Philips Indoor Lighting and Green Buildings

Media Backgrounder

**About Philips**

Royal Philips Electronics, headquartered in the Netherlands, is a health and wellbeing company focused on improving people’s lives through meaningful innovation. Philips business spans the three key areas of lighting, healthcare, and lifestyle, and part of its mission from a lighting perspective is to help build livable cities for all of us living there, today and tomorrow.

**Greening our Buildings**

Less than a century ago, fewer than 10% of the world’s population lived in cities. Now more than half of us call cities our home, and this is projected to rise to 70% by 2050 (1). Cities consume over 75% of the world’s energy and account for more than 70% of global CO2 emissions. If countries can reduce the energy consumption in their cities then their overall energy consumption would be significantly reduced (2).

Buildings are responsible for 40% of global energy use, mainly driven by heating, cooling, and lighting. Commercial buildings alone account for up to 30% of CO2 emissions with the office sub-sector being the largest consumer of energy.

Innovation and collaboration is needed to reduce the impact the world’s buildings are having on not only the environment but human health as well – to ensure the efficient use energy, water, and other resources, while also protecting occupant health and improving employee productivity.

**Green Buildings and Philips Lighting**

Philips enables ‘Green Buildings’ by turning innovative lighting solutions into people benefits in ways that are environmentally responsible and cost-effective, as well as inspirational.

Green buildings attract more tenants, increase real-estate value, and meet sustainability commitments of developers and cities. New legislative energy requirements are enabling the realisation of more green buildings globally, with Philips helping local authorities, developers and investors save up to 70% in lighting energy costs each year.

With smart lighting, Philips helps to improve the overall impact of the indoor environment on people’s well-being. Besides enabling visual tasks, lighting has emotional and biological effects making people feel better, resulting in higher concentration and improving their performance.

**Innovative and Intelligent Lighting**

Philips develops innovative lighting solutions that improve people’s lives, enable customers to reduce energy costs and enhance their business, and help to create a more sustainable world – all critical to enabling ‘Green Buildings’.

From the latest LED technology through to intelligent management and control systems, Philips is driving end-to-end innovation in indoor lighting**.** Philips Dynalite represents the future of energy management systems for the built environment, saving up to 70% per year (3). These intelligent lighting controls automatically switch lights off when the space is empty, and adjust lighting levels based on the amount of natural light. Besides delivering people benefits, these solutions contribute significantly to improving the energy efficiency of buildings. Solutions that are being used successfully by the Polish, Fortune 500 construction company Skanska Property, and the most sustainable food store of Marks & Spenser in the UK.

Working with strategic partners, Philips has also brought a number of other innovative products to market for the office environment addressing areas that have a specific impact on office workers’ health and productivity such as the balancing artificial and natural light (Philips and Somfy) and management of sound (Philips and Ecophon) – as well as delivering energy saving benefits. Creating luminaires for offices that create an inspiring environment with appealing design and superior lighting quality continues to be a priority for Philips, resulting in the development of Lumistone in partnership with PLH Architects. This decorative luminaire delivers 50% energy savings compared to a functional one.

**Working with others to drive green buildings forward**

Philips is working in partnership with governments, international organizations, customers and academic institutions, and other leading companies to drive the global sustainable economy, and develop solutions that create green buildings.

Philips is global partner of the World Green Building Council, and also participates actively with local country Green Building Councils in a number of markets. Many Philips staff are accredited professionals in energy certification standards such as LEED and BREEAM and have been involved in a number of successful green buildings projects around the world. Before mentioned Skanska Property in Warsaw is LEED Gold certified, and M&S Food in the UK is BREEAM certified.

Given that energy certification is becoming obligatory and impacts asset valuation and building vacancy – hence green buildings are more valuable – Philips is also committed to assessing the sustainability performance of real estate around the globe. This is way it is a partner of GRESB (Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark) whose dynamic benchmark aims to improve the sustainability performance of investments and sector at large.

Finally, Philips believes that access to effective financing options is key for stakeholders to realize value from Green Buildings. Philips offers a number of financing solutions to its customers including tailor-made financing options, through collaboration with relationship banks.

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Sources

1. (Source: UN.org paper on City growth and sanitization)
2. (Source: C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group)
3. (Source: The LED Revolution, 2012. Philips)