



## Energy Independence Security Act of 2007 (EISA) Metal Halide Ballast Efficiency Requirements Most Frequently Asked Questions...

### 1. What is EISA and how does it concern me?

- EISA is a federal law that was approved on December 19, 2007 (Public Law 110-140) geared to help reduce energy consumption, decrease dependence on oil, while helping to further strategies for the changing global climate landscape. This law specifically mandates the efficiency of metal halide ballasts, effectively preventing the sale of 150W\* - 500W (\*see #10 for exceptions) probe start metal halide luminaires.
- EISA regulates the ballast efficiency of specific ballast types used in luminaires rated to operate 150W - 500W metal halide lamps, that are manufactured or imported for sale in the United States on or after January 1, 2009.

BALLAST TYPE	LAMP WATTAGE	Ballast Efficiency
Magnetic Probe Start	150W-500W	94%
Pulse Start	150W-500W	88%
Non-Pulse Start Electronic	150W-250W	90%
Non-Pulse Start Electronic	251W-500W	92%

- EISA requires that fixture cartons, ballast gear, point-of-purchase display and catalogs (published after July 1, 2009) to include a label as specified by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). EISA also requires annual reporting by the luminaire manufacturer as specified by the FTC. Luminaire cartons, ballast gear, point-of-purchase displays and catalogs are to be marked with an encircled capital "E".



### 2. What date does EISA become effective?

- EISA is effective as of January 1st, 2009. Immediately following this date, luminaire manufacturers will no longer be allowed to manufacture or import products with ballasts that do not meet the new federal ballast efficiency requirements.
- Non-compliant products that are manufactured or imported before January 1, 2009 can still be sold after the effective date.

### 3. What Wide-Lite products and families are affected by EISA?

- All Wide-Lite HID products are regulated by EISA.
- All indoor and outdoor products rated for use with 150W - 500W metal halide lamps that are manufactured or imported for sale in the United States are regulated by EISA (this applies to any manufacturer).

### 4. What is pulse start and how does it compare to probe start?

- A probe start system utilizes an ignitor located within the lamp to energize the lamp. A pulse start system utilizes a separate ignitor component that is included with the ballast versus inside the lamp. The pulse start system technology results in improved efficiency and performance.
- Common benefits of fixtures using pulse start equipment include:
  - o Increased efficacy and energy savings
  - o Increase in lamp life
  - o Decrease in color shift over system life
  - o Quicker restrike time
  - o Improved lumen maintenance
  - o Superior color rendition
  - o Faster warm-up of lamp
  - o Ability to start in colder temperatures

## 5. Will EISA and pulse start technology affect pricing?

- Yes. Pulse start technology has been available for some time generally as an option or upgrade. There are increased costs for pulse start hardware, including additional material and assembly costs associated with product manufacturing.
- The new EISA efficiency standards may further increase current ballast material costs to achieve compliance.
- Please consult your Wide-Lite sales representative for current pricing.

## 6. Will probe start replacement parts still be available for existing installed applications?

- Yes. EISA is specific to newly manufactured or imported luminaires after January 1, 2009. Replacement ballasts and lamps will continue to be available for products manufactured prior to the January 1, 2009 effective date.

## 7. Will I be required to retrofit existing installations to comply with EISA?

- No. EISA is specific only to newly manufactured or imported luminaires after January 1, 2009. Products built or installed prior to January 1, 2009 with probe start technology will not require replacement.
- Additional phases or complete replacement fixtures will be required to be EISA compliant after January 1, 2009 (unless required stock is available that was manufactured prior to the effective date).

## 8. What about non-compliant product that is currently stocked by distribution?

- The manufacturing or import cutoff date for compliance set by EISA is January 1, 2009. All products that meet this requirement can be sold after the effective date.
- Returns will not be necessary.

## 9. How do I specify compliant product?

- Wide-Lite is committed to have their products meet 100% compliance. All applicable products manufactured or imported for sale in the U.S. after January 1, 2009, will meet the new EISA requirements.
- Please look for the following mark on all Wide-Lite electronic literature and literature printed after the effective date confirming EISA compliance.



## 10. Are there any exceptions to EISA for luminaires that contain metal halide ballasts?

- Luminaires that utilize metal halide ballasts less than 150W or greater than 500W are excluded from EISA.
- Regulated lag ballasts are exempt from EISA guidelines.
- Luminaires using electronic ballasts rated for 480 volts are exempt from EISA guidelines.
- Luminaires that meet all of the following criteria:
  - i. rated only for 150W lamps
  - ii. AND rated for wet location use as defined by National Electric Code 2002 Section 410.4 (A)
  - iii. AND contain a ballast rated to operate at an ambient air temperature above 50° C as specified by UL 1029-2001

## 11. Will all luminaire manufacturers and importers be required to comply with EISA?

- Yes. All U.S. manufacturers and importers are required to comply with the EISA requirements.
- Wide-Lite supports all government efforts to conserve energy and we support the metal halide requirements defined in EISA 100%.
- Wide-Lite encourages all of our business partners and other lighting suppliers to assist with documenting and reporting use of non-compliant products.

## 12. How is California different? What about additional states that have (or plan to pass) similar legislation?

- California is currently regulated by Title 20 and is exempt from EISA's federal requirements through 2011.
- EISA supersedes all metal halide ballast efficiency laws for the remaining balance of the 49 states.

## 13. Is Mexico, Canada and International Sales affected by EISA?

- Product that does not meet EISA guidelines can be sold to markets outside of the United States. Specifically, probe start or non-compliant pulse start products may be shipped and installed outside the U.S. Please be sure to consult your local or national laws and codes for additional information.

# WideLite®

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