Lighting Controls Submission Categories

Standalone, system-based, or whole house controls including but not limited to:

- Dimmers
- Motion sensors
- Vacancy sensors
- Occupancy sensors
- Photosensors
- Timers
- Combination and multi-function devices
- Whole house systems
- Demand response monitoring and evaluation devices

For connected lighting products, such as "smart" controls and systems, please see the category guidance document.

Competition Scope

- The lighting controls competition is open to products with primary applicability in the residential sector, or in residential-style applications such as hospitality and assisted living environments.
- Lighting controls intended for indoor or indoor/outdoor applications may participate. Controls intended only for outdoor applications are not eligible.
- The competition is intended to highlight the lighting control products that are available for purchase in 2017. As such, products in the market, introduced (or planned for introduction) to the market between January 1, 2017 and January 31, 2018 are eligible to participate in the competition.

Minimum Requirements

- All controls must be compatible with commonly-used CFL or LED energy efficient lamp and fixture technologies. Dimming controls must dim CFL or LED lamps marked "dimmable."
- Multi-station, multi-component or whole-house systems submitted to *Lighting for Tomorrow* for consideration must provide a plug-and-play working sample of the system which includes the various components – similar to a portable demonstration that might be used for customer demonstrations or at a trade show.
- Controls designed for wall-box mounting must be wired with a standard 3-prong 120 volt plug and cord on the input side and a standard 3-prong outlet on the output side.
- Entrants must submit one working prototype or a production-quality control sample for judging. The entry must be a plug-and-play type working sample, similar to what you might use as a customer demo or at a trade show. If the entry is part of a larger system (e.g. a fan kit) provide the necessary component for the judges to see the product functioning in its intended application. For more information, please see the Shipping Instructions document.
    - A prototype is defined as a fully functional representative sample of the lighting control(s) intended to serve as the basis for user evaluation and demonstration.
    - A production-quality control is defined as a lighting control with the same composition and materials as controls currently in production.

- Proposed lighting controls must be suitable for sale by lighting showrooms and other retailers serving the residential new construction DIY and major renovation markets.
- The final submission form must include suggested retail price range information.

Judging Process

Evaluation of LFT entries will take place in the following stages:

1. **Initial screening:** LFT organizers will screen entries by reviewing each submittal to verify that all products entered fall within the scope of the competition. Lighting controls will also be evaluated to make sure all parts necessary to mount and operate the product in its intended application are included and that the controls function properly.
2. **In-person judging:** The judging panel will meet in-person to evaluate the entries (see judging criteria below). Controls will be installed and connected to power and typical lighting loads. The judges will evaluate dimming performance via the test methods outlined in SSL-7.

Judging Criteria

Judges will score each entry according to the following criteria:

Functionality	Does the product or system work as described?
Value	How does the quality of the product compare to the price?
Ease of installation	How simple is it for a consumer to install the lighting control (only for controls intended for DIY installation)? Installation instructions must be provided.
Ease of setup	How simple is it for a consumer to initially program the control and adjust its operating characteristics (only for controls with programmable features)?
Ease of use	How simple or intuitive is it for a consumer to use the lighting control?
Innovation	Has this product employed new and exciting technology or does it offer new, or unusual product or operational features?
Ability to interface with other systems	How well does it work with other systems in the home?
Compatibility with existing lamps and luminaires	How well does it work with currently installed lighting?

Potential Bonus Points

The judging panel may award bonus points for entries exhibiting other desirable characteristics relating to design function, user friendliness, and intended application. Bonus points will be defined by consensus by the 2017 judging panel.