

HOW LIGHTING AFFECTS PRODUCTIVITY IN THE WORKPLACE

BY FOCUS EARTH GREEN MEDIA

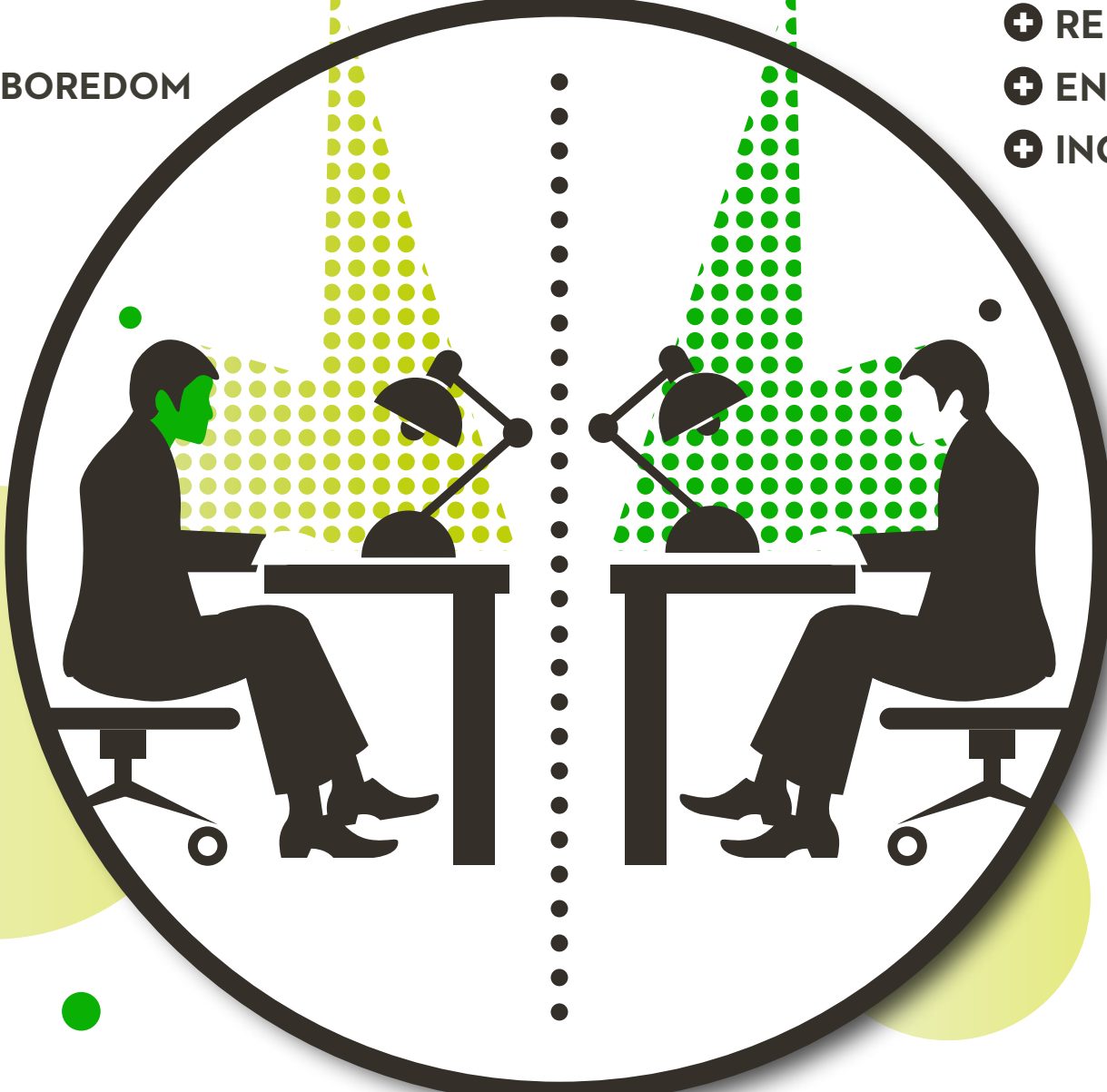
THE ADVANTAGES OF A WELL-LIT ENVIRONMENT ARE PROFOUND. IT'S EASIER TO FOCUS (LITERALLY) UNDER QUALITY LIGHT. CONVERSELY, POOR LIGHTING CAN NEGATIVELY IMPACT YOUR ENTIRE WORKPLACE.

DISADVANTAGES OF POOR LIGHTING

- EYE STRAIN
- DROWSINESS & BOREDOM
- HEADACHES

ADVANTAGES OF QUALITY LIGHTING

- + REDUCED STRAIN
- + ENHANCED MOOD
- + INCREASED COMFORT



A CLOSER LOOK:

A study performed by the American Society of Interior Design showed that 68% of employees in the United States are dissatisfied with their workplace lighting. Environmental consulting companies like Focus Earth seek to change that statistic.

The strobe effect, commonly seen in traditional fluorescents, is caused by voltage fluctuation that leads to intensity variations. This fluctuation in brightness can cause headaches and discomfort, reducing the performance levels of everyone in the office.

Eye strain rapidly diminishes concentration and leads to reduced performance levels. Drowsiness and boredom hinder productivity, and do little for employee motivation.

Ideal light conditions in an office environment are between 30-50 foot candles (FCs) at the work surface area. Depending on the difficulty and size of production, industrial workspaces can require between 25 and 200 FCs.

When working in the appropriate light environment, employees report fewer headaches and better moods. The increase in comfort level also has a positive impact on productivity and motivation.

Well-lit offices are easier to work in, and reduced fatigue supports higher performance levels among employees. When your team is able to focus without strain, it will increase the overall energy level of your company.

A MORE ENLIGHTENED PATH:

WHILE NATURAL LIGHT IS OFTEN THE BEST FORM OF ILLUMINATION, IT IS NOT ALWAYS AN OPTION. WHEN CHOOSING MAN-MADE LIGHTING TECHNOLOGIES, IT'S IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER THE BRIGHTNESS, TEMPERATURE, AND UNIFORMITY OF THE SYSTEM INSTALLED.

BRIGHTNESS -

There is a delicate balance in finding the right illumination levels for your workspace, but LED and smart sensor technologies make it easier to achieve a standard of excellence. Depending on your profession, you'll probably want somewhere between 30-50 foot candles (FCs) at the work surface area.

TEMPERATURE -

Temperature can refer to the amount of heat coming from a light source OR the color temperature of the luminaire (rated in degrees Kelvin for lighting). LED systems emit less heat than traditional halogens, and spare employees from being blasted by hot light bulbs.

The desired color temperature will vary depending on where you work. Hospitals tend to opt for a brighter white (5000K) to maximize visibility when treating patients. Hotels and restaurants often prefer a pale yellow/amber (2700K) to remind patrons of soft candlelight.

UNIFORMITY -

Regardless of your profession, the uniformity of your light source is important. Uniform lighting reduces the amount of times your eyes need to adjust to an environment. Too many shadows can cause inconsistencies in production, and avoiding "hot spots" (blindingly bright areas) near staircases is always a good idea.

LED lighting systems can produce evenly lit settings, but watch out for internally driven units! LEDs with internal power supplies tend to overheat the circuit board directly above the driver, which reduces light quality and consistency over time. An Independence LED white paper delivers an in-depth report on the differences between these two power supply methods.

Lighting is an everyday experience in the workplace and can have a profound impact on your organization's productivity. It is in the best interest of every employer to make sure the office is well lit and comfortable for everyone to work in.

GETTING FOCUSED:

Focus Earth provides free lighting consultation for commercial offices and industrial facilities. When you contact us, you'll get a free energy report outlining the advantages of a new lighting system and how to purchase it.

All Focus Earth solutions are energy efficient and smart system compatible. LEDs use 40-85% less electric energy than traditional lighting, so you'll reduce your carbon footprint via abated electric demand.

GIVING BACK:

If your organization chooses a lighting system through Focus Earth, we'll donate a portion of the project to a charity of your choice!

CONTACT FOCUS EARTH TO UPGRADE YOUR WORKPLACE LIGHTING AND SIMULTANEOUSLY REDUCE YOUR ENERGY EXPENDITURE.

GOOD PEOPLE ~ GOOD PLANET