

For Immediate Release

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Ballastar[®] family increases options in dimming

*Universal Lighting Technologies' dimming
fluorescent family is now even more versatile*

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (October 21, 2001) – Universal Lighting Technologies, a leading manufacturer of electronic and magnetic ballasts, has upgraded existing models of its Ballastar[®] line of high-frequency dimming electronic ballasts for T8 lamps. These ballasts are ideal for conference rooms, offices, atriums and other areas where energy savings can be maximized.

The Ballastar[®] V5 variable-dimming ballast allows continuous dimming from 100 to 5 percent light output. The design incorporates over voltage protection of the control circuit, which protects the ballast if line voltage is accidentally applied to the low voltage control leads. The ballasts also provide excellent lamp performance and energy savings and are available in one, two and three lamp configurations in 120- and 277-volt designs.

“We’ve engineered our ballasts to overcome lamp performance issues such as swirling, lamp ‘drop-out’ or flashing,” said Chris Dimino, director of electronic products. “Also, we continue to offer improved performance in dimming ballasts with our control protection circuit and low 5 percent dimming levels.”

Variable lighting options provide excellent energy saving potential by allowing the user to control energy and light levels in rooms where some natural light exists, as well as darker environments such as conference rooms. The Ballastar[®] variable dimming ballast, in conjunction with photo sensors, adjusts automatically during “peak demand hours,” dimming electric light to a lower level and maximizing daylight harvesting.

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Complementing the continuous dimming products are Ballastar® light level switching ballasts. These high-frequency T8 ballasts can be switched between two or three pre-set light levels using two standard wall switches. The S50 model achieves light levels of 100 or 50 percent, while the industry exclusive S30 model achieves 100, 60 or 30 percent light levels. All lamps remain lit during switch dimming, allowing the user to maintain consistent illumination. Also available in one to three lamp configurations in 120- and 277-volt designs, the ballasts meet California Title 24 and ASHRAE 90.1 requirements.

Universal Lighting Technologies' dimming ballasts are fully compatible with standard industry controls. All of the Ballastar® models also feature rapid start operation, low total harmonic distortion, energy savings and easy control connections.

"We have a dimming ballast for virtually any application," Dimino adds. "By providing the lighting community with a comprehensive dimming line, we offer solutions to the growing demand for energy efficient products."

Universal Lighting Technologies, formerly MagneTek Lighting Products, is an industry leader in lighting ballast technology and design. Based in Nashville, Tenn., Universal Lighting Technologies has offered the most innovative selection of lighting ballasts for more than 50 years. With operations and distribution worldwide, the products of Universal Lighting Technologies are marketed under the Universal® and Triad® brand names.

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Photo Description: Universal Lighting Technologies' Ballastar® T8 fluorescent dimming product line offers three options for variable lighting control – continuous dimming (100% to 5%) and light level switching (either 100/50% or 100/60/30%).