



E.U. PROPOSED BAN ON TUNGSTEN.....LATEST NEWS...1ST SEPTEMBER 2018

It is now looking likely that most of the lamps we use will be safe. The ones at most risk of going are the R7 end caps so mostly K1, K4, P2/10 etc as some of these are used in domestic fittings. Also E27 caps so all the 137's and S batten types may well disappear!

The E.U. is looking to reduce power consumption and greenhouse gas emission which is perfectly laudable for general use. Once the serious discussions have taken place it seems that common sense has prevailed and they now understand more of our industry. There now seems to be progress in the negotiations.

There will conspiracy theories such as:

- The Chinese want to sell more LED. Of course they do.
- Suppliers want to sell more LED. Of course we do. But, there are very good reasons to do so. Low energy consumption, masses of colour, no heat, no lamp replacement or filter change. This will save time and money and allow you to do far more with the LED equipment.
- Suppliers want you to buy a whole new rig. NOT ENTIRLEY TRUE!
We (David Fitch Services Ltd) have been saying for years that *adding* to your existing rig and you get the best of both worlds. It may mean a new lighting desk (BUT less dimming, saving money) and the prices are now very reasonable compared to a few years ago. The desks can do so much more. People's expectations have moved on and now it is practical. We are quoting and fitting new installations in schools, amateur groups and professional theatre etc with completely LED rigs, as with budgets so tight they need to seriously look at energy consumption. We (David Fitch Services Ltd) look at the venue and advise the best way forward and not try to sell you kit you do not need. Just what is best for YOUR application. Some others just want to sell you "stuff" without knowing why or what to do with it. Look out for a baseball cap on backwards.....
- Was the ban a "Bobby Ewing in the shower moment"for younger readers, Google "Dallas" A 1980'S American television series.... The episode stood the whole of that series on its head, as a "dream sequence".
- Will the E.U. revisit this in a few years time? Open to question.....
- "We will be outside the E.U. by then so it won't affect us". Wrong, where are most tungsten lamps made? EUROPE! Who else makes them? America, Japan, China and a few others but they all come in on container ships to...Rotterdam which last time I looked was in the E.U. and if the transportation is banned...I think I'de better think it out again.

I am working on the principle that we will need to address the whole question and develop a better way forward than in the past. It is called progress and old dinosaurs like me have to think through and update our traditional ways of doing things but remembering basic principles. These have not changed, as when I was a boy we had red, green, blue and yellow colour mixing and what are we using now?Much the same but with better equipment!

More news as it becomes available....but check out www.savestage.lighting