At the Annual General Meeting 2012 in Medellin, LUCI Association will be celebrating its 10th anniversary. Ten years which have seen the LUCI network expand at an impressive speed and which confirms the growing interest that cities have developed for urban lighting.

With 65 cities on 5 continents and a wide range of activities developed over the years, LUCI is now a reference in the field of lighting and a network recognized throughout the world. Through its events and meetings as well as its projects and awards, LUCI has been, over the last ten years, able to share information, commission new research and develop innovative approaches to lighting. It is able to help shape the key trends in lighting today from policy and economic research through to sustainability and social change. The involvement of LUCI as communication partner in the European INTERREG IVC PLUS project that recently held its final event in Eindhoven is yet but another proof of this.

Initiated by the City of Lyon’s brilliant idea of launching a network for “Cities of light” in 2002, this growth is above all the fruit of cities’ regular and active involvement in LUCI projects and events over the years. Such involvement is also the best way for cities to make the most of the LUCI network, and, to that extent, I am very pleased that Glasgow has managed to involve itself in various LUCI activities over the years. To continue to support this positive dynamic, I can only encourage other cities to actively engage themselves in the projects and events initiated within our network.

As Glasgow’s presidency of LUCI now comes to an end, we pass on the torch to the City of Ghent and hope to have taken the association a step further. It has been an honor and a pleasure to lead the network for the past two years and I would like to warmly thank all the people that have been helpful in supporting the Glasgow Presidency. We will now actively support the City of Ghent for the two years to come and we look forward to pursuing our involvement in LUCI in future years.

The City of Medellin (Colombia) will be the host of the 10th LUCI Annual General Meeting 2012 from the 14th to the 18th of November 2012. Juan Manuel Patiño, Sub-director of the Urban Planning Office from the Municipality of Medellin, presents some of the city’s main characteristics...

What has been the role of light in Medellin’s renewal process and image change?
The urban transformation of Medellin has focused on redesigning urban planning, recovering public spaces, and using them as a tool of social cohesion. Its main goal is to achieve a balance of public space in all urban areas, which will then serve as a seed leading to the revitalization of human activities. We have found that lighting serves as a fundamental tool for transforming public spaces at night and positively influencing people’s behavior in these public spaces. Public lighting has led to people experiencing the city differently, in addition to providing a sense of security for social gatherings, and has contributed to a new positive attitude in Medellin’s inhabitants.

How is the Urban Light Celebration a part of this?
The Christmas lighting festival in Medellin is a cultural symbol, always present in the people’s minds. It has reinforced the cultural identity and the traditions of the inhabitants and has integrated public spaces in its metropolitan area, as well as in the lives of the city’s residents. The festival has also led to new touristic and economic dynamics which increase year after year around this event and bring all parts of the city together.

What will be the highlights of this AGM programme?
We will show you the many factors that have contributed to Medellin’s transformation and revival of public spaces, and especially how lighting has been a key element used to reinforce cultural identity, encourage social interaction and boost the local economy. Such improvements have contributed to the reduction of violence and created new behavioural dynamics in residents. Moreover, the AGM participants will have the opportunity to experience our light festival – the true emblem of Medellin’s transformation through lighting!
Jyväskylä shines under the microscope

The City of Jyväskylä in central Finland, the host of the northernmost LUCI City under Microscope held so far, welcomed over 120 participants from the 19th to the 22nd of September 2012. The two days included conferences on the city’s identity building strategy as City of Light, educational lighting workshops, and a lively panel discussion on lighting in green areas. Other highlights included the signature of the LUCI Charter on Urban Lighting by the Mayor of the City of Jyväskylä, Markku Andersson, as well as a special speech by Ambassador Bruce J. Oreck, the U.S. Ambassador to Finland, on the geopolitical impact of the revolution in lighting technology.

Here is what some of the participants had to say about the event...

- “The City under Microscope in Jyväskylä has been a view of Jyväskylä seen through different eyes. It showed us the reality of the city from the perspectives of several people - the landscape designer, the lighting designer, the urban planner, the politician, the engineer... and also the gaze of our own eyes.”
  Silvia Cebrián Renedo, Architect for the City of Valladolid (Spain)

- “One of the things I liked in the CUM was the educational workshop. We were challenged to discuss interesting questions and issues in groups in a relaxed way. The discussions in our group on the use of different light temperatures were especially interesting as they demonstrated cultural differences in opinions.”
  Willem Reedijk, Head of Public Lighting, City of Rotterdam (The Netherlands)

- “I liked the blue pedestrian bridge a lot as the lighting transformed the bridge and it became something bigger, almost like a work of art. Trying to enhance or elevate something to a greater level and make the light itself a natural part of that object or environment - I think that is a good example of how to approach lighting design.”
  Mathias Thuen, Green Spaces Project Manager, Eskilstuna (Sweden)

- “A very interesting city, which has implemented several beautiful lighting projects, an accomplished lighting management team, and a warm welcome - Jyväskylä will remain in our memories as a wonderful moment of exchange.”
  Lucas Goy, Lighting Designer, Les Éclaireurs, Lyon (France)

LUCI at the Lyon Light Festival

December is fast approaching and with it, the Lyon Light Festival (6 – 9 December 2012). This year, LUCI members will be invited to a special programme taking place from the 6th to the 8th of December, with some new features to look forward to...

- Conferences: the Rencontres de la Lumière
  This year, the annual “Rencontres de la Lumière” conference, organized by LUCI in collaboration with the City of Lyon, will be held on the 7th of December. The conference theme will focus on two main topics - “Building the identity of a light festival” on how to ensure a unique festival identity as more and more festivals are launched around the world, and “Light festivals in the era of interactivity” which addresses the techniques that cities can use to encourage citizen participation and appropriation.

  Programme and registrations at www.luciassociation.org

- A new light festival and artist exchange platform!
  This year, in order to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences, LUCI and the City of Lyon, in collaboration with the Cluster Lumière, will be organising the International Platform for Light Festivals, bringing together independent light artists, lighting designers, light festival organisers and host cities, to discover potential avenues of collaboration for upcoming light festivals.

  More information at www.auroralia.org

©Frédéric Guignard Peret, City of Lyon
10 exceptional events at the LUCI AGM 2012 in Medellin

The 10th LUCI Annual General Meeting in Medellin (14 - 18 November 2012) will be full of surprises and special moments! Here is a glimpse of what participants can look forward to...

1. LUCI 10 years celebration
The 2012 AGM will be the occasion to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the LUCI network with a special gala dinner bringing together the key actors in the network over the past 10 years. A moment not to miss!

2. 10th city.people.light award ceremony
As always, the LUCI/Philips city.people.light award ceremony will be a key part of the AGM event. This year, a special “People’s Choice Award” winner will be announced to mark the 10th edition of the cpl initiative.

3. Inauguration of Medellin's Urban Light Celebration
AGM participants will have the chance to join the inauguration ceremony of the City of Medellin’s Urban Light Celebration, “Alumbrado Navideño”, a festival that has been taking place since 1967 and which has become an integral part of the identity of the city - an event that mobilises the city’s population on a remarkable scale!

4. New LUCI President and Vice-President
In the second change in LUCI presidency, the City of Glasgow will pass on its presidency to the City of Ghent. The LUCI Executive Committee will also be electing a new Vice-President (who will go on to become the future LUCI President in two years) as well as three new EC members, at this AGM.

5. Signature of the LUCI Charter on Urban Lighting
The LUCI Charter on Urban Lighting, which marks the network’s commitment to sustainable development, will be officially signed by the Mayor of the City of Medellin as well as elected representatives of other new LUCI member cities.

6. LUCI 10 years book
LUCI is pleased to present a special new publication to mark the network’s 10th anniversary. The book “LUCI, Cities in a New Light” will bring together the cities and people that have made the LUCI network over the past 10 years, and their vision on lighting.

7. Launch of a toolkit to evaluate economic and cultural benefits of light festivals
The Culture Commission chaired by the City of Glasgow, which has been working with the research agency Cambridge Policy Consultants on a toolkit to evaluate the economic and cultural benefits of lighting festivals as a follow up to its study on the same topic, will unveil this online toolkit, and how it can help cities.

8. Book on tourism and lighting
A new publication on tourism and lighting, realized by Atout France in collaboration with LUCI, called “Light as a tool for tourism development” will be presented at the AGM. With examples from cities that have initiated specific tourism related lighting initiatives, the book will provide a look at the different ways in which lighting can be integrated into an overall city tourism marketing strategy.

9. Open Conference Sessions
The AGM’s Open Conference Sessions will give members the chance to present their latest projects and lighting initiatives. A chance to talk about your city in an international forum! Contact luci@luciassociation.org if you would like to make a presentation!

10. A unique insight into the urban transformation process of Medellin
Not only will AGM participants have the opportunity to see panoramic views of the entire city from Nutibara Hill, they will also go on a special “Medellin urban transformation tour” to see the urban development of Medellin from another perspective.

Cities under Microscope 2013 - explore the lights of southern Europe

LUCI members can look forward to discovering new lighting cultures from the south of Europe through the City under Microscope events in 2013.

The first City under Microscope of 2013 will be held from the 22nd to the 25th of May in Valladolid (Spain) – a city known for its city.people.light award winning project, the “Rivers of Light”, which provides tourists and locals a new means of navigating and enjoying their city at night.

The second City under Microscope, taking place from the 18th to the 21st of September 2013, will take LUCI to Marseille (France), the European Capital of Culture 2013. France’s second largest city will unveil its new lighting master plan which uses light to not only highlight its architectural heritage but also enrich its cultural and public spaces.

So save the dates!
NEW MEMBERS

A new urban nightscape for Zacatecas

Zacatecas, located in central Mexico, was part of the “Camino Real” (Royal Road) a vital transportation route in colonial times. The city has a rugged topography with terracing streets and alleys that create multiple views bedecked with its many heritage buildings.

The Municipality of Zacatecas is currently in the process of drafting its lighting master plan, the City Light Project, which will use light to interweave the urban, historical, cultural, religious and landscape elements of the city. It will also intertwine the route established by the “Camino Real” into the city’s nocturnal urban landscape.

“This new City Light Project is very important for our city as we would like to show the world our exceptional heritage sites. We look forward to discussing how this can be done through lighting with various LUCI cities from all over the world,” states Luis Alfonso Peschard, Secretary of State Projects. The lighting project aims to take advantage of the city’s uneven topography to link immediate and far-off views into a single visual composition, enhancing locals’ and visitors’ spatial perception of the city.

Discover the luminous creations of Pitaya

Founded in 2004 by designers David Lesort and Arnaud Giroud from Lyon (France), Pitaya is a design studio, where light, especially luminous objects and street light art installations, plays a special part. “Our strategy focuses on the culture of the ‘design object’, explains David Lesort.

Pitaya’s original and innovative light art concepts and installations have been included in festivals such as the Lyon Light Festival and the Ghent Light Festival, as well as Arbres en Lumières in Geneva, among others. “Motivated by our recent installations abroad which are now important aspects of our activities, we decided to join LUCI, which for us, is a great melting pot of multiple experiments,” says Arnaud Giroud.

The design agency was recently featured at the “Sakaguradôri - Festin de Lumiere” festival in Nishinomiya (Japan).

Revealing Sacred Places through light

Sacred Places, LUCI’s latest associated member, conceives original concepts and creates made-to-measure multidisciplinary projects for events in public spaces.

Inspired by the locations they work in, the Sacred Places consortium of artists, designers and other specialists, develop events and comprehensive productions with professionals and amateurs from various disciplines.

“Being a member of an international network such as LUCI will give Sacred Places Lighting Design the possibility to show and exchange the expertise we have gained in recent years as creative lighting concept professionals,” explains Ben de Keyser, representative of Sacred Places.

The agency has worked in locations such as La Madeleine Church in Paris, Het Theaterplein in Antwerp and the Church of Sint-Michiels in Leuven.
**NEWS FROM CITIES**

Gothenburg wins Swedish Light Award

The City of Gothenburg won the Swedish Light Award at a ceremony in Stockholm on the 20th of September 2012, for the new lighting design of the Götaplatsen Square, one of the most prominent public spaces in Gothenburg.

The project, designed by Ramboll, won for its focus on safety, functionality and innovative lighting design. The new lighting was part of a major facelift of the area in 2011, commissioned by the City of Gothenburg, with a focus on lighting. The vision was to create a beautiful, cosy space, reinforce the buildings around the site and make Götaplatsen into an evening venue. “Today, people linger in Götaplatsen for a place to talk and socialize, whilst before they used to look for the quickest way to escape the dark square,” says Ingemar Johansson, Head of the Street Lighting, Roads and Trucks Department of the City of Gothenburg.

The Svenska Ljuspriset (the Swedish Light Award) is an annual event arranged by the three lighting organisations Sydsvenska, Västsvenska and Svenska Belysningssällskapet together with the newspaper Ljuskultur.

Buffalo City and Glasgow: moving forward together with LightLinks

The LightLinks team, including staff from Glasgow, Thorn, and CLSF, travelled to project sites in Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, formerly a part of Amathole (South Africa) this summer. The LightLinks initiative, which was launched with the support of Thorn Lighting, promotes economic and social development by encouraging cities from low and high income countries to create partnerships on urban lighting projects. The cities of Buffalo and Glasgow, which have been working together on the 2nd LightLinks venture, have now reached the final design phase of the project.

During this particular field visit, the team met with locals to move forward on lighting design schemes. The new lighting scheme for the City Hall will reduce energy consumption from 2.4 kW to 1.4 kW, and provide a better environment for citizens. The Mdantsane Arts Centre, which is run by the community and which has great value to them, will also get a lighting makeover. “We conducted lighting workshops with the artists and performers and combined this with an evening of lighting trials. This has led to greater community involvement, which is essential for a sustainable project,” explains Cathy Johnston from the Glasgow City Council. The new lighting scheme will be installed in 2013.

Guadalajara: celebrating the use of public spaces through light

As part of the celebration of the 201st anniversary of Mexico’s independence, the City of Guadalajara organized a special lighting project in one of its most emblematic sites, the Zapopan Basilica, which is the 4th most visited church in the world.

The light event used light mapping techniques to project colourful images based on the history of Mexico’s independence that showed the richness of Mexican culture. “The building became a canvas on which to draw the history of the city of Zapopan and its participation in the independence of Mexico,” says Israel Jauregui, General Manager of EGEA in Guadalajara.

3D video projections on the city’s key monuments during significant dates and events are key elements of the lighting master plan of Guadalajara. These initiatives aim to bring dynamism and continuity to the master plan and celebrate the use of public spaces through light. Citelum and EGEA have been implementing a 3.5 million euro project to illuminate more than 50 sites (monuments, buildings, public spaces) in the city.
NEWS FROM CITIES

The Lyon Light Festival goes to Singapore!

In a new initiative to share light artworks, the City of Lyon has collaborated with the City of Singapore by sending light art installations from its renowned Lyon Light Festival to the 5th edition of the Night Festival in Singapore. The Night Festival took place over two weekends on 24-25 August and 31 August - 1 September in the public spaces of the island city.

The light art installations from the Lyon Light Festival were displayed as part of Night Lights, an outdoor showcase of spectacular light installations at the Singapore Art Museum, SAM at 8Q and the School of Arts. “We were pleased to collaborate with Singapore for this - it was the opportunity to showcase Lyon’s festival and its talented lighting artists and get further international exposure for the city,” said Jean-Francois Zurawik, Director of Events for the City of Lyon.

The installations sent to Singapore included Mimoïd II by Stéphane Bève, Milosh Luczynski and Philippe Rizzotti from the 2010 edition of the Lyon Light Festival, as well as Fish Tank at No. 8 by Stéphane Masson, Night Watch by WOKmedia, and Children’s Dreams by Jérôme Donna and the Public Lighting Department of the City of Lyon, from the 2011 edition of the festival.

First Amsterdam Light Festival

The first Amsterdam Light Festival is set to light up the Dutch capital this winter. Light sculptures by contemporary international artists will be set up in the centre of Amsterdam from the 7th of December 2012 through to the 20th of January 2013 with special lighting installations for buildings. The main elements of this festival will be, among other things, the Illuminade, the Boulevard of Light, Socialight and the Christmas Canal Parade.

The festival, which is curated by Rogier van der Heide, aims to be an accessible, artistically qualitative festival for light art and light culture, strongly embedded in Amsterdam life but still with an international aspect. It has one strong artistic ambition: to enrich and enlighten the city of Amsterdam during the darkest time of the year with art that allows individuals to appropriate public spaces, and to let everyone make their own story.

The festival, organised by the Amsterdam Light Festival Foundation, is a private initiative run in close collaboration with the city council, the business community, artists, and the inhabitants of the city.

More information at: www.amsterdamlightfestival.com

Light festivals in LUCI cities this season

SEPTEMBER 2012
• City of Light, Jyväskylä
• Guangzhou International Light Festival
• Karkonosze’s Light Festival, Jelenia Gora
• Moscow International Festival of Light
• Oh! Gwangju Media Art Festival

OCTOBER 2012
• Leipzig Festival of Lights
• Nocturne des Coteaux de la Citadelle, Liege

NOVEMBER 2012
• GLOW, Eindhoven
• Gothenburg Christmas City
• Seoul Lantern Festival
• Urban Light Celebration, Medellin

DECEMBER 2012
• Amsterdam Light Festival
• Arbres en lumières, Geneva
• Fête des lumières, Lyon
• Hikari Renaissance, Osaka
• Luci d’Artista, Turin
• Paris Illumine Paris

JANUARY 2013
• Festival of Fire and Ice, Tallinn
• Ghent Light Festival
• LUX, Helsinki

FEBRUARY 2013
• Carnavale de Roma, Rome
• Love and Light, Helsingborg
• Montreal Highlights

APRIL 2013
• Chartres en Lumieres

JUNE 2013
• Jerusalem Light Festival
Light as a tool for tourism development

How can municipal lighting strategies help in the touristic positioning of their cities? Besides the traditional methods of illuminating cultural heritage sites and highlighting architecture, there are now new innovative ways through which synergies can be found between tourism and lighting. Koen de Borger, Communication Coordinator in the City of Ghent explains how the city labelled as “One of the top 10 cities to visit in 2011” by the Lonely Planet travel guide, uses light for tourism...

How does Ghent’s permanent lighting strategy fit into Ghent’s touristic positioning?

The lighting atmosphere of Ghent is one of the major assets in our touristic marketing. The city’s permanent lighting of monuments and landmarks is a free commodity, of course, ready to be admired by chance, or discovered as a whole with a guide. At the moment, we are a market leader on urban lighting in Flanders and in Belgium, and we have inspired other cities to create lighting schemes of their own. Ghent has clearly helped to develop local and international light tourism in this small area of Europe.

The quintessence of our lighting strategy is not about how to market the city for tourists, but rather about lighting the city according to our lighting master plan. One of the key values in our city marketing is authenticity as part of a multi-layered identity. Light is one of those identities, and we try to juxtapose it with, among other things, culture and music, the presence of water in the city centre, medieval and contemporary architecture and the largest pedestrian area of Belgium.

Was the initiation of a light festival part of your tourism strategy?

The creation of a light festival had been on our wish list for a few years. It would complete the City of Ghent’s light strategy and open it to a very wide audience. We have programmed our two editions at the end of January (2011 and 2012) so as to avoid competition with other festivals, and to create a unique mid-winter event. In our event and tourism calendar, January is a bit of a low season, with plenty of hotel capacity still available. The light festival produced a tangible boost for pubs, hotels and restaurants, and invited our residents and visitors to come out for a gigantic get-together.

How do you collaborate with the tourism office to create synergies between the city lighting and touristic initiatives?

The 2011-2012 winter campaign in Ghent was entitled ‘Light your winter’. It was an appeal to indulge in delicacies in a cosy atmosphere with shopping and a Christmas market, and it was topped with a light festival. It gave us the opportunity to stir some attention for a range of derived products, such as evening light walks with a tourist guide, a walk-it-yourself map along the major spots of ‘Ghent illuminated’, a book explaining the Ghent light strategy with poetic pictures, etc.

Beaune - improving its touristic attractiveness with a new comprehensive lighting strategy

The Beaune (France) lighting master plan, established in 2010 in the framework of a public private partnership, is a key element of the city’s tourism strategy.

In 2010, the City of Beaune decided to stimulate tourism through the organisation of a lighting event. Limited by concern for environmental issues (particularly the resulting high levels of energy consumption), the Mayor decided to include this event in a global energy efficiency policy related to urban lighting. The city has thus elaborated a lighting master plan that aims at renovating the public lighting installations and that has also established a path, “Trails of Light”, for pedestrians to discover the charms of the city. The municipality has engaged itself in a public private partnership with the company INEO for an amount of € 24 million over a period of 15 years in order to implement this project.

Get the LUCI publication on tourism and lighting!

This November, LUCI will present a new publication realized in partnership with Atout France, the national promotional agency linked to the French Ministry of Tourism. The book “Light as a tool for tourism development” identifies key factors that determine how a lighting strategy can contribute to the touristic development of a destination. With testimonies and case studies from cities around the world such as Ghent, Montreal, Medellin, and Chartres, among others, the book will serve as a guide for cities looking to optimise their touristic potential through light.

Contact luci@luciassociation.org for more information!
As the PLUS project reaches completion at the end of this year, partner cities have moved on, completing their new lighting strategies and action plans. These new strategies, which represent a major step forward for all the cities of the project, will be the focus of this autumn’s PLUS events - the “Light Up Your Cities” final conference and the PLUS presentation at the LUCI AGM in Medellin.

They are also the focus of the project’s documents - the PLUS Review, the PLUS Mainstreaming Guide, and the PLUS Showcase - which will keep the work alive beyond the project, ensuring that cities and municipalities from around the world continue to benefit from what the PLUS cities have learnt through this collective endeavour...

PLUS Final Event conference on “Light Up Your Cities” in Eindhoven

The PLUS project’s Final Event “Light Up Your Cities”, took place in Eindhoven (The Netherlands) on the 25th of October 2012.

The conference, held during the Dutch Design Week 2012, was the conclusion of the work of 11 leading European cities and LUCI over the past two years. The PLUS partners shared their innovations, insights and dramatic new approaches to public lighting, with representatives from partner cities presenting the all-new city lighting action plans and strategies produced as a result of the project. The event also featured a panel discussion with PLUS partner cities to discuss the lessons learnt over the two years of the project, as well as keynote speeches by Independent Consultant, Marco Bevolo and Designer, Jacob Alkema, in addition to an exhibition featuring INTERREG projects from partner cities.

Download the presentations made at www.luciassociation.org/plus

Get your copy of the PLUS Mainstream Guide!

This event also saw the release of the PLUS Mainstream Guide - a document bringing together all the information produced within the framework of the project, and accompanying document to the PLUS Review magazine release earlier this year.

Download a copy at www.luciassociation.org/plus!
New lighting action plans and strategies for PLUS cities

The PLUS cities have been busy the past few months drafting their new lighting strategies and action plans. Two lighting experts from the cities of Burgos and Eindhoven tell us about this process...

How did the action plan proceed and what are its key features?

Arthur Noordhoek (Eindhoven): As a result of the PLUS project, the City of Eindhoven has been working on a “Vision and Roadmap Urban Lighting Eindhoven 2030”. Our lighting plan is a result of interviews with representatives of industry, knowledge institutes and the government. It describes the results of an analysis of Eindhoven’s current situation, our principles and our ambitions. It focuses on the scenario for a liveable city in 2030 based on the study of the main drivers of change and a roadmap for the opportunities, technical developments and organizational changes required to reach the desired future.

Jose Cardona Martínez (Burgos): The points of focus of the Burgos Action Plan are divided in four main groups. We plan to develop a lighting master plan in order to save energy and improve the quality of urban lighting. We will also improve communication between stakeholders. The third point is to develop resource-producing strategies such as saving energy from the functional lighting to invest in ambient/architectural lighting. This will lead to indirect benefits for Burgos, such as tourism, one of the most important targets of the city. The fourth point involves substantially improving education and awareness programmes in order to optimise communication and feedback with the citizens and municipal administrations.

How did the feedback from PLUS experts and deep dives help contribute to this?

A. Noordhoek (Eindhoven): The Deep Dive visit and Regional Forum illustrated the current situation of the city. Eindhoven is recognised as a city where innovation in the field of lighting within the Triple Helix cooperation has been applied. The PLUS experts advised us to make clear choices for future rollout and stick to them.

J. Martínez (Burgos): The Deep Dives and PLUS experts’ contributions have been definitely very important for the drafting of Burgos’ Strategy and Action Plan. There are many topics in the Action Plan that come directly from the expert conclusions of the Deep Dive. For example, the adaptation of lighting to the EU standards, the proposal to increase the use of dimming or to replace all the mercury lamps in the city.

What are the next steps now?

A. Noordhoek (Eindhoven): The plan is now under consideration at the City Council.

J. Martínez (Burgos): Due to the economic situation, it is clear that it is not the moment to make big investments. So, in the short term, the next steps will be focused on two specific tasks - planning and educating. So first, we will develop a lighting master plan for functional (main streets, bridges, tunnels, etc.) and ambient/architectural (heritage sites, facades, squares, etc.) lighting. Besides this, we will focus on education and awareness programmes (for adults and children) to improve communication between different stakeholders and ensure citizens’ acceptance of future lighting initiatives. The rest of the actions programmed in the Action Plan, needing more investment, will be developed in a medium to long-term perspective, in a time frame up to 2020.

City of Venice to get new public lighting system

The fourth edition of ForumLED Europe, the international congress and exhibition bringing together key players in the LED sector, will take place in Paris this year on the 21st and 22nd of November 2012.

LUCI will be chairing a conference session on the use of LED lighting in cities’ historical areas. The session will feature speakers from the City of Venice, which recently decided to rapidly transform its public lighting system.

The system which currently consists of 52 000 light units, will be renovated to include LED technology, a photovoltaic self-supply, and special lighting systems to avoid light pollution along the city’s bridges.

The municipality foresees energy savings of up to 6 500 000 kWh per year, with a reduction of 4 500 000 kg of CO₂.

More information on the ForumLED conferences at www.forumled.com
**Forum**

*Jyväskylä launches new EU project Light in the City*

A new two year European project on urban lighting, “Light in the City”, involving four cities, was launched this September under the Europe for Citizens programme aid scheme. The project is led by the City of Jyväskylä with partners including the Swedish city of Eskilstuna, Hasselt in Belgium and the City of Tartu in Estonia. LUCI will be involved in the project as a communication associate.

The main aim of “Light in the City” is to promote energy efficiency, one of the Europe for Citizens programme’s most important goals in 2012, and boost citizens’ knowledge and debate on the European Union’s environmental legislation concerning lighting.

In order to achieve these aims, conferences on lighting will be arranged in partner cities. Guerrilla Lighting events will also be staged after the conferences, in order to challenge ordinary people to get involved in the development of urban lighting.

More information on www.luciassociation.org soon!

*Abu Dhabi - setting new standards for energy efficient lighting*

The City of Abu Dhabi is undergoing major structural changes with new standards and specifications to improve its public lighting network. Martin Valentine, Lighting Expert at the Municipality of Abu Dhabi, tells us more about the city’s plans...

**What are the key features of the new Abu Dhabi Sustainable Lighting Strategy?**

We have reduced all the Emirate’s street lighting levels roughly by half. Abu Dhabi is now on the same level as much of Europe and the U.S. and the lowest in the Middle East by some margin. Current practice saves around 70% energy and over 1.1 billion Dirhams. All street lighting is now undertaken with LED and all public realm contains qualitative, efficiency and technical guidelines to prohibit current bad practices. More guidelines have been established for urban and lighting master planning to be undertaken concurrently from project concept stages all the way through to project detail design and tender. New technical specifications are now issued under Decree and contain all the criteria for design and technology. They are tough, perhaps the toughest lighting standards in world from what I have researched, but given the extreme environmental factors here, a very necessary layer to have in place amongst the strategic side of things.

**What new projects are being planned at the moment?**

_all new residential city projects are being designed according to the new standards and with the lighting planned from inception. On top of all new projects, we will be retrofitting all existing street lighting to LED and reducing lighting levels over the next five years. This alone is in excess of 320 000 fixtures. We have around 300 new parks planned for 2030 as well as a programme of refurbishment of current parks and public realm. Other areas that will be addressed will be streetscapes, shop-fronts and building lighting, an Emirate wide lighting management and monitoring system, new statutory light pollution reduction standards in line with IESNA and CIE, new signage and a digital way-finding network, among other things. We are also now looking at alignment of lighting standards with the other six Emirates to produce UAE national standards in various fields. Finally there will be an Abu Dhabi Sustainable Public Realm Lighting Code published in the next 12 months; a 250-300 page book to cover every aspect mentioned above and become a reference for lighting in Abu Dhabi at every stage of the design and installation process.

Read the full interview on www.luciassociation.org
The Annonciade wall in Lyon (France)

The City of Lyon recently implemented an innovative project that combines art and permanent lighting. Jacques Fournier, Head of Studies and Design in the Public Lighting Department of the City of Lyon, tells us more...

“Create an interior, living-room type atmosphere for the public space”

What was the context of the project?
The Annonciade wall, was a plain wall whose only purpose was to delimit the St. Charles Clinic parking lot adjoining the Rue de l’Annonciade street, on the Croix Rousse hill. We initiated this project in order to liven up the street, and create a more cosy atmosphere in the area. The idea was to mix the sensorial pleasures of passers-by, providing a sort of “living room tapestry”. We thus created a painted background on a surface measuring over 600 m², with three immense images representing work by photographer Yann Arthus-Bertrand rendered as paintings by CitéCréation, and then conceived special lighting for it.

How did you achieve this?
The lighting concept depended on the main characteristics of the panorama comprised of paintings and plants. At night, the goal is to convey an interior, living-room type atmosphere that is soft and warm, thus affirming the intimate nature of the Croix Rousse hill. This is based on three elements:

- the installation of “shade-type” lamp fixtures like those found in a living room to create a subdued atmosphere;
- highlighting the paintings (reprographies of photographs by Yann Arthus-Bertrand);
- accentuating the vegetation.

Lighting the panorama required changing the street lighting on Rue de l’Annonciade. We used three different lighting directions to highlight the paintings and vegetal walls. Decorative lights of the shade type were mounted on the panorama. Pattern projectors were hidden on opposite facades and painted in the color of the building. Spotlights on the plants were installed behind the panorama in such a way that they cannot be seen from the street. Streetlights were mounted on brackets on the building facades at a height of 8 metres.

In terms of chromatic composition, we chose an intermediate white light tone (4200°K IRC 90) on paintings and vegetation, and as a chromatic contrast, a monochrome red light from the lamps with shades to reveal the “tapestry” and light the sidewalks.

What are the results?
We have naturally managed to save a lot of energy as compared to the previous installation. While the initial public lighting installation consisted of 12 points of light for a power of 3000 W, the new lighting scheme has 22 points of light for a power of 2 392 W. The new project thus enables savings of 4629 kWh/year.

Passers-by now have a more pleasant experience as they climb the Croix Rousse hill on this street as they discover the different plants and their scents, the birds and butterflies attracted to these plants, and what’s more, food for thought on the questions posed by Yann Arthus-Bertrand’s photos on the future of our planet and its agricultural products, such as the market gardens around Timbuktu in Mali or the crops in the Misiones province in Argentina.
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