



*NEMA Standards Publication LL 10-2020*

## **Replacing HID Lamps with LED Lamps: Light Output Equivalency Claims**

*Published by*

**National Electrical Manufacturers Association  
1300 North 17th Street, Suite 900  
Rosslyn, VA 22209**

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## CONTENTS

1	Overview .....	1
2	General.....	2
2.1	Scope .....	2
2.2	References.....	2
3	Basics of HID lamps.....	3
4	Adjustments to Luminous Flux.....	6
4.1	Lumen Maintenance Differences.....	6
4.2	Spectral Effects .....	6
4.2.1	Mesopic Lighting .....	6
4.2.2	Color Rendering Effects.....	7
4.2.3	Spectrum Correction .....	7
4.3	Other Effects .....	8
5	Calculation of Equivalency.....	8
6	Conclusions.....	10
7	Appendix: Directionality Corrections .....	11

## Figures

<i>Figure 1: Initial light output as a function of input wattage, for HPS lamps .....</i>	5
<i>Figure 2: Initial light output as a function of input wattage, for metal halide lamps. ....</i>	5
<i>Figure 3: An example of a directional highbay LED replacement lamp [20]. The LEDs are mounted on the downward facing surface.....</i>	11
<i>Figure 4: Example of a Corn-cob lamp [21], with LEDs (not visible) mounted on the horizontal surface opposite from the base. The photometric plot (the lamp base is at 180°) shows the light at 0° (and nearby angles) from the LEDs mounted on the horizontal surface. ....</i>	12
<i>Figure 5: Example of a corn-cob lamp without LEDs mounted on the top (or bottom) horizontal surfaces [22]. The photometric plot is symmetric with no light at 0° and 180°. The emission of light in any direction perpendicular to the lamp axis is Lambertian.....</i>	13
<i>Figure 6: Example of an LED HID replacement lamp [23], intended for use in Wall Pack fixtures. Unlike the examples in Figure 4 and Figure 5, LEDs are located only on part of the cylindrical body of the heatsink, producing a directional beam. ....</i>	14
<i>Figure 7: Example of a 250W metal halide HID lamp, with its light distribution.....</i>	15
<i>Figure 8: Light distribution of the lamp in Figure 7, averaged over the C planes (blue curve). The green-shaded area is the upright from the lamp, that would not be generated by an LED source with a lambertian emission pattern (orange curve). ....</i>	16

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## 1 Overview

Light-emitting diode (LED) lamp products designed to replace high-intensity discharge (HID) lamps are becoming common in the marketplace. However, there are large variations in the luminous flux of LED lamps that claim to be equivalent to a particular HID lamp. These variations are leading to confusion for customers and an uneven playing field for manufacturers. For other lamp types, the variation in claimed equivalency is not presently a concern. The Energy Star lamps specification carefully defines equivalency to incandescent or halogen lamps. With LED replacement lamps for linear fluorescent lamps, there is also limited variation in the light output of the linear fluorescent lamps that are being replaced. HID equivalency is more difficult to define. Because of the large variation in lamp wattages, light output, and directionality provided by the luminaire, the concept of equivalency is more complicated for HID lamp replacement.

We expect manufacturers to use this Standard during the preparation of their HID equivalency claims and to reference it as support for those claims. End users, specifiers, and entities establishing requirements may also use it to ensure that sufficient light output is obtained in their applications.

## **2 General**

### **2.1 Scope**

The purpose of this Standard is to describe a method to establish reasonable claims of initial light output equivalency for single-ended omnidirectional LED replacement lamps that are intended to replace HID lamps.

The method accounts for two factors that influence the equivalency claims:

- a. Improved lumen maintenance vs. HID. Because LED lamps have a longer useful life and their light output degrades more slowly than most HID lamps, this factor results in initial luminous flux for an LED replacement lamp that is lower than the equivalent HID lamp. This factor is independent of the luminaire.
- b. The spectrum of the light, in the case of outdoor (or other low-light-level) applications. In darker environments, reaction time is faster, recognition of objects and people is more accurate, and the perception of brightness is higher if the light source has high color rendering. This factor depends on the spectrum of the light and is independent of the luminaire.

The Standard does not address other lamp characteristics, such as safety, physical dimensions, other light quality parameters, or reporting requirements. Because of the strong dependence on applications, it also does not provide corrections for the directionality of a light source, though an informative appendix addressing directionality is included.