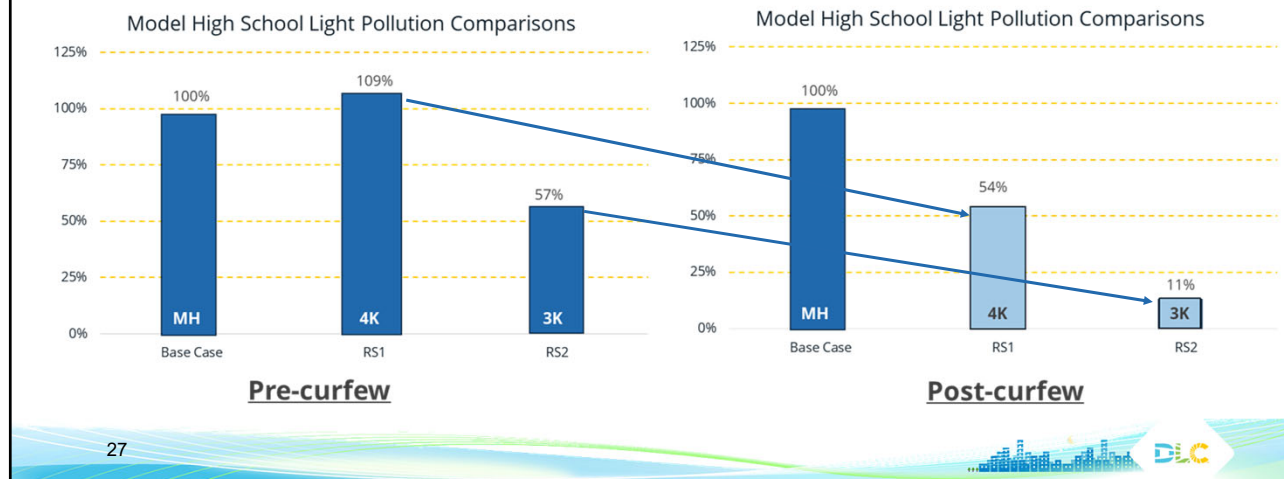


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High CCT products increase sky glow

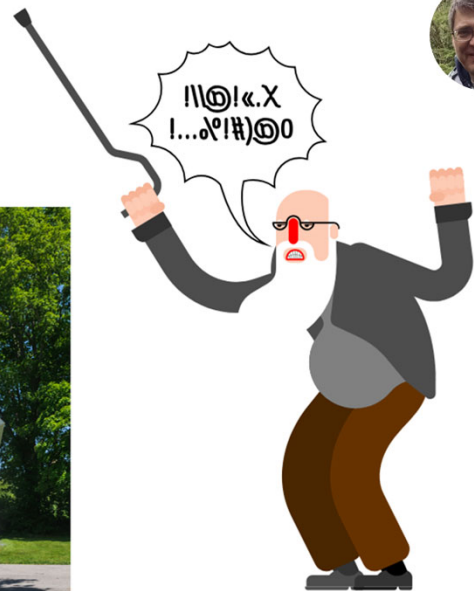
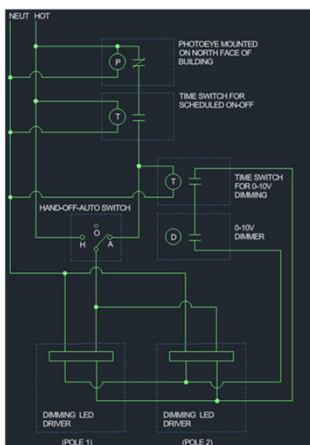
but lighting controls reduce the impact



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Controls

Old school wired

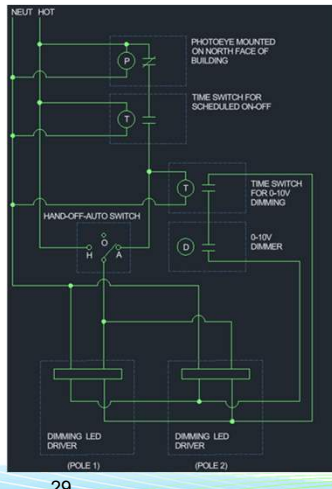


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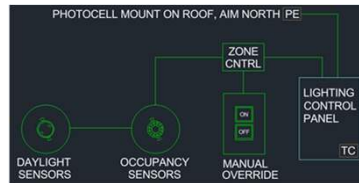
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Controls

Wired vs. wireless vs. fully integrated & flexible



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MS/DIM-L40=Motion Sensor for Dimming Operation, 21' - 40' Mounting Height ^{11, 12, 13}

SPB4=Motion Sensor for Dimming Operation, BLE Interface, 21' - 40' Mounting Height ^{11, 14, 28}

PIR High/low, motion/ambient sensor, 8-40' mounting height, ambient sensor enabled at 2fc ^{11, 12, 18, 19}

NLTAIR2 PIRHN nLight AIR gen 2 enabled with bi-level motion / ambient sensor, 8-40' mounting height, ambient sensor enabled at 2fc ^{11, 12, 18, 19}



DIM 0-10V Dimming

- Control by others
- Refer to [Dimming spec sheet](#) for details
- Can't exceed specified drive current
- Not available with PML options

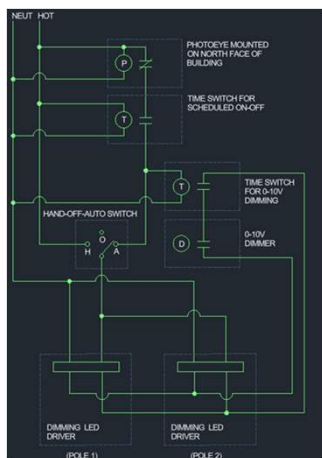
PML2 Programmable Multi-Level, 10-30' Mounting Height

- Refer to [PML spec sheet](#) for details
- Intended for downlight applications at 0° tilt

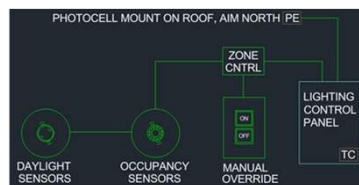
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Controls

Non-white LED systems are controllable, just ask



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MS/DIM-L40=Motion Sensor for Dimming Operation, 21' - 40' Mounting Height ^{11, 12, 13}

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NLTAIR2 PIRHN nLight AIR gen 2 enabled with bi-level motion / ambient sensor, 8-40' mounting height, ambient sensor enabled at 2fc ^{11, 12, 18, 19}

Non-white LED control options are equal to white-light sources:

- Dimming
- Motion Sensing
- Bi-level
- Multi-level
- Wireless

DIM 0-10V Dimming

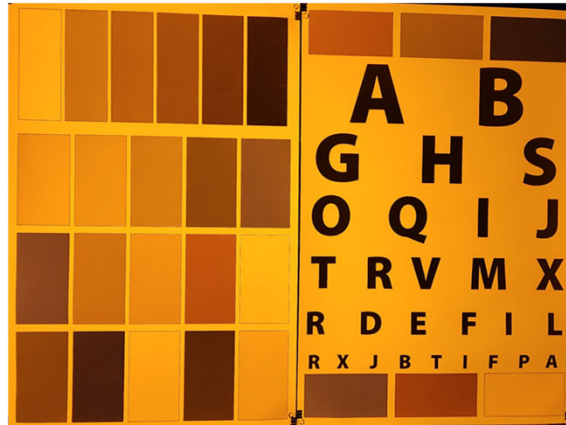
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PML2 Programmable Multi-Level, 10-30' Mounting Height

- Refer to [PML spec sheet](#) for details
- Intended for downlight applications at 0° tilt

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What CCT/technology is being used here?



HPS (2000 K)

speaking of
lighting
quality

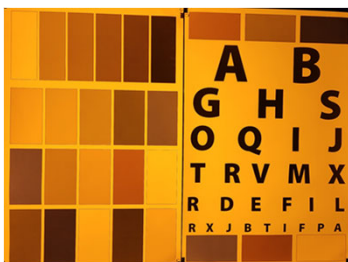


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Can you guess these CCTs?

HPS (2000 K)



1800 K LED



2200 K LED



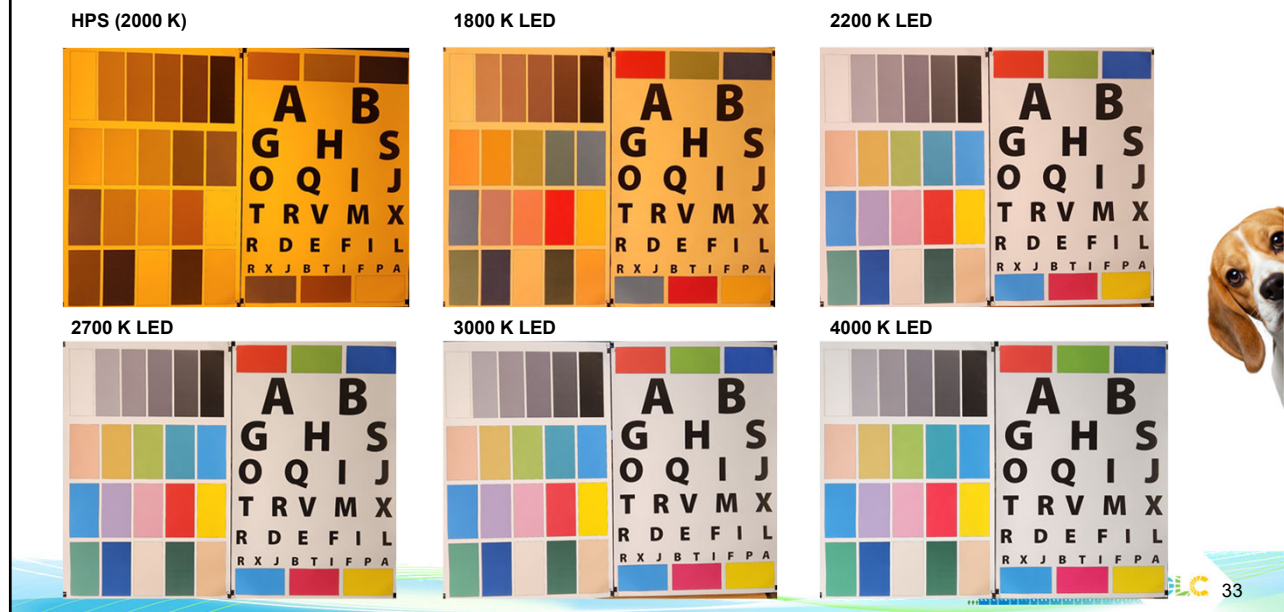
Wow!



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Good color rendition is achievable with low CCT

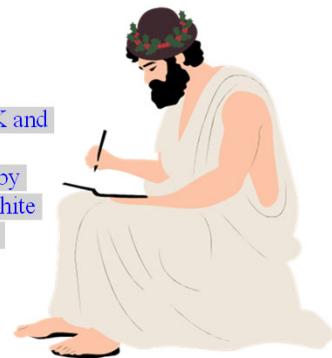


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Spec editor notes are your friend

Embed guidelines for unique requirements in notes:

When including non-white light sources in the project, edit requirements for each characteristic for each included type accordingly. Some non-white sources have CCT definitions in Kelvin defined in ANSI C78.377-2024 and others are not defined in that standard and require the specifier to state color and/or specific wavelength. For more information on specifying non-white light sources see Annex F, Specifications for 2000K and 1800K (Informative) in ANSI C78.377-2024. It is recommended that specifiers refer to *Specifying Non-White Light Sources in Outdoor Applications to Reduce Light Pollution* by Esposito and Radetsky (2023) to fully appreciate the factors involved when using non-white sources. The editors notes in this section related to non-white light are sourced from that paper.



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Are current standards referenced?

Ensure that the most current ANSI C78.377 – **2024** is listed. Prior to 2024 the 1800K and 2000K CCT bins were not defined.



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Where are terms defined?

At a minimum add:

Direct-emission amber LED (DE-Amber): A DE Amber LED is based on an Aluminum-Indium-Gallium-Phosphide chip (AlInGaP) directly emitting long wavelength radiation with a peak wavelength of 590 nm to 605 nm, and a FWHM of approximate 15 nm to 20 nm.

Direct-emission other: Other direct-emission narrowband LEDs (e.g., “DE Red”): These non-white LEDs, such as direct emitting AlInGaP red LEDs, emit narrowband radiation directly (FWHM from approximately 15 nm to 20 nm). They have saturated color appearances and chromaticity coordinates very near the spectrum locus.

Phosphor-converted amber LED (PC-Amber): A PC Amber LED is based on a blue-emitting Indium Nitride-Gallium Nitride chip (InGaN) paired with a reddish phosphor that fully, or nearly fully, down-converts the short wavelength radiation into longer wavelength broadband emission with a peak wavelength occurring near approximately 595 nm to 605 nm, and a full-width at half-maximum (FWHM) range of 80 nm to 90 nm.

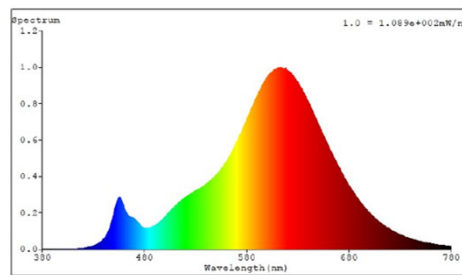
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Expanded submittal data

For all types require submission of Spectral Power Distribution (SPD) XML document (SPDX) to verify spectrum and to calculate Scotopic/Photopic (S/P) ratio.



ANSI/IES TM-27 standard



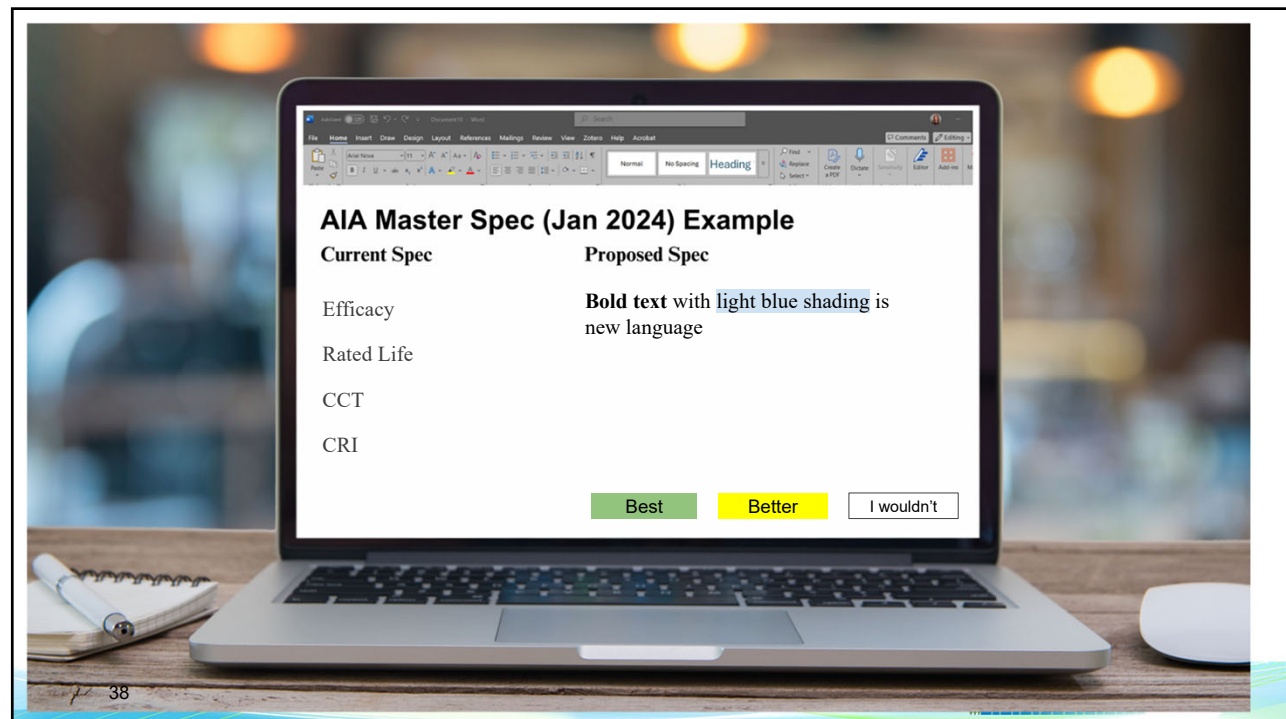
Plotted SPD data in SPD document

ReportDate	SpectralData	Wavelength
7/22/2024	0.000027	380
7/22/2024	0.000134	381
7/22/2024	0.000012	382
7/22/2024	0.000122	383
7/22/2024	0.000026	384
7/22/2024	0.000069	385
7/22/2024	0.000009	386
7/22/2024	0.000008	387
7/22/2024	0.000103	388
7/22/2024	0.000029	389
7/22/2024	0.000039	390
7/22/2024	0.000003	391

Tabular SPD data from SPD document

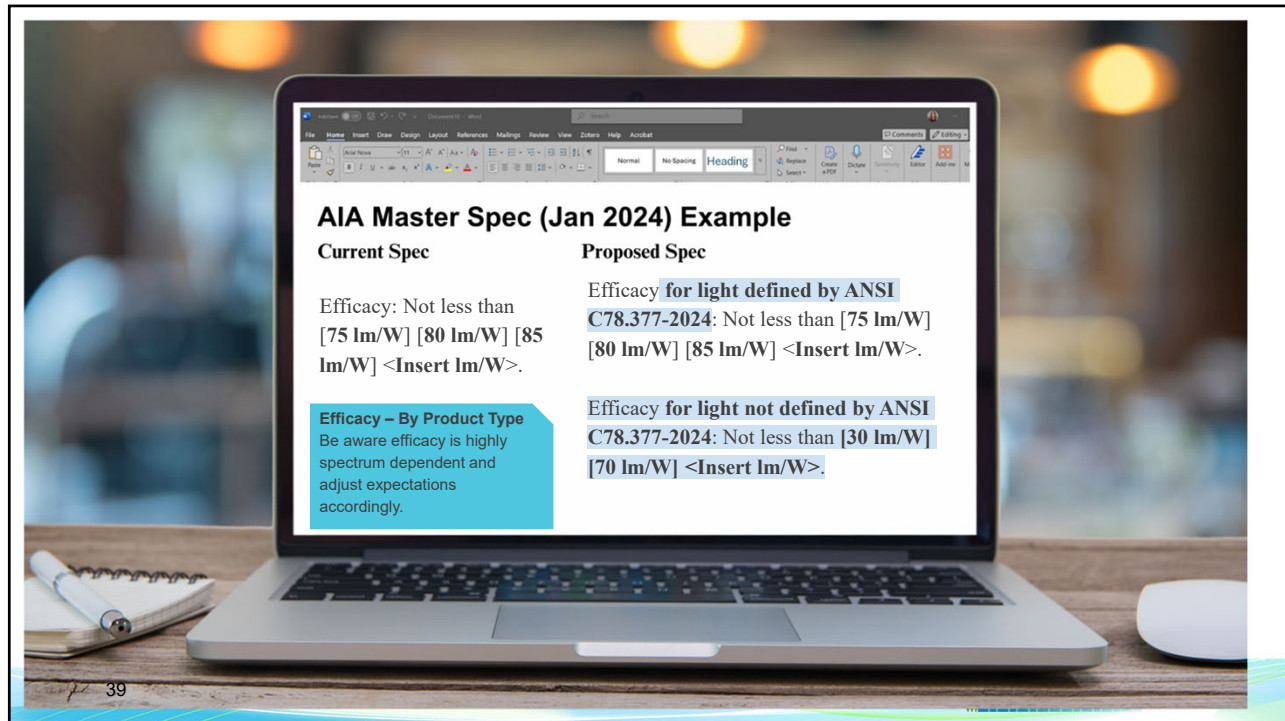
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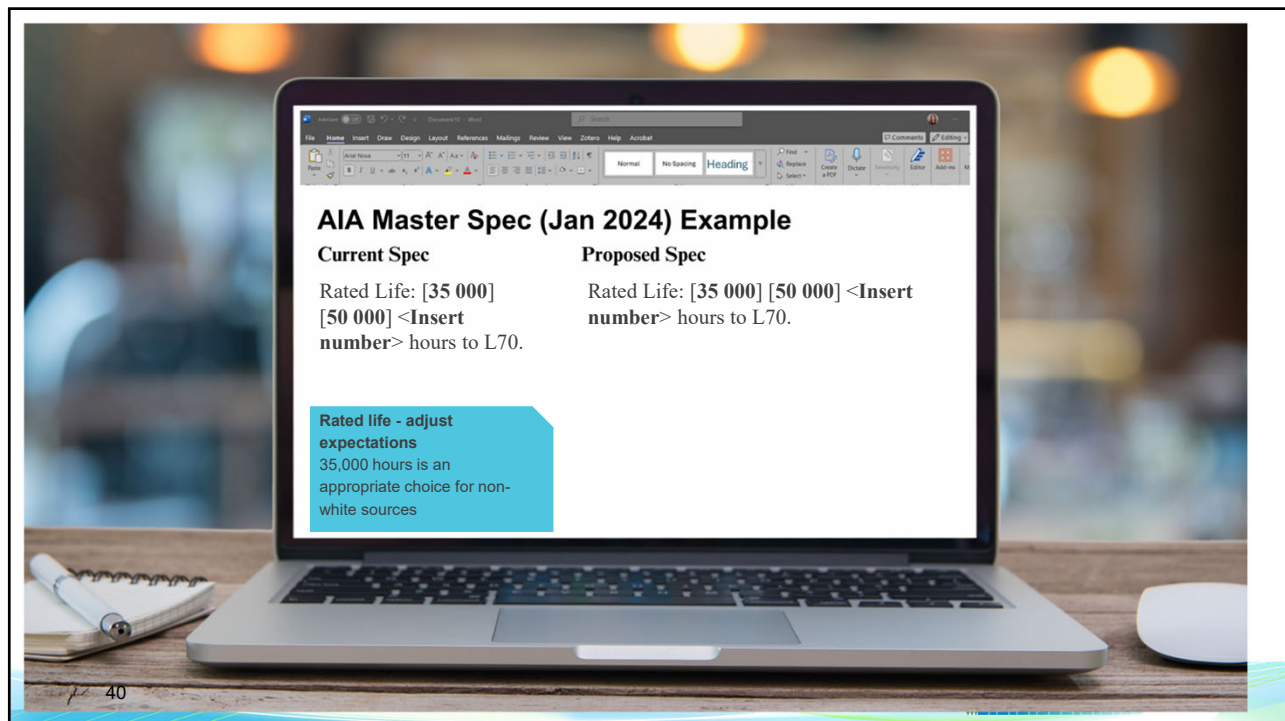


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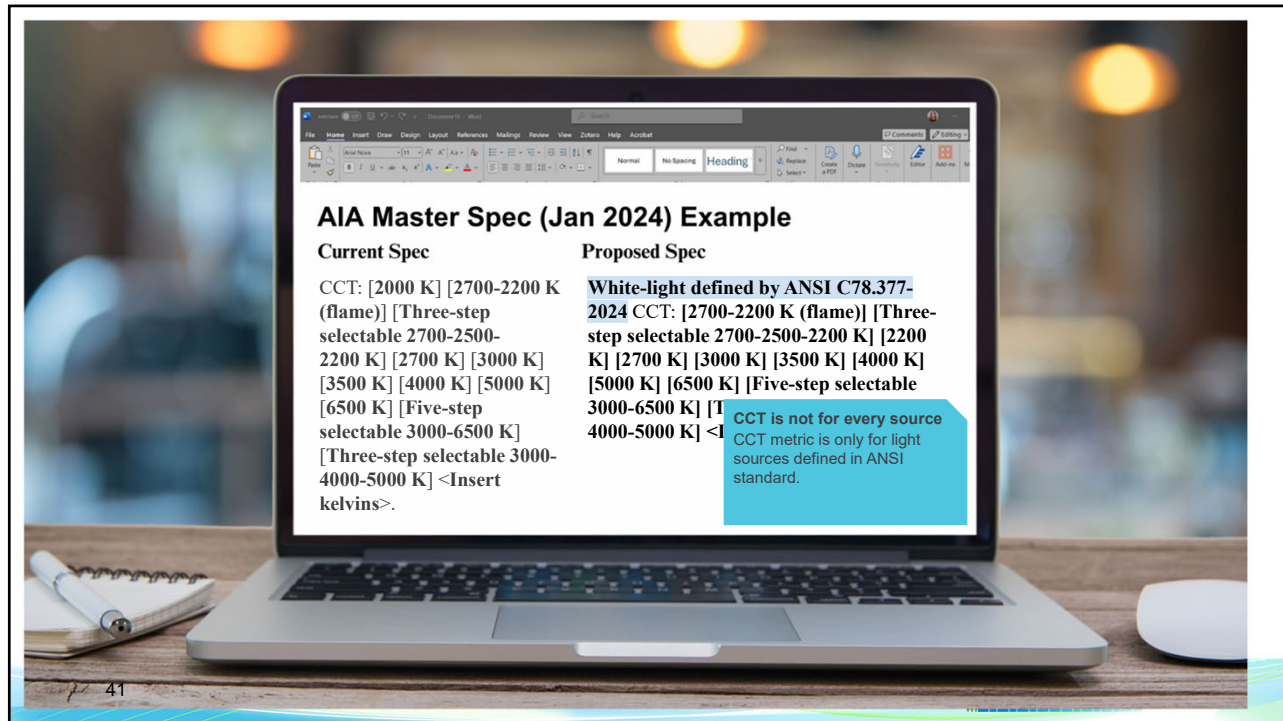
38



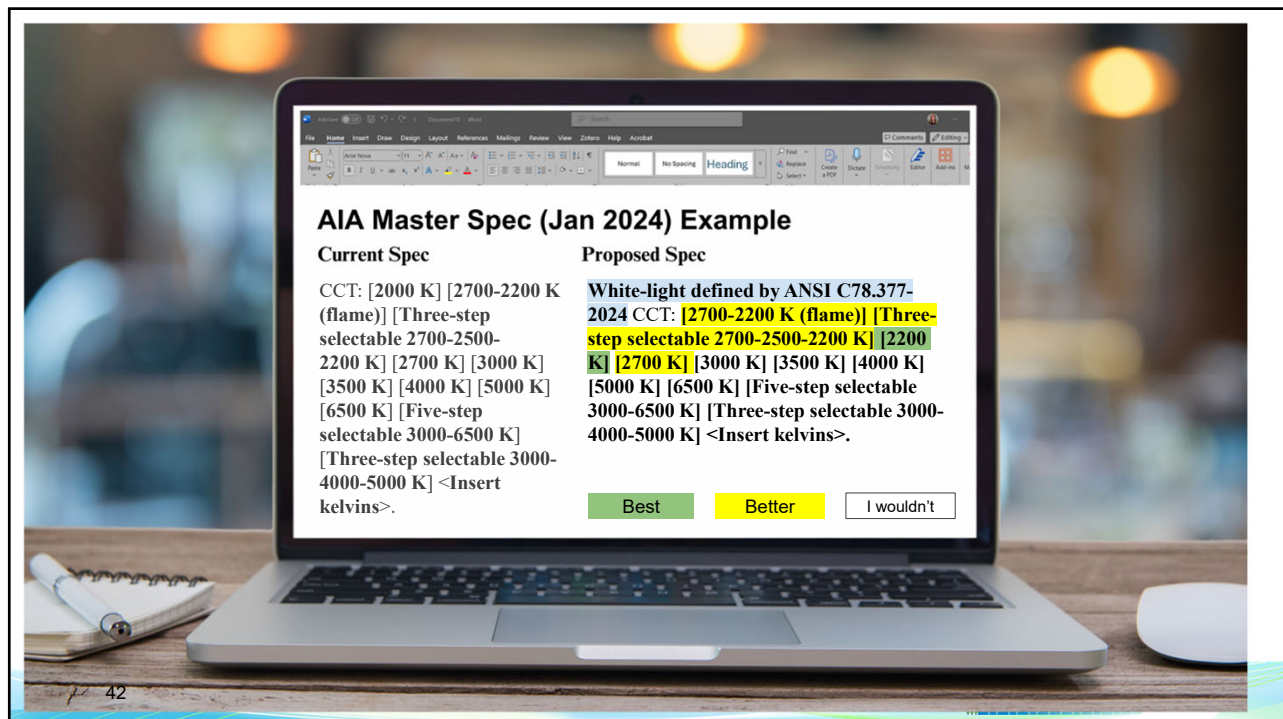
39



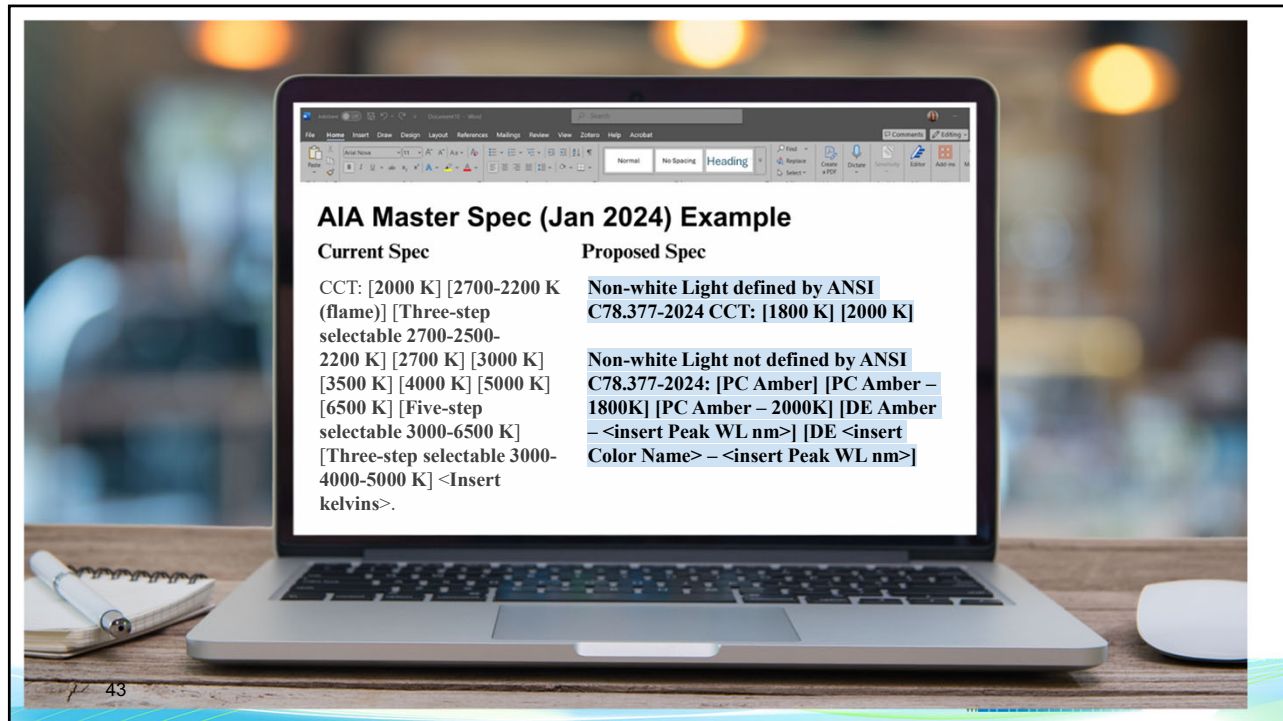
40



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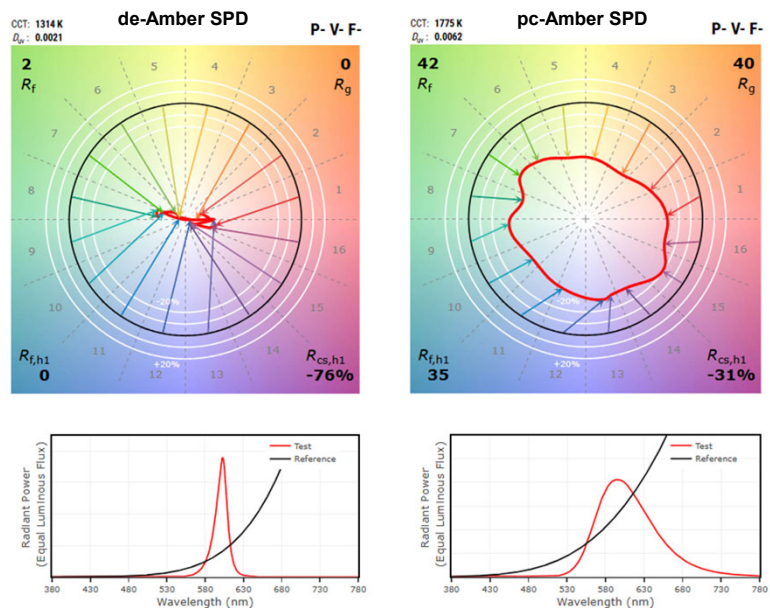
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Quality Metrics

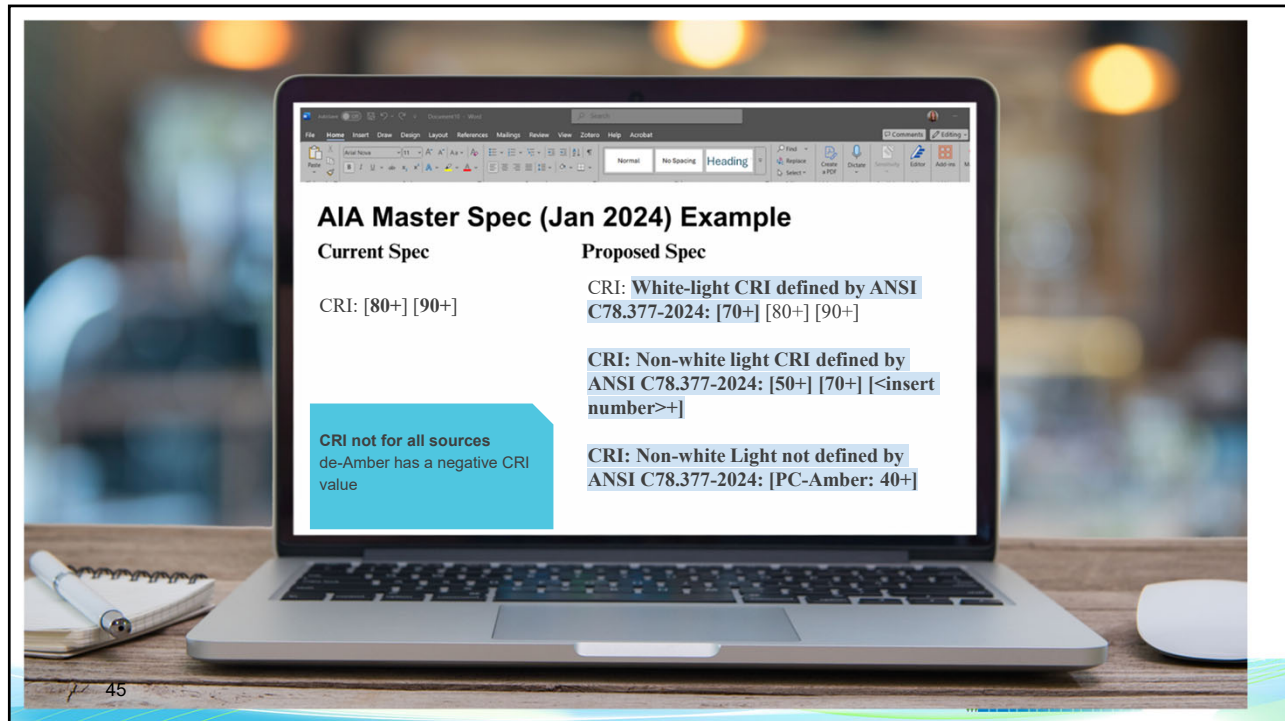
- Color rendition is very poor for DE-Amber or PC-Amber
- Metrics: CRI (Ra), Rf, Rg
- Master Spec only references CRI



Calculation from: <https://www.ies.org/standards/standards-toolbox/tm-30-spectral-calculator/>

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Scott Lind PE
Electrical Engineer |
Building Engineering
Mead & Hunt
scott.lind@meadhunt.com



THANK YOU



Leora Radetsky
LUNA Program Director/
Senior Lighting Scientist
DesignLights Consortium
lradetsky@designlights.org

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