

1.2 A Holistic Strategy for Lighting

A holistic strategy for lighting design is necessary because without it important benefits will be lost and money and human resources will be wasted. The starting point is an in-depth conversation with the client and other members of the design team to formulate a design brief.

At such a discussion, it will be necessary to address such fundamental questions as what do you want to see and what do you not want to see, what is the function of the space, what is the proposed architectural style and what is the budget?

More formally, nine distinct aspects of lighting need to be considered.

They are:

- Legal requirements
- Visual function
- Visual amenity
- Architectural integration
- Energy efficiency and sustainability
- Maintenance
- Costs
- Photopic or mesopic vision
- Light trespass and sky glow for outdoor

All these aspects will contribute to the success of a design, but they may not all carry equal weight depending on the particular application

and situation. Also there is no particular order in which they should be considered. The important issue is that all the elements are considered, perhaps more than once, for a satisfactory solution to emerge.

1.3 Legal Requirements

There are a number of legal requirements that apply to all lighting installations. Some are general, e.g. Municipal Standards, the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations. Some are specific about the type and form the lighting that should be provided, e.g. emergency lighting in buildings, based on the DMA Lighting Specifications and/or the client's briefs. Others influence lighting design by the limits they place on the type or amount of equipment that can be used, e.g. ESTIDAMA, Building Regulations. Details of the requirements of the construction (Design and Management) regulations can be obtained from the local authorities publications.

Details of the significance of provision for the 'Abu Dhabi Street- and Public Realm Lighting' can be found in the latest edition of '*DMA Roadway & Public Realm Lighting Specifications and Roadway Project Compliance Checklist Tables*', additional information and details about streets and other public realm areas can be found in '*Abu Dhabi Urban Street Design Manual*' as well as in '*ESMA Ministerial Decrees*'.