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Compact fluorescent lamps help tackle climate change

Research shows that carbon dioxide emissions, one of the key greenhouse gases responsible for changing the world's climate, are occurring at a rate double the capacity that the Earth can assimilate. At concentrations of 390 ppm, they are at their highest level for over 400,000 years. Lighting is a basic necessity for many of the world's people and greater use of compact fluorescent lamps is widely considered to be one of the simplest options to reduce carbon emissions quickly.

TRUE OR FALSE?

Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), also known as energy saving lamps, are widely considered to be the quickest and simplest option for reducing carbon emissions. But misconceptions about them are causing some people to hesitate when considering the switch from conventional lighting.

Below, some of the commonest misconceptions are challenged:

Frequent switching reduces the life of CFLs.

FALSE: in fact a CFL's life is no longer affected by frequent switching. Current standards for 'Energy Saving Recommended' accreditation requires over 3,000 switching cycles per 8,000 hours of tested life, which is many more than would be necessary for normal domestic use.

Megaman produces heavy duty CFLs with a switching cycle capability of up to 600,000 and 15,000 hours' life. This is thanks to the Ingenium technology which combines improved life cycle switching and a shorter preheating time with an integral cooling tube that keeps operating temperatures to a minimum for enhanced safety.

CFLs are too big.

FALSE: the latest generations of CFLs are no longer large. In some cases, they are slightly smaller than regular household bulbs or equivalent and the new classic shapes look almost the same as regular bulbs.

CFLs consume so much energy when first switched on.

FALSE: CFLs do not consume any greater energy during start up and run very efficiently immediately after the first two to three seconds.

CFLs give a colder colour light than ordinary bulbs.

FALSE: CFLs emit the same warm light level as regular bulbs – between 2,600 and 2,800° Kelvin. This is under the Energy Saving Trust's 'Energy Saving Recommended' accreditation.

CFLs flicker with a stroboscopic effect at 50 times on/off per second.

FALSE: CFLs give a constant, flicker-free, non-stroboscopic light. They operate at high frequency through their electronic controller at between 30,000-50,000 hertz (normal mains voltage cycles at just 50 hertz or cycles per second).

You can't dim CFLs.

FALSE: there are new CFLs available right now that you can dim on ordinary domestic dimmer switches or alternately by staged dimming using a standard light switch.

Megaman provides both types of dimmable CFLs, namely the Dimmerable (linear dimming on dimmer switches) and DorS Dimming (4-step dimming on standard light switch).

CFLs are more dangerous.

FALSE: CFLs are much safer to use in confined areas as they produce very little heat when compared to the very hot regular bulbs. They are much safer for use where children are concerned and many are now used in children's light fittings for this reason. Moreover, CFLs burn so much cooler that there is no risk of scorching or discolouration on lampshades or ceilings.

Megaman offers CFL reflectors that can directly replace the blazing hot halogen bulbs, namely the CFL GU10 and CFL GX53, which fit neatly into existing housings.

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Energy saving lamps are widely considered to be the quickest and simplest option for reducing carbon omissions.

Green attributes of Megaman lamps

- ▶ RoHS Compliance
- ▶ Lead-free glass
- ▶ Less than 3mg mercury per lamp
- ▶ Plastic lamp base – no more rust
- ▶ Covered lamps embodied with silicone protection to hold shattered glass and prevent mercury leakage
- ▶ Product recovery rate reaches 82 per cent

THE CONVENIENT MOVE

There are no longer any reasons why we should be negative towards CFLs. They will last for a period of between six and 15 years, depending on which product type you choose. Energy savings will be a minimum of 75 per cent of the energy burnt with an old fashioned bulb and the CFL emits much less heat than incandescent bulbs, which is a major contribution in reducing energy consumption from air-conditioners, thus further reducing CO₂ emissions.

“ We should operate profitable business with social responsibility, which means that we have to minimise negative effects to the environment. ”

A CFL MAKER WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Core values, such as environmental concerns and social responsibility, are affecting Megaman's activities on a daily basis. Megaman CFLs are designed and manufactured in accordance with strict ecodesign guidelines that minimise the usage of natural resources and hazardous substances, as well as emissions. To this end, Megaman lamps last longer and achieve an 82 per cent product recovery rate.

Megaman, a leading brand in energy saving lamps, is also an innovative leader in lamp design and the associated technology. Its products are produced in a world class manufacturing plant equipped with state of the art production lines and certified by ISO9001, ISO14001, OHSAS18001 and SA8000. Megaman upholds sustainable development throughout its business activities. According to the Chairman, "Natural resources are getting scarce. Climate change is



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accelerating. Business operations consume energy and natural resources to make profit. In return, we should operate profitable business with social responsibility, which means that we have to minimise negative effects to the environment and provide a healthy and pleasant working environment for everyone. After all, people are the most important asset of a company. We must take good care of them."

Nothing is more important than taking action to save our planet.

Organisation

Founded in 1994, Megaman is a renowned brand in the compact fluorescent lamp industry. The company was a pioneer that introduced the classic, candle-shaped CFL in the late 1990s. In 2001, it invented the CFL GU10 reflector lamp to replace halogen bulbs and later the dimmable CFLs. Megaman offers a full range of high performance and eco-friendly CFLs to bring a completely new and energy efficient lighting experience to our customers.

Enquiries

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