



Tech News

July 2008

Selecon recognises the importance of direct contact with our theatre lighting industry professionals and our Selecon Tech News is designed to update you on a regular basis on what's new in the world of Selecon Performance Lighting.



Australia's Newcastle Civic Theatre demonstrates theatres can dramatically reduce the energy load of their stage lighting system

In 2005 the Civic Precinct Technical Services Team at the Civic Theatre in Newcastle, NSW, Australia entered an internal council competition designed to reward those who came up with energy or water saving schemes. The Teams' submission detailed the environmental and financial benefits that replacing 26 aging, maintenance-intensive 2.5kW front of house stage lighting instruments with new energy-efficient luminaires would bring to the Theatre. They argued (and they won) that this potential replacement of half of their total FOH lighting rig would result in increased illumination with 48% less power consumption (NB: this figure represents the reduction in energy consumed by the units replaced, NOT the theatre's total power consumption). Also, because of the reduced heat output, shutters and gel would be less like to burn out and the costs of replacement lamps would be less expensive.

The theatre selected 26 Selecon Pacific Zoomspots each fitted with an 80V Power System and 1200W lamp supplied by Herkes Pro Lighting. Two years on the energy savings resulted in another grant in October 2007 that funded the purchase of another 24 units making the entire FOH lighting rig 1200W 80V Pacifics.

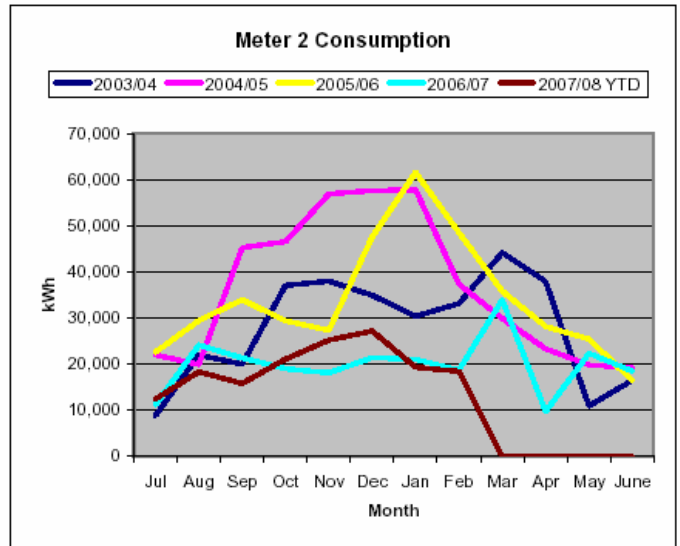
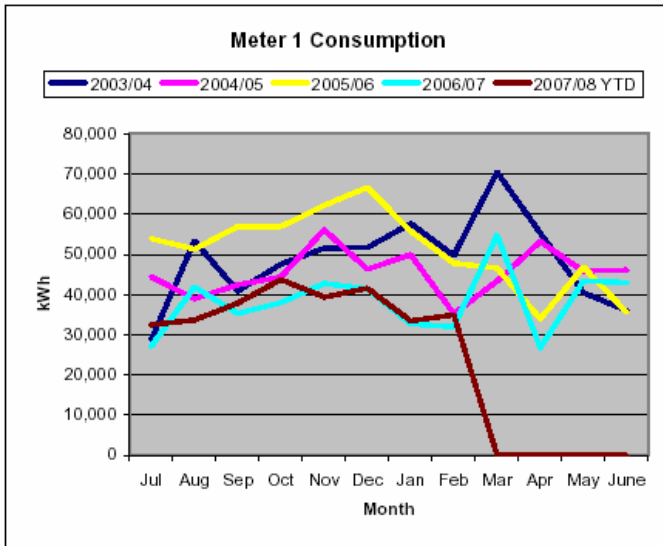


What does replacing 2.5kW units with 1.2kW units do for you? Using more optically efficient modern luminaires and not kicking out that other 1.3kW of heat saves rather a lot on air conditioning plus of course, getting the same lumen output for half the power is a good thing for the annual electricity bill anyway.

The City of Newcastle has compiled and released an Electricity Consumption report which shows electricity usages for the Civic Theatre over the past five years and the two years that the new units have been in use. The total usage has been split up into community and professional events.

View / download the complete report here: <http://www.seleconlight.com/newcastle>

But here's a couple of interesting facts and graphs in the meantime:



The Meter 1 Consumption graph is for the air-conditioning system only and it can be seen from the graphs of total consumption that the years before the new system was installed consumption was typically between 45,000-55,000 kWh per year. In the first year when half the FOH rig was new (06/07) the consumption reduced to 40,000 kWh. For the incomplete year to date (to Feb 08) with an all new FOH rig the consumption is similar at around 40,000 kWh for a similar amount of shows as the early years.

The Meter 2 Consumption graph covers the balance of power to the theatre including cool rooms, fridges etc., the largest consumer being stage lighting. The years before the new system was installed total consumption was between 28,000-40,000 kWh and in 06/07 dropped to 20,000 kWh, where it remains for the year to date.

Prior to the upgrade annual power consumption for the Theatre had reached just over 1million kWh at an annual cost of \$94,058. In 2006/07, following the first full year of the upgrade, power consumption was 698,990 kWh at a total cost of \$75,675, saving over the year more than \$18,000.

....Interested in learning how a very small theatre achieved low energy naturalistic lighting using Selecon Pacific 80Vs, Acclaim Fresnels and Aureol BeamSpotsArcola Theatre delivers Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*, with a peak lighting load of just 5kW - http://www.seleconlight.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=515&Itemid=193



Stage Lighting for Everyone

A common concern currently rearing its head within our industry relates to the increasing restrictions being placed on the practise of stage lighting by well meaning but often poorly or misinformed authorities responding to health and safety concerns in our schools and community venues. Apparently in some schools students have been totally banned from using stage lighting equipment. It is poorly considered actions like this and the long term detrimental effect on our community that is driving our awareness building campaign - 'Stage Lighting Tools for Everyone'.



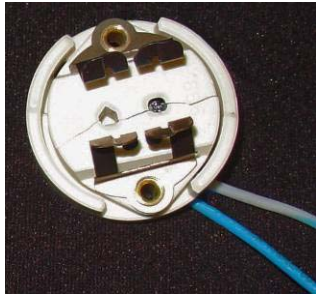

Many of Selecon's dealers have responded to this challenge with safety training courses and advice to their customers and we are working to provide further material to assist them in these

endeavours. Of course one of the most important actions is to ensure that all lighting equipment that you buy or use is both fully compliant to the safety standards and represents 'best practise' which means they can be safely used by everyone, regardless of age or experience. You can be assured of this when you use Selecon luminaires.

<http://www.seleconlight.com/stagelightingforall>

BASIC LUMINAIRE MAINTENANCE

The visual guide below illustrates four of the most common maintenance issues you are likely to encounter with stage luminaires, always check before rigging and when relamping:

#1 CABLE WEAR	#2 LAMP SOCKET	#3 LAMP SOCKET	#4 SAFETY BOND
			
<p>Check the complete length of the luminaire cable for any signs of damage, most commonly this appears at the cable exit point from the luminaire.</p> <p>Replace the cable with manufacturer's approved spare part before re-using the luminaire.</p>	<p>A/ Check failed lamp contacts for signs of corrosion or pitting, such signs indicate a breakdown in the electrical contacts of the lamp socket.</p> <p>Replace the lamp socket assembly with manufacturer's approved spare part before re-using the luminaire.</p>	<p>B/ Check socket cable closest to the lamp socket for any signs of overheating and deterioration of the cable insulation material.</p> <p>Replace the lamp socket assembly with the manufacturer's approved spare part before re-using the luminaire.</p>	<p>Check the length for broken strands of the safety wire bond.</p> <p>Replace the safety bond with the manufacturer's approved spare part before re-using the luminaire.</p>

Warning – this work should be carried out by a competent service technician.
 There is more information including spare parts diagrams on our website – <http://www.seleconlight.com>

Touring with Hansel and Gretel

Busy lighting designer David Eversfield took a few minutes out from his hectic schedule to drop us a few lines on why he selected Selecon Pacifics to solve the age-old problem of keeping the lighting rig on a travelling show to a minimum.



"I'm using two Selecon Pacific 45-75 Zoomspots for pattern projection on the New Zealand Opera's regional tour of Hansel & Gretel. To keep the show quick and easy for touring every overstage light had to be rationalised very carefully. Nothing else would give me gobo projection over the whole set from such a short distance while keeping the touring electrician's focus time to a minimum."

<http://www.optickshock.net/>

Selecon Lui Cycs create a-MAZE-ing effects for Singapore Arts Festival 2008

Strategically situated at the busy junction outside Raffles City, the Festival Maze temporarily added new dimension and depth to the Singapore cityscape as just one of 450 free arts performances and events that made up the 31st annual Singapore Arts Festival (SAF) 2008.

Commissioned by the SAF the Festival Maze art installation, disSPACEments was conceived and designed by local designer Chia Yu Hsien as a way of exploring the spatial articulation of moments along a journey. Each day from the 9th May – 22nd June, 2008 the public were invited to wander through this maze of twenty-five towers losing themselves in photographic memories and three dimensional forms.



Kamal Thapa of Phat-EventZ comments on the art of lighting this unique installation,



"I decided to use 2 Selecon Lui Cycs to light up each of the twenty-five Maze towers with a blue gel in the top one and an amber gel in the bottom one, with some scenes utilizing both to give me a third colour for variation. The Luis were the perfect choice of light for this project due to the angle of coverage as well as the fact that it did not burn out the colour gels like Cyc Floods from some other brands.

One other major factor in the choice of the Selecon Lui Cycs was the thin rubber tubes which wrapped around the Maze towers could not be exposed to extreme heat. These luminaires definitely performed to my expectations!

For further information on the content of this Tech News or on any of Selecon's products, please contact Ritchie Reed:

(0) 7715 051892 /

<mailto:rreed@seleconlight.com>

www.seleconlight.com