

## Lighting Global Policy for Renewing Test Results

### Version 2

**Last updated:** September 2013

### *Executive Summary:*

Quality Test Method (QTM) tests are valid for a period of two years from the date the results are received by the manufacturers. They must be either renewed or updated to ensure continued support for another two-year period, with the cost of testing borne by the manufacturer.

For renewal, where a product has not changed, the requirements are to use a two-sample Initial Screening Method (ISM) test with randomly procured samples to confirm the original results. The tests should take about 1.5 months from sampling to issuing a report.

For updates to products, new Quality Test Method (QTM) results are required, which typically takes 4-5 months from sampling to issuing a report. If interim support is needed while QTM tests are underway, an ISM test can be used to bridge the gap. When there is overlap between an original and next-generation model, Lighting Global also provides three months of gap support to the original product in addition to the standard two-year eligibility period.

### *Detailed Policy:*

Quality Test Method (QTM) results are valid for a period of two years from the date the results are received by the manufacturers to ensure that the information on standardized specifications sheets and used by Lighting Global for market support is up-to-date.

As the two-year renewal date approaches, product manufacturers should coordinate with Lighting Global to renew a product's test results according to the following guidelines:

### **Option 1: Renewal of Test Results for products that remain unchanged**

*Summary of requirements:* Two ISM tests with randomly procured samples that confirm previous QTM results

*Validity:* Additional two years

#### *Details:*

These guidelines apply to products that have not changed since the previous test results. The model name and number remain the same, and there will not be an update to the quality or performance results from previous testing.

Lighting Global will notify the product manufacturer that the product's test results will soon expire. At this point six samples of the product will be procured by Lighting Global from the market or by random sampling at a warehouse specified by the manufacturer, at Lighting Global's discretion. The samples will undergo Initial Screening Method (ISM) testing to validate the soon-to-expire QTM results, with a total test sample size of two (i.e., there will be two ISM tests). If the ISM results from one or more aspects of the product do not match the soon-to-expire QTM results within a reasonable tolerance, Lighting

Global will procure more samples to use for testing these aspects.<sup>1</sup> **The manufacturer is responsible for paying the cost to ship all product samples as well as the cost for renewal testing.**

**If the manufacturer agrees to renewing the test results of the product prior to expiration date of the original test results, Lighting Global will continue to provide support to the manufacturer throughout the renewal process**, even if the renewal process is not completed until after the expiration date of the original QTM results. If the renewal test results indicate the performance of the product matches that from the original QTM testing, the results displayed on the Lighting Global standardized specifications sheet will not change and the updated results will be valid for an additional two years from the end of testing. If the manufacturer's product performs poorer in the renewal process than during the original QTM testing, Lighting Global may then revoke the product's Lighting Global support services and remove the standardized specifications sheet until QTM testing is complete to reissue a specification sheet and restart support.

**If the manufacturer allows the original test results to expire, a 45-day grace period will be in effect during which the manufacturer may still initiate the renewal process.** Following the expiration date of the original test results, the product will be removed from the website and will not be eligible for program support until renewal test results confirm that the product still performs as reported on its standardized specification sheet. If the renewal test results indicate the performance of the product matches that from the original QTM testing, the product will again be included on the website and will retain all of its original program benefits. The results displayed on the Lighting Global standardized specifications sheet will not change and the updated results will be valid for an additional two years from the end of testing.

## **Option 2: Update of Test Results for updated products or products with new generations**

*Summary of requirements:* New QTM testing with randomly procured samples, but with interim support based on ISM tests with manufacturer-supplied samples.

*Validity:* Two years from end of QTM testing

*Details:*

These guidelines apply to products that are being updated or replaced with next generation models. **The new test results from QTM testing will replace the previous results.** Lighting Global will notify the product manufacturer that the product's test results will soon expire. At this point, Lighting Global will randomly procure 18 samples of the product that will undergo QTM testing. The new QTM test results will be used to determine if the updated product or next-generation product will receive Lighting Global support. In parallel, the manufacturer will send Lighting Global three samples of the updated or next generation product to be ISM-tested. The ISM testing allows Lighting Global to provide interim support for the updated product (assuming the samples meet Lighting Global's minimum quality standards) while the QTM testing is underway. **The manufacturer is responsible for paying all shipping costs as well as the cost for renewal testing (both ISM and QTM).**

In cases where a product is being replaced by a next-generation model it is normal to have some overlap when both products are present in the supply chain. To support the transition from one model to another, Lighting Global will provide an additional three months of support for the original version of a product after its test results expire if the next-generation model is still under test or has just completed QTM testing. If support for the original product is required for a longer period, the manufacturer should use the test results renewal procedures described in Option 1 above.

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<sup>1</sup> A "reasonable tolerance" is defined as the average measurement falling below 15% of the original value.