



SSL Quality Advocates

SSL Quality Advocates Support Accuracy in LED Product Information

For the solid-state lighting (SSL) market to grow, consumers must have confidence that the product they are buying is well designed and performs to their expectations. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), SSL Quality Advocates is a voluntary pledge program to assure that LED lighting is represented accurately as it reaches the market. SSL Quality Advocates pledge to use the Lighting Facts™ label (below) to document the performance of products they manufacture, sell, distribute, or promote, based on industry-standard testing.

Lighting Facts™	
LED Product	
Light Output (Lumens)	840
Watts	9
Lumens per Watt (Efficacy)	93
Color Accuracy Color Rendering Index (CRI)	87
Light Color Correlated Color Temperature (CCT)	3100 (Warm White)
Visit www.lightingfacts.com for the <i>Label Reference Guide</i> .	
<small>All results are according to IESNA LM-79-2008: Approved Method for the Electrical and Photometric Testing of Solid-State Lighting. Brand X, 18756CHT56428954RGHT1234H3</small>	

Similar to a nutrition label, the Lighting Facts label provides a quick summary of product performance data. Luminaire manufacturers who take the SSL Quality Advocates pledge agree to use the label to disclose performance results in five areas—lumens, efficacy, watts, correlated color temperature (CCT), and color rendering index (CRI)—as measured by the new industry standard for testing photometric performance, IES LM-79-2008. Additional metrics related to reliability, product consistency, construction, and other parameters may be considered in future editions of the label. By introducing transparency to the lighting supply chain, the Lighting Facts label will guard against exaggerated claims and help ensure a satisfactory experience for lighting buyers.

Importance of Quality

Today’s marketplace features an increasing number of LED products for everyday lighting purposes, from desk lamps to outdoor lighting. While many of these products deliver on their performance claims, independent testing conducted through the DOE CALiPER test program¹ reveal that some do not. Concerns include low light output, lifetimes that are shorter than reported, and poor or inconsistent color quality. Such shortcomings could discourage consumers from accepting SSL technology, much as quality problems in the early days of compact fluorescent lighting (CFL) slowed market acceptance of these products.

The SSL Quality Advocates program and the Lighting Facts label were jointly developed by DOE and the Next Generation Lighting Industry Alliance as a foundation for successful commercialization of solid-

¹ The CALiPER program conducts independent testing of commercially available LED products. Learn more at www.ssl.energy.gov/caliper.html.

state lighting, a technology with the potential to cut U.S. lighting energy use by one-third. The SSL Quality Advocates program showcases LED luminaire manufacturers who commit to testing products and reporting performance results according to industry standards, and gives lighting buyers, designers, and energy efficiency programs the essential information to evaluate and select products² for their specific projects and for promotion to clients and consumers.

How to Participate

Companies or organizations are invited to take the SSL Quality Advocates Pledge at www.lightingfacts.com. Participating manufacturers agree to follow the guidelines for reporting luminaire performance and to use the Lighting Facts label on product packaging or in product literature. Others in the supply chain—buyers, contractors, lighting designers, distributors, retailers, utilities, and efficiency organizations—may also become SSL Quality Advocates by agreeing to look for and use products that bear the label.

The Lighting Facts label complements the ENERGY STAR[®] program for LED lighting launched by DOE in 2008. While both of these voluntary programs are designed to make energy-efficient purchasing decisions easier and more transparent, they take different approaches:

- ENERGY STAR was designed with consumers in mind. It sets a minimum performance level for qualifying products to help consumers choose the most efficient products. The ENERGY STAR label can only be applied to a limited group of qualifying LED lighting products for general illumination.
- The Lighting Facts label is an industry tool to help retailers and other buyers choose wisely. It provides essential information to evaluate product performance against manufacturer claims. Armed with this information, retailers and other industry stakeholders can keep poor-performing products from ever reaching their shelves.


Taking the SSL Quality Advocates Pledge establishes a manufacturer as an industry leader in support of accurate reporting and disclosure, and continual improvement of LED product quality.

² The Lighting Facts label may appear only on LED lighting products, including self-contained replacement lamps and full luminaire products; it does not apply to packaged LED devices or to LED indicator applications such as flashlights, nightlights, and holiday lighting. Only LM-79 tested products may display the label.

For more information on SSL Quality Advocates, see www.ssl.energy.gov/advocates.html.

EERE Information Center
1-877-EERE-INF (1-877-337-3463)
www.eere.energy.gov

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