For Your Information ...

Using Battery Powered Emergency Backup Ballasts in Conjunction with Lutron Dimming Ballasts

Overview

In commercial fluorescent applications, battery backup ballasts are sometimes used for required emergency and egress lighting. Battery backup ballasts provide one solution for addressing emergency lighting. These ballasts provide light on a temporary basis when normal power has been interrupted. Some of the major manufacturers are Bodine Emergency Lighting, Exide Technologies and Iota Engineering.

Typical Wiring Diagram:

Emergency Ballast Recommendations

Lutron fluorescent ballasts are designed to provide lamps with a precise amount of voltage to ensure long lamp life, flicker-free performance and lamp balance. The addition of an emergency ballast can affect the amount of voltage delivered to the lamps. It is imperative that any emergency ballast should not significantly alter the amount of voltage that is delivered to the lamp and filaments. We recommend choosing emergency ballasts from manufacturers who take these considerations into account. Please refer to the emergency ballast manufacturer for compatibility.

Wiring Recommendations

While the wiring method may change for each manufacturer, the main function is to illuminate one lamp or two lamps within the chosen fixture in an emergency condition. There are several guidelines for using this technology with Lutron dimming ballasts.

- Always keep the lamp wires as short as possible. The total lamp wire length for Lutron fluorescent ballasts includes the wire length of the back up device. Please see Lutron ballast specifications for maximum allowable lamp wire length.
- Depending on the fixture layout there may be a slight imbalance of illumination on a multi-lamp ballast during normal operation.
- Contact Lutron Technical Support for further information.

Worldwide Technical and Sales Assistance

If you need assistance, call the toll-free Lutron Technical Support Center. Please provide exact model number when calling. 24 hours/day + 7 days/week

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