

## The NEMA Lighting Systems Division

The Lighting Systems Division of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) provides an organizational framework for manufacturers of lighting equipment to work together on projects that impact their industry and their businesses.

One of the major outcomes of this cooperative effort is the establishment of technical code requirements and standards. Related issues, such as product compatibility, conformity assessment, and safety, are also addressed. State and federal legislative and regulatory matters are also dealt with on an industry-wide basis. Exercising the collective industry voice, NEMA speaks with considerably more authority than any one company could. Collecting and disseminating statistical and market data are industry-wide projects that provide new tools and resources for member companies.

The Lighting Systems Division is one of eight divisions of NEMA. Division members include manufacturers of lamps, ballasts, luminaires, lighting controls, emergency lighting, solid state lighting, and other emerging lighting technologies. A team of NEMA staff professionals support and implement the activities of each product section.

### About NEMA

NEMA, formed in 1926, is the largest U.S. trade association representing manufacturers of products used in the generation, transmission, distribution, control, and end-use of electricity. Approximately 400 NEMA member companies serve a domestic electroindustry market in excess of \$100 billion.

## Technical Activities

Among the technical projects undertaken by division members are the following:

- National Electrical Code, ASHRAE/IESNA 90.1, and International Energy Conservation Code revisions
- Standard for street and outdoor area LED luminaires
- Metal halide lamp-ballast compatibility research and standards
- EMF/EMC, harmonics, and power quality review
- Open digital protocol for lighting control devices
- UL self-ballasted lamp, ballast, and luminaire safety standards revisions
- Fluorescent lamp and ballast dimming compatibility research and standards
- Various lighting application guides and white papers
- NEMA Premium Electronic Ballasts and NEMA Premium Emergency Lighting Products Programs



Supported by the expertise of Lighting Systems Division members, NEMA is secretariat for the American National Standards Lighting Group, which oversees standards programs for Committees C78 (lamps), C79 (nomenclature), C81 (lamp bases, holders, and gauges), and C82 (ballasts).

NEMA is also the secretariat for the CANENA Lighting Technical Harmonization Committee (THC34), which is responsible for North America

standards for self-ballasted lamps, luminaires, and ballasts.

Internationally, NEMA members provide leadership in the International Electrotechnical Commission Technical Committee 34 on lamps, ballasts, bases and holders, luminaires, and lighting controls.

Division representatives are also involved in the review of technical work of other organizations such as CSA, ASTM, IEEE, NECA, IESNA, NAED, and IALD.

## Government Affairs

Through NEMA, the Lighting Systems Division develops industry positions on legislative and regulatory initiatives that may affect member products, markets, and customers. The division is strongly committed to providing high quality, energy efficient, safety lighting to the public and works to ensure that the interests of the lighting consumer and the lighting manufacturer are considered during government policy debate. NEMA works at federal, state, and local levels attempting to ensure that government is properly informed when making public policy decisions.

## Energy Efficiency

NEMA's members are in the energy efficiency business. As such, NEMA has exercised influence and played a key role in the legislative and regulatory arenas for many years. The Lighting Systems Division is:

- Advising the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on lighting research and market transformation needs.
- Engaging in legislative work on energy and lighting issues.
- Monitoring energy-efficiency rulemakings and standards

affecting lighting products by federal and state agencies.

- Supporting the adoption of the ASHRAE/IESNA 90.1 lighting provisions.
- Working with market transformation and environmental groups to advance market use of energy-efficient lighting technologies.
- Advising DOE and EPA on Energy Star Buildings and Energy Star voluntary product labeling programs.
- Advocating market-based approaches to enhance the use and penetration of energy-efficient technologies.

## Environmental

Members of the Lighting Systems Division believe that environmentally sound policies and intelligent manufacturing go hand-in-hand. Key division priorities in the environment include:

- Addressing fluorescent lamp disposal issues and legislation in various states.
- Promotion of proper management of spent lamps.
- Maintaining [www.lamprecycle.org](http://www.lamprecycle.org) as a one-stop site for information on state and federal recycling laws and recycling information.
- Addressing the potential impacts of artificial night lighting on humans, plants, and animals.
- Addressing the carbon footprint of lighting products from cradle-to-grave.

## Other Key Government Activities

Division members will also serve industry and consumer needs by:

- Providing information and education related to outdoor lighting issues and quality lighting and working with states and municipalities in addressing night “light pollution” and “light trespass” issues.
- Advocating for relief from U.S. and international regulations on transportation of lamps containing trace amounts of radioactive materials.
- Meeting with government agencies on lighting issues, e.g. the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Food and Drug Administration, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Communications Commission, and Federal Trade Commission.
- Monitoring foreign regulations and legislation affecting lighting products in Europe, Asia, and Latin America.

## Market Economics

Through NEMA, member companies are able to develop and implement tailored, industry-specific market and statistical programs that benefit participating companies. Among the reports available to participating members are those covering:

- Product orders and sales
- Market forecasting
- Shipments by trading areas
- Channels of distribution
- Financial and operating ratios
- Wages and benefits
- Foreign trade

The association also conducts economic analyses on the impact of legislation and regulations on member products, and monitors and reports on key industry market indicators. All programs comply with strict NEMA statistical confidentiality policies.

## Industry Programs

The Lighting Systems Division is a sponsor and supporter of several activities, including:

- National Lighting Bureau. The NLB is an educational, non-technical organization that promotes “high-benefit lighting” through magazine articles, awards programs, press releases, and other publications.
- National Council on Qualifications for the Lighting Professions. NCQLP promotes high-quality lighting applications through its education and examination requirements for individual practitioner certification in the lighting industry ([www.ncqlp.org](http://www.ncqlp.org)).
- Next Generation Lighting Industry Alliance. NGLIA serves to foster industry-government partnerships to accelerate the technical foundation and ultimate commercialization of solid state lighting systems ([www.nglia.org](http://www.nglia.org)).
- Lighting Controls Association. The LCA promotes the benefits, specification, and utilization of lighting control products.
- California Lighting Technology Center. CLTC stimulates the application of energy-efficient lighting through research, innovation, and partnerships.

## enLIGHTen America Campaign

In late 2008, the Lighting Systems Division embarked on a joint marketing campaign to promote energy-efficient lighting upgrades for new and existing buildings (commercial, industrial, and

institutional) and disseminate information about lighting and lighting controls that will save energy, provide a return on investment, and increase asset value. During the first year of operation, the Campaign reached almost a million people in the real estate and building management markets. It provided division members with over 1,500 sales leads. The Campaign involves presentations at trade shows, special articles and advertisements in major building trade press journals, press releases, etc. For more information, see [www.nemasavesenergy.org](http://www.nemasavesenergy.org).



## Membership

Membership in NEMA is open to any firm actively engaged in the manufacture and/or design for manufacture of electrical products in North America that are within the NEMA scope and that are for sale on the open market. Membership of foreign companies is subject to product section policies and NEMA Board of Governor approval. There are currently about forty-five member companies in the Lighting Systems Division.

NEMA operates on a fee-for-service basis. Each product section establishes its projects and activities and approves an annual operating budget.

To apply for NEMA membership, go to <http://www.nema.org> and click on “membership” on the left-hand side of the screen.



**NATIONAL ELECTRICAL  
MANUFACTURERS  
ASSOCIATION**

# LIGHTING SYSTEMS DIVISION

For more information Contact:  
Ron Runkles, Industry Director  
NEMA  
1300 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1752  
Rosslyn, VA 22209-3801  
Phone: 703-841-3278  
Fax: 703-841-3378  
E-mail: [ron\\_runkles@nema.org](mailto:ron_runkles@nema.org)  
URL : [www.nema.org](http://www.nema.org)  
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