

21.9 Disposal of lighting equipment

Until recently, the disposal of lighting equipment was rarely discussed. However, the introduction of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations have made it necessary for the designer to consider how lighting equipment is to be disposed of at the end of life. The purpose of the WEEE regulations is to reduce the impact of electrical and electronic equipment on the environment but encouraging recycling and reducing the amount of such waste that goes to landfill. With the exception of lighting equipment in households and filament light sources anywhere, all lighting equipment, lamps, luminaires and control systems, is now considered hazardous waste. Recently two organisations have been established in the UK, which can advise on the disposal of redundant lighting equipment. They are Recolight (www.recolight.co.uk) for lamp disposal and Lumicon (www.lumicon.co.uk) for luminaire disposal. Guidance on the implementation of the WEEE Regulations as they apply to lighting is available from the Lighting Industry Federation.