

We are a specialist lighting distributor based in Hemel Hempstead U.K.

We have a strong history with lamps (purchase and sales) on a global scale and have been trading both domestically & internationally for 18 years.

Our web-site is www.barbizoneurope.co.uk please visit here for further information.

It has been brought to our attention courtesy of OSRAM U.K. that there is an initiative to phase out mercury lamps.

Below, is how this would affect our business:

OSRAM SIRIUS lamps in particular form an important part of our business.

The fixtures that these are used in are made specifically to the design of these lamps and cannot be changed or altered to allow for different light source technologies. In addition, alternate light sources such as LED are not (at this stage) anywhere near as reliable and/or consistent in either quality or output.

We are well placed to formulate this opinion given that we also purchase and supply LED fixtures.

Feedback from our customers suggests that conventional higher wattage or specialist technology lamps are not easy to replace as a light source with LED's.

The output, quality and longevity simply is not there (yet) and for those LED companies that are 'bridging the gap' more quickly than others, their fixtures are extremely expensive.

Almost to repeat, specialty lamps such as SIRIUS, HBO & P-VIP are very difficult to replicate to the same quality levels in LED form at this time.

The consequences of a ban on these particular lamps is huge and expensive to the end users...

In tough times for the global community and where businesses are tightening their belts, watching cash flow and being generally careful with money, it would be very ill advised and very unfair to prevent these lamps still being available. The cost of one of these lamps is miniscule compared to what it would be to have to buy entirely new fixtures and completely re-fit entire lighting rigs.

Alternative technologies are not interchangeable with conventional lamps (as previously mentioned) so any change would be hugely time consuming and financially detrimental to end users.

Hitting people hard in the wallet whilst encouraging them to 'other technologies' in such turbulent times would be hugely unjust.

Therefore my opinion is that now would be a very very bad time to phase out such important lamps.

Answer provided as is by Simon Walsworth on behalf of Barbizon Europe Ltd on the 26th of May 2021.