

Human Centric Lighting Key to Workplace Environment, Necessary in Modern Design, Say Experts at Lutron-hosted Event

Roundtable of industry luminaries discusses how trend may help influence productivity and enable enhanced well-being, creating amenities that support employee attraction and retention

COOPERSBURG, Pennsylvania (February 12, 2019) – Daylight, views of the outside, and control of light levels are essential parts of human centric lighting, which should be a major factor in designing workplaces, according to expert panelists at the Human Centric Lighting Roundtable hosted by Lutron, held December 14, 2018, in Chicago.

Expanding on such concepts as the power of daylight, the role of smart technology and the increasing use of full-spectrum color and white tuning, the panelists discussed how a focus on human centric lighting can be instrumental in enabling enhanced well-being and happiness, making spaces more attractive for employers, workers, and customers.

“Human centric implies that we’re designing light to really enhance health, well-being and productivity,” said Vivian Loftness, professor of architecture at Carnegie Mellon University, noting that daylight and personal control can make a profound difference in people’s experience of the built environment.

In addition to Loftness, the panel included lighting designer Randy Burkett of St. Louis-based Randy Burkett Lighting Design; architect Gary Bouthillette of Los Angeles’ IA Interior Architects; Arturo Banuelos, managing director with the property management firm JLL; and building science specialist Brent Protzman of Lutron.

The panel was moderated by Reed Kroloff, principal at jones | kroloff.

Among other topics, the panelists discussed:

- The importance of quality light. Thanks to inexpensive and easily accessible technology, modern lighting can be precisely tuned to specific color temperatures and changing intensities while still maintaining a high CRI (color rendering index), a measure of color fidelity. All of these attributes help contribute to occupant comfort and space attractiveness.

“This is a huge leap in the lighting world that has allowed us to do much more customized design,” said Loftness.

- A definition of human centric lighting. The panelists observed that human centric lighting touches on a variety of elements, including quality of light, the ability to control light, and biophilia – a human connection to nature, which includes views of the outside and incorporation

of natural light.

“It's just being sensitive to human needs and human desires, whether it's in an office space, in a hospital, in a classroom or out for a good night on the town,” said Burkett.

- The role of smart technology. The Internet of Things, through automation and connection, is helping to create flexible, dynamic environments that interact with people, support efficiency, and help save on energy. Bouthillette pointed out that smart lighting control technology allows his clients to “change work space into meeting space almost overnight.”.
- How human centric lighting will impact the future. Among many companies, aspects of human centric lighting are already a key consideration of any architectural and design plan – a trend that will only continue, the panel observed. “We need to evolve as time [moves] along,” said Banuelos, to get “the best result for our future clients.”

Bouthillette added that lighting designers should be brought in at the beginning of the process. “It has to be a holistic solution,” he said.

Scott Hanna, senior vice president at Lutron, adds: “These discussions highlight important issues for the industry and in the workplace. Lutron believes in illuminating people’s experiences with human centric lighting, focusing on influencing productivity, supporting occupants’ comfort, and enabling enhanced well-being through a combination of natural light, quality light, connections to the outdoors, and creating dynamic spaces with automation and personal control. Lutron solutions provide amenities that help attract and retain tenants and employees.”

You can watch the video and learn more about how Lutron illuminates the human experience at lutron.com/HumanCentricLighting.

About Lutron Electronics (www.lutron.com)

Founded in 1961, Lutron Electronics is headquartered in Coopersburg, Pennsylvania. From dimmers for the home, to lighting management systems for entire buildings, the company offers more than 15,000 energy-saving products, sold in more than 100 countries. In the US alone, Lutron products save an estimated 10 billion kWh of electricity, or approximately \$1 billion in utility costs per year. The company’s early inventions— including the first solid-state electronic dimmer invented by Lutron’s founder, Joel Spira—are now at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History in Washington, DC.

###

Corporate Contact

Robert Dekker
Communications Director- PR
Lutron Electronics Co., Inc.
(484) 547-7720
rdekker@lutron.com

Agency Contact

Jim Dougherty
Senior Account Manager
Domus Inc
(215) 341-1211
jdougherty@domusinc.com