Light manufacturer A-Z

THE LATEST NEWS AND INNOVATIONS FROM KEY UNDERWATER, INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR LIGHTING SPECIALISTS

AQUALUMA

Since it began manufacturing marine LED lighting in 2005, Australian company Aqualuma has steadily grown its customer base and is today widely regarded internationally as one of the three top producers of underwater LED lighting systems. Based in Queensland's Gold Coast, its main product strengths are its patented polymer housings and its claimed outstanding customer service. It also offers what it describes as an unbeatable six-year warranty on its through-hull housings.

▲ **Aqualuma's spreader light**

Recently, the company established its own subsidiary in the US to overcome its time-delay disadvantage in serving its marine lighting there.

Aqualuma's new spreader lights for exterior marine applications, models SL4 and SL12 are offered in either flush- or bracket-mounted versions. Both also produce 8000k white light and are designed to accept either 12 or 24V current feed. The SL4, with four LED lamps, draws less than 1.4 Amps at 12V, while the 12-lamp SL12 has a rating of 2 Amps with the same supply. The more powerful SL12 has a built-in thermo control to monitor heat and will automatically ramp itself down if left on during excessively hot days.

IMTRA

IMTRA Corporation, in Massachusetts, imports and manufactures LED marine lighting systems for interior and interior applications. In November 2015 it added underwater LEDs to its product offer when it signed an exclusive agreement with UK manufacturer Lumishore US distribution to become master supplier with existing supplier SeaWide Distribution.

Regarding its own production, IMTRA developed its first LED production in 2003 and has since continued to add capability to its systems-based approach with its products.

IMTRA's Largo is a modern surface-mount design with tri-colour and onboard dimming for each colour, while the laatest addition to its Omega series of lights is a square-profile unit providing the equivalent of 35 Watts output from halogen lamps, with 95 CRI rating, making it possible to render interior spaces, with woods, fabrics and even food, as accurately as possible.

Also new is the AcXent Linear Lighting System, a custom-design LED product which is designed to illuminate interiors by creating an effect of light emanating from overhead, but without visible points of light, as seen in many spaces today.

LIGHTGRAFIX

This UK company, based in Kent, has been a leading designer and manufacturer of lighting fittings since 1979. From the mid 1980s the company started to supply interior and exterior lighting for use on yachts and has built up very close working relationships with yacht designers, interior specialists and yards. This, it claims, gives it a thorough understanding of the practicalities of yacht construction, the materials used in it and corrosion protection. With lighting and interior designers constantly pushing for technological improvements and innovation, LightGrafix is regularly involved in many new ideas which result in the development of new products in its standard ranges.

New products that it has launched in the past year include the LD1210 and LD1220 range of exterior IP67 downlights, LD42 miniature step and wall lights, LD170 bulwark light, together with the its downlights series LD1270SP, which it initially made for the J Class yacht J8 at Holland Jachtbouw.

LUMITEC

US company Lumitec has been solely focused on the development and manufacture of marine and extreme environment lighting since 2006. The firm does product development, testing, and manufacturing all at one location in its facility in the US, and is rapidly expanding its distribution and retail presence globally.

▲ **Lumitec's new Spectrum**

Over the past two years Lumitec has employed an additional five full-time engineers, expanded its optics lab, brought a full-time modeller for its prototyping lab and initiated pure-research projects to advance promising new concepts and technologies - all with aim of reinforcing its claimed position as one of the world's leading marine LED producers. It has also developed the capabilities and purchased the equipment necessary to self-certify to various CE, ATEX, and UL requirements and, where necessary, it has pioneered new testing and manufacturing techniques to ensure optimum reliability.

For 2016 Lumitec has introduced

11 new product families and nearly 50 new SKUs (Stock Keeping Units). These include an extension to its floodlight line with the Maxillume h60 model, which offers a true 6000 lm output.

For below the waterline, Lumitec has introduced the SeaBlaze X Spectrum, an RGB/W full-colour underwater light that is surface-mounted and completely self-contained, with a simple two wire hook-up and no external control boxes. Various output options are available. Any number of lights can be mounted on a vessel and will automatically stay synchronised when in the full colour crossfade mode.

LUMISHORE

As the first company to have introduced colour changing LED technology to underwater lighting in 2008, this South Wales company remains wholly focused to this application and taken it further than most companies in this sector. It has continually applied its own in-house electronics and electrical engineering and software expertise to optimise performance and produce brighter displays with a wider range of colour-change effects, in the process winning several industry awards.

In the past year alone Lumishore has launched four new lighting systems, including the Lumishore EOS integrated colour changing system, with surface-mounted lights that minimise the amount of hull drilling needed for fitting, which received a 2015 DAME design and innovation award nomination. EOS consists of two new light models, four new user-friendly controller options and a true plug-and-play connection hub for easy installation. The individual lights of the new EOS Networked Docklites system keeps all its lights synchronise, but allows lights to be controlled individually from a central point.

Meanwhile, Lumishore's new Thru-Hull Interchangeable lighting system, is claimed to be the world's slimmest lighting unit of its kind. This is aimed at boat owners who want a high-performance lighting system with a removable fitting that can be serviced from inside the hull.

The last of the 2015 quartet of new product is the TRX601 and TRX801 retro-fit range. These are interchangeable LED light units and systems designed to replace existing metal halide, HID and LED weld-in systems.

▶ **Quick's Califfa lights**

Lumishore's underwater LED lighting systems hold full ABS and Lloyds Type Approval, and are the only underwater LED lights to hold the safety-critical EMC/EMI compliance testing certification.

QUICK MARINE LIGHTING

Quick srl, is a diversified Italian manufacturer of marine equipment including windlasses, bow thrusters, battery chargers and water heaters. It began manufacturing marine lighting in 2007 and today offers a full range of LED lights for boat interiors and exteriors.

Latest new products from Quick Marine Lighting include: the Secret L, a pop-up light IP66; Califfa, a bicolour LED chart and reading light, equipped with soft-touch switch and with a leather finish; a new range of 6 Watt IP66 downlights 6W IP66 called XP; a new linear LED lighting concept called MaxiBar for flush-mounting installations; and a new range of underwater lights from 15-60 Watts that's called Challenger.

SEA VISION

US company Sea Vision, based in Fort Lauderdale, was originally known for its underwater lights, but in the past decade has expanded its product line to include lights for all types of boats and yachts. It now supplies interior and exterior lighting for many volume builders as well as custom lighting for large projects. It has supplied 44 yachts over 60m with underwater lighting, the largest project to date being 140m with underwater lights all around the hull.

For underwater applications Sea Vision has recently introduced its SV 20 LED aimed at the mid-sized boat market which, it claims, has hit the sweet spot as regards price point and light output.

▲ **Sea Vision's SV10 LED**

The company has also upgraded its LEDs across the product offering by using newer high-density LED chips that are the next generation LEDs. It has also started using the latest silicone optic technology that increases light output by as much as 30%.

UNDERWATER LIGHTS

UK company Underwater Lights Ltd started designing and manufacturing underwater lights and exterior lights in 1991. It also offers exterior and interior light plan design and supplies technical and product supply information for installation. Its range of underwater lights are designed so they match the size of individual yachts. These use the latest LEDs that benefit from the latest halogen-like colour-rendering and reduction of power-to-lumen output improvements that have taken place in LED technology over the past two years. New LED drivers are now used by the company alongside its own RGB+W LEDs and drivers that can be used in all of its underwater range of lights. Its new QT-93 Led light with high lumen output is currently being used to replace fluorescent down lights on a number of mega yachts.

YACHTLITE

German company Yachtlite has been producing custom illumination with LED technology since 2002, offering interior and exterior products in its StairLite, FormLite, RoomLite, FloorLite line right up to helipad lighting HeliLite ranges.

Yachtlite continues to meet market requirements with a steady expansion of its product lines as budgets for lighting, lighting concepts and lighting solutions are continually raised. The company's latest product, XR1, uses particularly resilient and fully illuminated floor light elements, and is particularly suitable for applications such as outdoor and indoor dance floors, pool floors or furniture surfaces. XR1 is tested according to the regulations of German Lloyd.

Recently Yachtlite delivered its first 3D thermoformed furniture lighting for the contours of outdoor deck furniture. IBI