

Case Report

# Sustainable Lighting-Retrofit Versus Dedicated Luminaires-Light Versus Power Quality

Calin Ciugudeanu <sup>1,\*</sup>, Mircea Buzdugan <sup>1</sup>, Dorin Beu <sup>1</sup>, Angel Campianu <sup>1</sup> and Catalin Daniel Galatanu <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Building Services Faculty, Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, Cluj-Napoca 400114, Romania; mircea.buzdugan@insta.utcluj.ro (M.B.); dorin.beu@rogbc.com (D.B.); angel.campianu@insta.utcluj.ro (A.C.)

<sup>2</sup> Civil Engineering and Building Services Faculty, Technical University “Gh. Asachi” Iasi, Bd. Mangeron 67, Iasi 700050, Romania; catalin.galatanu@tuiasi.ro

\* Correspondence: calin.ciugudeanu@insta.utcluj.ro; Tel.: +40-752-193-890

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**Abstract:** For the next few years millions of fluorescent luminaires will become waste and will be replaced by light-emitting diodes—LED luminaires. According to the Cost European Cooperation in Science & Technology Program, the next step will be shifting from sustainability to regeneration (enabling social and ecological systems to maintain a healthy state and to evolve); to reach this point, a circular economy becomes necessary. The Technical University of Cluj-Napoca’s Lighting Engineering Laboratory—LEL—is the main lighting independent consultant in Transylvania (the north-west region of Romania). For the Building Services Faculty, LEL adopted different energy efficient lighting solutions to replace existing fluorescent T8 luminaires. The best available techniques were evaluated over the last few years. Out of a range of different smart lighting control systems, LED were chosen and used for retrofitting the existing T8 luminaires or simply replacing them with new dedicated LED luminaires. The study analyzed five different lighting setups for upgrading the existing fluorescent T8 2\*36W luminaires. One setup used T5 lamps and the others used retrofitted or dedicated LED lighting solutions. First the lighting quantities of each setup were evaluated under real and experimental conditions. Second, a programmable power source was used for measuring power quality indicators correlated with the provided lighting outputs, under different voltage values and waveforms. For each lighting setup, an even and odd current harmonic limit check was performed in line with class C—lighting equipment, IEC 61000-3-2 requirements. A new energy efficiency and power quality indicator was proposed—the lighting apparent power density [VA/sq.m/100lx].

**Keywords:** lighting; LED; energy efficiency; retrofit luminaire; circular economy

## 1. Introduction

A circular economy is a regenerative system in which resource inputs and waste, emissions, and energy leakage are minimized by slowing, closing, and narrowing energy and material loops. This can be achieved through long-lasting design, maintenance, repair, reuse, remanufacturing, retrofit, recycling, and upcycling [1]. It contrasts with a linear economy, which is a “take, make, dispose” model of production [2]. As the world population is continuously growing, in order to ensure there are necessary resources in the near future for the year 2050, people will have to switch from a linear economy to a circular economy [3].

The EU in 2002 launched the first Waste of Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) directive [4,5] with the aim of collecting, recycling, and treating this waste [6]. Discharged lamps (fluorescent lamps, compact fluorescent lamps, high-pressure mercury and sodium lamps, and metal

halide lamps) need to be collected separately, due to their mercury content (a hazardous and water contaminant material).

Worldwide, over the next few years, millions of fluorescent luminaires will become waste and will be replaced by LED luminaires. This has already occurred in some western and north European countries. Society is presently guided by a lighting linear economy—where all existing luminaires became waste and are replaced by new dedicated LED luminaires.

Luminaries are generally nonlinear loads connected to the low voltage AC distribution network. Some light sources, like fluorescent lamps and LEDs, require a power supply system (ballast or driver) to interface them with the electric network. Generally, the current waveform contains some amount of distortion, depending on the luminaries' technology [7].

However, as LEDs continue to replace incandescent and fluorescent lighting, there can be a significant impact on power distribution networks due to the non-linear nature of light emitting diodes. This paper will investigate the main power quality concerns arising from the use of LED lighting on our electrical networks. Further, it will also assess the impact of power quality disturbances on LED lighting technology [8].

The Technical University of Cluj-Napoca (UTC-N) for the years 2012, 2013, [9] and 2014, [10] financed an internal lighting efficiency project aiming to determine the actual energy consumption of university buildings as well as to identify the best techno-economical energy efficiency lighting solution available. Instead of simply replacing the existing luminaires, some retrofit lighting solutions were evaluated in order to reuse some parts of the existing T8 fluorescent luminaires.

A detailed measurement of the current consumption of the Faculty of Building Services—UTC-N, with a total area of 4775.98 sq. m was performed. Electricity and natural gas bills for the year 2012 were analyzed and the results can be seen in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Current annual energy consumption 2012—UTC-N—Faculty of Building Services.

UTC-N Faculty of Building Services	Area [sq. m]	ELECTRIC CONSUMPTION—0.155 [euro/kWh]			NATURAL GAS CONSUMPTION—0.0382 [euro/kWh]		
		[kWh/year]	[euro/year]	[kWh/sq. m/year]	[kWh/year]	[euro/year]	[kWh/sq. m/year]
	4776	82,385	12,770	17.25	550,262	21,020	115.21

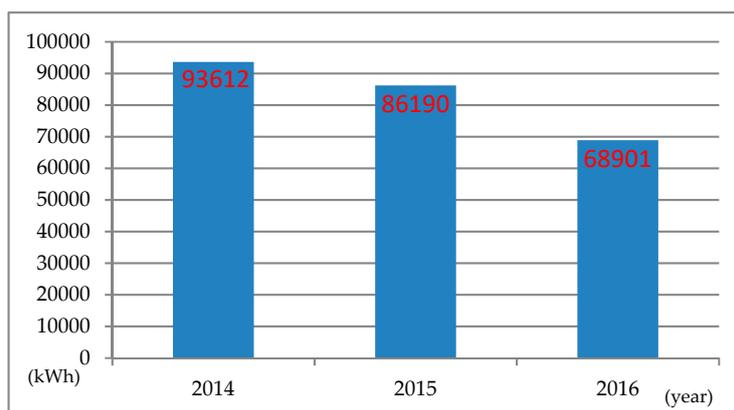
A total energy (electrical and natural gas) consumption of 132.46 [kWh/(sq. m\*year)] was identified for the year 2012, based on the relevant utility bills [11].

The electricity consumption of the building was evaluated based on the readings recorded by an electronic meter. The hourly readings were recorded over a period of three years, namely 2014, 2015, and 2016. The total annual consumption rate was different during those years. Due to the installation of a new cooling system in the faculty main amphitheatre, there was an increase of 11,237 kWh/year, from 82,375 kWh/year in 2012 to 93,612 kWh/year in 2014.

Afterwards, a decrease from 93,612 kWh/year in 2014 to 86,190 kWh/year in 2015 and 68,901 kWh/year in 2016 was recorded (Figure 1), due to the new LED lighting system that was installed, which meant there was a general reduction of more than 25% from 2014 to 2016.

Based on the global International Energy Agency (IEA) data, the lighting electricity consumption of commercial buildings in 2005 [12] was about 25 kWh/sq. m /year for educational buildings. This represents about 19% of the total UTC-N, Faculty of Building Services energy consumption for the year 2016 (129 kWh/sq. m/year).

Using the university adopted lighting retrofit solutions as case studies, circular economy aspects were identified [13]. For a LED retrofitted recessed luminaire T8 4 × 18 W, a previous study [14], showed a major reduction of installed power as well as a correct lighting distribution, but also revealed some issues: lack of certification of the retrofit luminaire, the necessity of utilizing qualified personnel, high workforce costs, etc.



**Figure 1.** Technical University of Cluj-Napoca (UTC-N) Faculty of Building Services yearly electricity consumptions.

The present survey analyzes similar recessed luminaires using three different light sources: fluorescent T8, fluorescent T5, and LED. Different experimental setups were built up for measuring the illumination levels and the power quality indicators (power factor—PF, waveforms, total harmonic distortion—THD, etc.). As nonlinear loads, LEDs produce highly distorted currents. Many end users using LEDs for domestic, commercial, and industrial lighting could determine important power quality problems [15]. The harmonic absorptions of several types of lighting retrofit solutions were analyzed. The recorded harmonic absorption allows characterizing of the harmonic spectrum variability of the investigated luminaires. Using a programmable power source, the power quality was evaluated under different voltage scenarios (voltage variations and waveforms). This paper details some new aspects such as:

1. The different proposed lighting setups including luminaires with similar lighting outputs and dimensions ( $1200 \times 300$  mm), suitable for suspended modular ceiling. Special attention was paid to a LED lighting retrofit solution due to its ability to significantly reduce waste materials.
2. A new lighting energy efficiency indicator was proposed—the apparent power density—while some basic power quality indicators were considered as well.
3. The correlation between lighting outputs and power quality indicator alterations (the power supply voltage value and waveform) was assessed.
4. The harmonic limits of each lighting setup were evaluated according to class C—lighting equipment, IEC 61000-3-2 requirements. The harmonics limits were also calculated and compared with standard for different voltage values and waveform combinations (207 V, 230 V, 253 V, pure sine, clipped 10, and clipped 20).

## 2. Materials and Methods

Starting from a surveillance case study of fluorescent and LED luminaires made by LEL inside some of the university buildings, the present paper conducted some further investigations regarding five different lighting setups. The study is based on the very large present use of T8 fluorescent lamps in all existing administrative, educational, and office buildings in Europe and particularly in Romania. This study evaluates the measured lighting levels as well as the power quality implications regarding the proper operating and lighting quantities of the five proposed lighting setups presented in Table 2 and Figure 2.

The A, B, D, and E setups used dedicated luminaires while C was a T8 retrofitted luminaire using LED. The A, B, C, and E setups used new lamps with less than 150 working hours. For the D lighting setup, the lamps could provide close to 500 h of operation. At the beginning, the lighting parameters (illumination, lighting distribution, and uniformity) were measured. Each different luminaire was tested inside an experimental setup. Some of them (A, B, D) were also evaluated and installed in

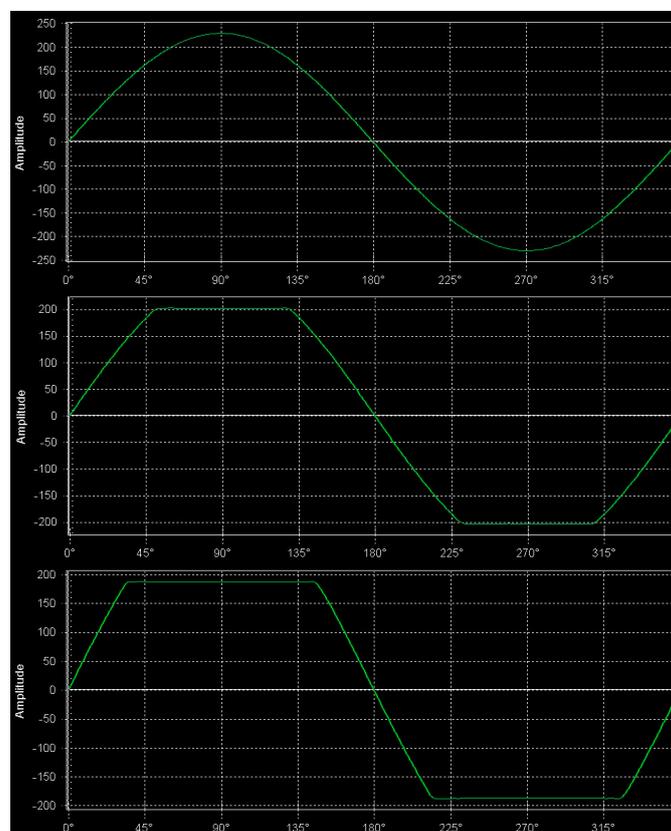
a real environment (classrooms/laboratories). The second part of the study was dedicated to the measurement of the lighting setups power quality indices—PF, active/apparent power, waveforms, THD, etc. Using a programmable power source, many different scenarios were analyzed, and some were detained: 230 V ± 10% voltage variations (207 V, 230 V, 253 V), pure sine, clipped 10, and clipped 20 voltage waveforms—see Figure 3.

**Table 2.** Lighting setups—recessed 300 mm × 1200 mm luminaires.

Setup	Luminaires	Lamp	Dimmable	Power [W]	Lighting Output [lm]	Ballast	Luminous Efficacy [lm/W]
A	dedicated T8	T8 840	NO	2 × 36	5000	electro-magnetic	69.44
B	dedicated T5	T5 840	NO	2 × 28	5350	electronic	95.54
C	retrofitted T8	LED 864	NO	2 × 18	3000	electronic	83.33
D	dedicated LED	LED 840	NO	37	4230	electronic	114.32
E	dedicated LED	LED 840	YES	48	3840	electronic	80

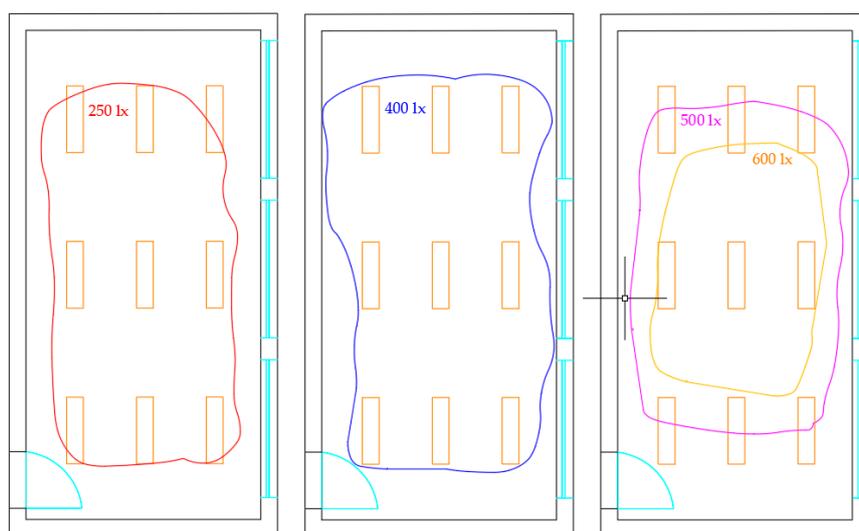


**Figure 2.** Luminaires A, B, C, D, E—from left to right.



**Figure 3.** Voltage time domain reconstruction: 230 V pure sine, clipped 10 and clipped 20—up to down.

For the A, B, and D setups, lighting setups measurements were performed under real conditions. The measured lighting levels on the work plane (0.8 m high above the floor), using a 0.6 m × 0.8 m grid, were performed for recessed mounted luminaires in 4.2 × 8.8 m wide room with a 3.15 m high ceiling. All the measurements were performed with a Testo 545 light meter and a permanently attached light sensor. Figure 4 presents the measured values on the work plane inside the classrooms using a 0.6 m × 0.8 m grid. The measurements were obtained at night without daylight support. The walls and the ceiling were made of white painted plaster (reflection factor over 75%), while the floor was a standard wood parquet floor (with a reflection factor over 40%). The reflection factors were not measured but the same conditions were preserved for each field measurement lighting setup (including the same furniture) presented in Figure 4.



**Figure 4.** Field measured lighting isolux values on the work plane for the A, B, and D setups—from left to right.

The average, minimum, and maximum lighting levels are presented in Table 3. Only setup D faced complaints in SR EN 12646-1:2011–5.36.9 Educational Building [16] rooms for practical works and laboratories, regarding the average illuminance level not being above the requested 500 lx and 0.60 uniformity. The different lighting setups uniformities are almost the same—having values above 0.75. At the same time, the LED setup D uses less than half the energy of the setup A, providing more than double lighting the level.

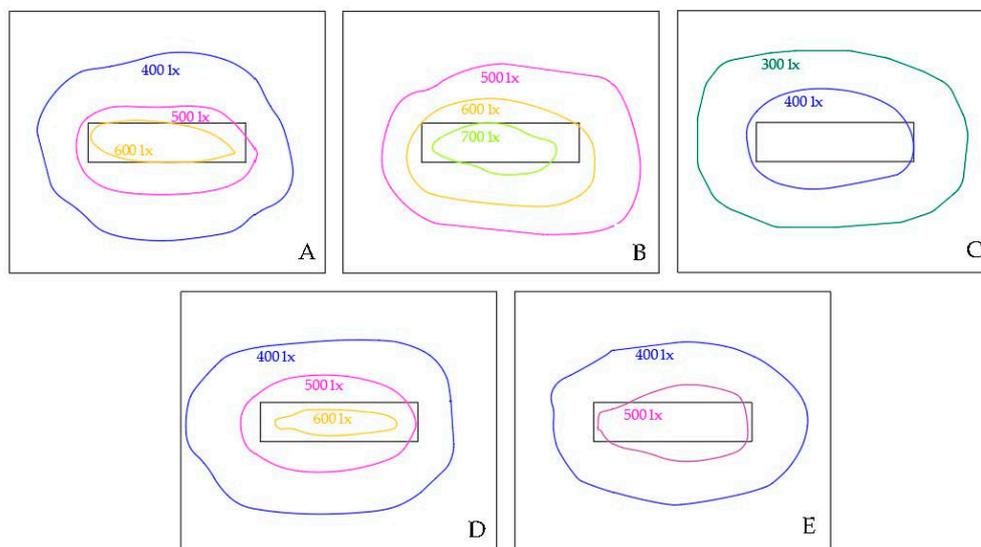
**Table 3.** Classroom measured lighting levels on the work plane.

MEASURED	2 × T8 36 W	2 × T5 28 W	LED 37 W
Lighting setup	A	B	D
Minimum illumination level [lx]	192	318	427
Maximum illumination level [lx]	306	470	673
Average illumination level [lx]	255	409	557
Uniformity [min/average]	0.75	0.78	0.77

### 3. Results

During the present study, all the lighting setups were tested inside a 2 m × 2.4 m wide experimental shed with a 2.5 m high ceiling. Figure 4 shows the different lighting levels in the work plane placed at 0.8 m above the floor level using a 0.4 m × 0.4 m grid. The walls, ceiling, and floor were made of white painted wood (reflection factor over 65%), with no windows or dedicated doors attached. The reflection factors were not measured but the same conditions were preserved for each lighting

setup measurement. The results are presented in Figure 5 and summarized in Table 4. For each different luminaire and setup, the minimum, maximum, and average lighting levels are presented among the total power consumption and uniformity. The lighting active power density [W/sq. m/100lx] was calculated for each case.



**Figure 5.** Experimental shed measured lighting values on the work plane for the A, B, C, D, E setups.

**Table 4.** Lighting measurements—experimental shed.

Lighting Setup	A	B	C	D	E
Lamp	T8 2 × 36W	T5 2 × 28W	LED 2 × 18W	LED 37W	LED 48W
Total installed power [W]	72	56	36	37	48
Minimum illumination level [lx]	341	400	273	350	325
Maximum illumination level [lx]	644	732	472	584	539
Average illumination level [lx]	474	570	361	459	430
Uniformity [min/average]	0.72	0.70	0.76	0.76	0.76
Lighting active power density [W/sqm/100lx]— $2 \times 2.4 = 4.8$ sq. m	3.17	2.05	2.08	1.64	2.33

The experimental shed measurements for the lighting setups A, B, C, D, E show the best average illumination level for the B setup (T5— $2 \times 28$  W) at around 570 lx.

The uniformity (ratio between the minimum and average illumination) looks better for the LED setups with values over 0.75, complying at the same time with the SR EN 12646-1:2011 requirements [16] for office/educational rooms, with a requested uniformity over 0.60.

Lighting active power density levels—an indicator of the luminaire energy efficiency capabilities—show the best value for the setup D using 36 W LED. The most inefficient setup, as expected, is setup A. Afterwards, the lighting active power density indicator is recalculated based on the real power quality measurements.

For the A, B, and D setups, measurements were performed in order to determine the different maintenance luminaire aspects. Additional lighting setups A', B', D' were created using dirty (installed and unmaintained for around two years) luminaires with new lamps. The measured values presented in Table 5 show illumination depreciation levels of about 10% for the T8 unsealed/open case luminaires. For the closed case T5, the illumination depreciation level drops to 5% to 8%, while for the dedicated LED luminaires the illumination depreciation level reaches 2% to 5%. The uniformity values are similar with a very small improvement for the D lighting setup.

**Table 5.** Clean versus dirty luminaires—lighting measurements.

Lighting Setup	A	A'	B	B'	D	D'
Luminaire—clean/dirty	clean	dirty	clean	dirty	clean	dirty
Minimum illumination level [lx]	341	308	400	380	350	333
Depreciation [%]		9.68%		5.00%		4.86%
Maximum illumination level [lx]	644	582	732	673	584	565
Depreciation [%]		9.63%		8.06%		3.25%
Average illumination level [lx]	474	430	570	541	459	446
Depreciation [%]		9.28%		5.09%		2.83%
Uniformity [min/average]	0.72	0.72	0.70	0.70	0.76	0.75

The power quality indicators were tracked down, measured, and sometimes intentionally altered for each lighting setup using the 5 kVA AC Power Source—California Instruments model 5001. The maximum illumination level was also measured right under the luminaire at a 1.7 m distance, similar to the one from the experimental shed (between the luminaire and the working plane at 0.8–2.5 m). For the illumination measurement, a 1.6 m × 0.6 m and 1.7 m height cardboard box was used—Figure 6. The recordings were made using the same Testo 545 light meter. Some of the results are presented later in this paper.

**Figure 6.** Energy quality/lighting level survey for the A, B, C, D, and E lighting setups.

The general electric measurements are presented in Table 6 for all the lighting setups supplied with a constant 50 Hz, 230 V pure sine voltage - the A, B, C, D, and E. Additionally the voltage was clipped 10—the A\*, B\*, C\*, D\*, and E\* setups and then clipped 20—the A\*\*, B\*\*, C\*\*, D\*\*, and E\*\* setups.

There is a gap between the total installed active power (Table 4) and the measured power (Table 6) because of the magnetic ballasts/electronic drivers power losses. In all the cases except for the B setup (56 W installed; 51 W measured), the measured power is bigger than the installed nominal one. The biggest difference is for the A lighting setup (magnetic ballast) where the measured is 12 W over the installed power (72 W installed; 84 W measured). Even though all the power quality aspects are generally deteriorating while altering the voltage waveform to clipped 10 and then 20, the C and E lighting setups have a very low power factor and consequently a high value apparent power.

**Table 6.** Power quality measurements—A, B, C, D, and E setups—230 V—pure sine, clipped 10, and clipped 20.

Lighting Setup	A	A*	A**	B	B*	B**	C	C*	C**	D	D*	D**	E	E*	E**
Voltage [V]	230	230	230	230	230	230	230	230	230	230	230	230	230	230	230
Current [A]	0.40	0.41	0.47	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.57	0.62	0.71	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.72	0.58	0.51
Power [W]	84	82	78	51	51	52	38	39	39	40	40	40	52	52	52
Apparent power [VA]	92	96	109	57	56	56	131	142	163	44	45	46	165	133	117
Power factor PF	0.91	0.86	0.72	0.91	0.92	0.93	0.30	0.28	0.24	0.91	0.90	0.86	0.32	0.39	0.45
Peak current [A]	2.23	1.06	1.18	0.53	0.49	0.50	1.05	1.19	1.48	0.45	0.43	0.47	5.38	4.21	3.66
Crest Factor	1.67	2.54	2.52	2.07	1.98	1.90	1.84	1.85	2.04	2.07	2.15	2.22	7.47	7.29	6.93
Maximum illumination level measured inside the box [lx]	610	598	581	716	722	729	562	557	549	595	593	590	602	601	603
THDv [%]	0.20	10.07	20.15	0.21	10.07	20.17	0.20	10.10	20.15	0.21	10.08	20.12	0.33	10.06	20.12
THDi [%]	18.55	40.10	65.06	7.53	10.99	21.67	14.78	43.15	63.87	9.40	13.12	22.96	92.04	88.14	84.86

The electronic ballasts generally managed to provide a constant lighting output. The lighting setups were also tested with a  $\pm 10\%$  voltage variation. Just the setup A with electromagnetic ballast presented an important variation (Table 7), while the other ones with electronic ballasts managed to keep the luminaires lighting output constant. For the A, A\*, and A\*\* lighting setups, the biggest recorded illumination level was 694 lx for the pure sine 253 V, while the smallest of 529 lx was for the 207 V clipped 20.

**Table 7.** Illumination versus voltage variation and waveform.

Voltage	Maximum Illumination Level Measured Inside the Box [lx]		
Lighting setup	A	A*	A**
207 V	573	551	529
230 V	610	598	581
253 V	694	681	665

A 10% increased nominal voltage (253 V) showed a 14% increased lighting level on average. A 10% decrease of the nominal voltage (207 V) revealed an average depreciation lighting level of 7.6%. A modified voltage waveform from pure sine to clipped 10 provided a depreciation lighting level of 2.5% while from pure sine to clipped 20, the lighting depreciation reached 5.5%.

The recorded waveforms both for voltage and current involving each lighting setup and the pure sine, clipped 10, and clipped 20 voltage scenarios are presented in Figures 7–11.

The measured Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) both for voltage THD<sub>v</sub> and current THD<sub>i</sub> are presented in the last lanes of Table 6. THD<sub>i</sub> is a measurement of the harmonic distortion present and is defined as the ratio of the sum of the powers of all harmonic components to the power of the fundamental frequency. For the pure sine scenario, the lowest THD<sub>i</sub> was recorded for the B and D lighting setups with values under 10%. The lighting setup E recorded the highest THD<sub>i</sub> values for pure sine, clipped 10 and clipped 20 scenarios by far. Besides setup E, for a pure sine voltage the second highest THD<sub>i</sub> was recorded for setup A while for clipped 10 the second THD<sub>i</sub> was setup C and for clipped 20 the second THD<sub>i</sub> was setup A.

While the relevant standards and requirements applicable to the lighting projects are considered, distributors should also consider operating requirements and specific circumstances for their networks [17]. The authorization to connect equipment to the low voltage system depends on the levels of disturbance caused by the equipment [18]. IEC61000-3-2 [19] specifies the limits for harmonic currents of equipment connected to low voltage distribution networks. This standard assesses and sets the limits for equipment with the input current  $\leq 16$  A per phase and covers both quasi-stationary harmonics and fluctuating harmonics. According to this standard, equipment is classified into four classes in which class C is lighting equipment including dimming devices [19,20].

The harmonic current limit for class C equipment is shown in Table 8 in which  $\lambda$  is power factor of the equipment. It should be taken into consideration that these limits are for individual harmonics

and do not specify total harmonic distortion (THD) [21]. Only 2nd even harmonic and odd-order harmonics are shown because the rest of the even-order harmonics are almost zero.

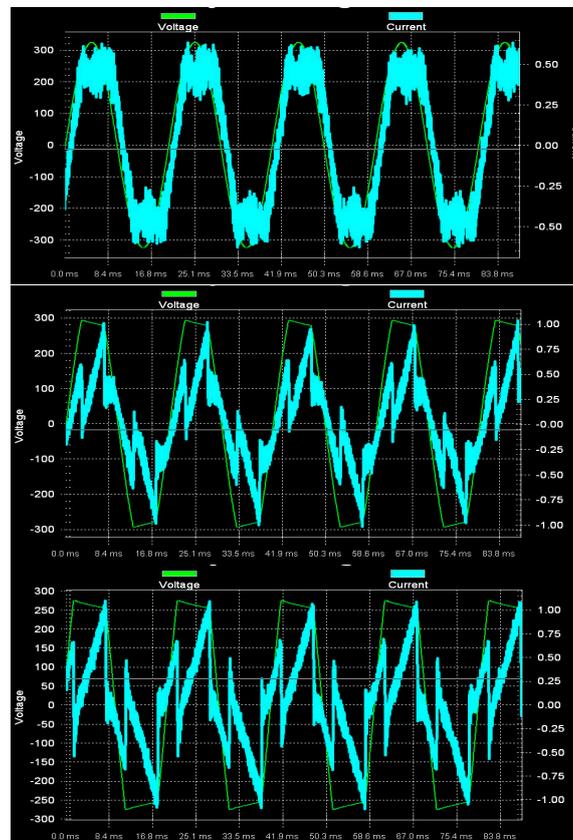


Figure 7. Voltage and current waveforms—A, A\*, and A\*\* lighting setups.

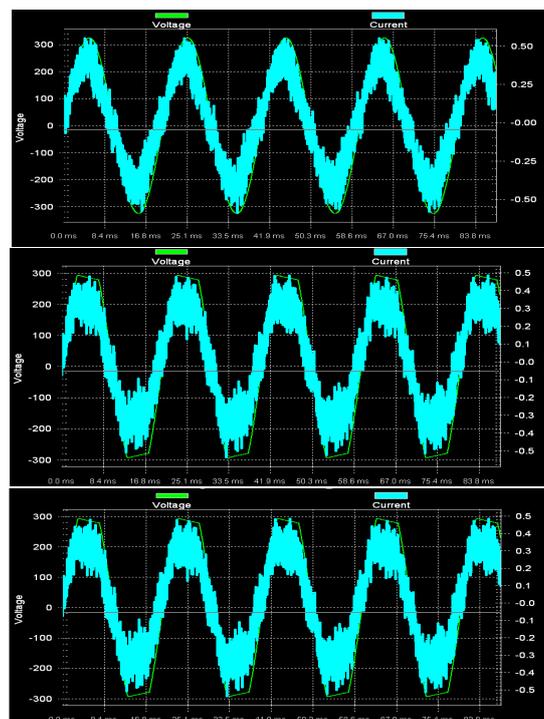


Figure 8. Voltage and current waveforms—B, B\*, and B\*\* lighting setups.

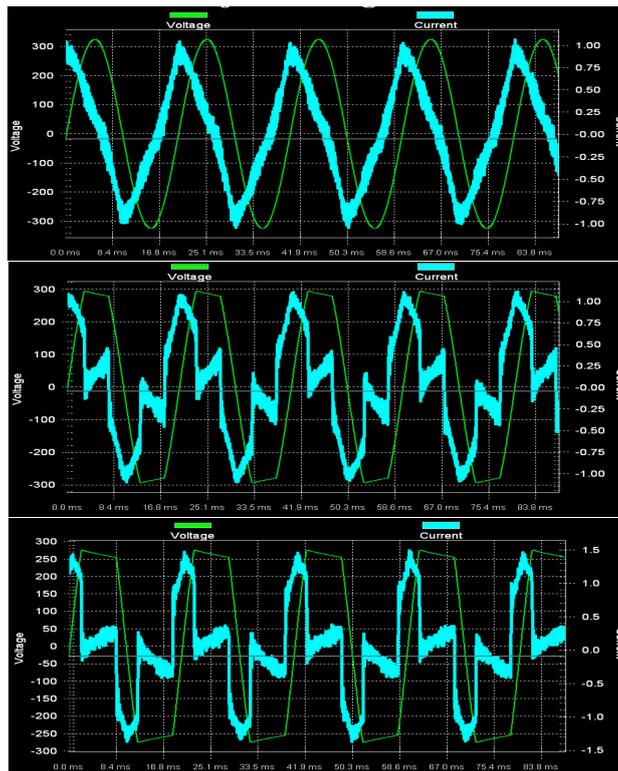


Figure 9. Voltage and current waveforms—C, C\*, and C\*\* lighting setups.

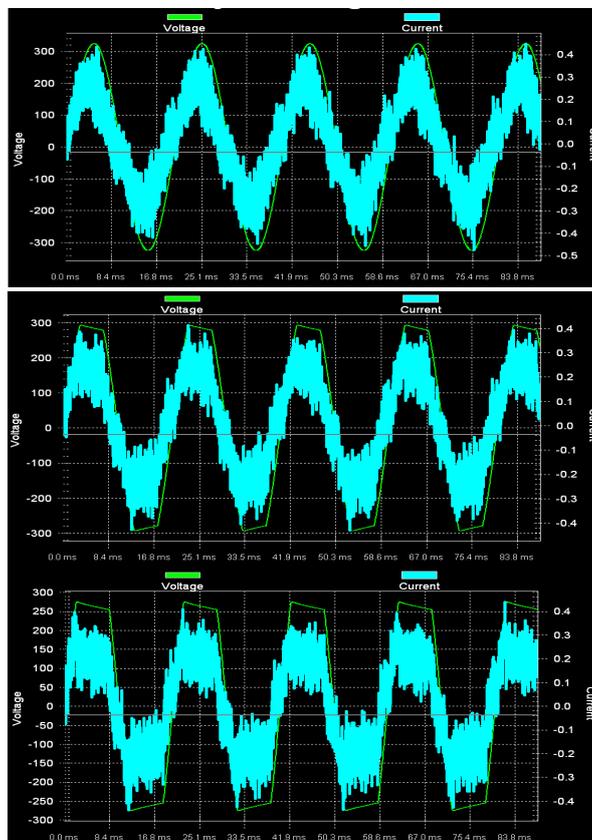


Figure 10. Voltage and current waveforms—D, D\*, and D\*\* lighting setups.

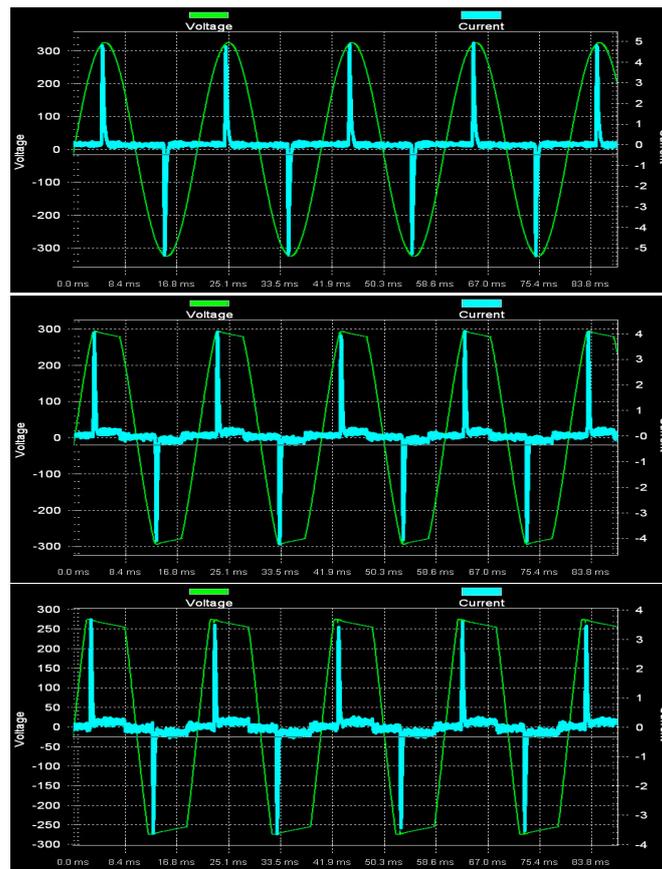


Figure 11. Voltage and current waveforms—E, E\* and E\*\* lighting setup.

Table 8. Harmonic limits for class C equipment [19].

Harmonic Order n	Maximum Permissible Harmonic Current Expressed as a Percentage of the Input Current at the Fundamental Frequency %
2	2
3	$30 \times \lambda$
5	10
7	7
9	5
$11 \leq n \leq 39$	3

For each lighting setup, an even (2) and odd (3–39) current harmonic limit check was performed according to IEC 61000-3-2 [19]. The results are described in Table 9. For the pure sine wave scenario, the A, B, and D setups pass the verification and were under the IEC class C limits for all the harmonics. Setup C overpassed the limit with 164% for the third order harmonics, while for the E setup, the limits were exceeded in all the odd harmonics, in some cases even with more than 2000%. Here again the economic/budget LED lighting retrofit solutions C and E showed a major limitation, while dedicated luminaires passed the test. The same harmonic limits check was also performed for clipped 10 and 20 voltage scenarios. For all the lighting setups, the limits began in some cases to be exceeded for the clipped 10 voltage scenario and even more so for the clipped 20 voltage scenarios. For the clipped 10 voltage scenarios, only the lighting setup B\* passed the test under the IEC limits for all harmonics. For the clipped 20 voltage scenario none of the lighting setups passed the test, although the B\*\* setup performed better than the others (only harmonic 9 passed the IEC limit). The tests performed with the clipped voltage 10 and 20 did not represent hypothetical situations. They can often occur in

practice. Thus, several UPSs or inverters present quite high THD<sub>V</sub> values. Consequently, these tests are important in order to assess the immunity of the setups.

**Table 9.** Measured current harmonic limits for class C equipment for the A, B, C, D, E setups—230 V—pure sine, clipped 10, and clipped 20.

No.	Pure Sine					Clipped 10					Clipped 20				
	A	B	C	D	E	A*	B*	C*	D*	E*	A**	B**	C**	D**	E**
	% of Limit					% of Limit					% of Limit				
2	41	19	0	54	107	28	18	18	54	62	30	37	112	0	63
3	82	18	165	24	1011	112	25	520	25	494	356	72	1069	94	310
5	36	23	27	32	940	293	66	147	98	642	127	15	155	0	598
7	47	44	23	54	1288	28	37	29	54	935	422	89	261	143	705
9	27	47	22	65	1726	346	15	247	0	1177	500	103	313	156	1079
11	27	52	18	54	2692	140	98	60	109	2099	141	61	118	37	1674
13	18	65	6	54	2521	317	74	212	109	1866	693	0	454	37	1632
15	9	26	12	0	2322	223	25	151	0	1893	331	25	211	0	1618
17	9	26	6	18	2137	149	37	115	0	1770	311	74	187	93	1464
19	0	13	6	18	1937	223	37	145	36	1632	452	74	274	93	1492
21	9	0	6	36	1766	37	0	24	0	1605	40	37	25	37	1297
23	0	13	6	36	1595	186	12	133	54	1413	331	0	211	19	1311
25	0	0	0	18	1453	47	0	24	36	1385	251	12	168	37	1116
27	0	13	0	18	1325	149	0	103	36	1248	90	12	56	19	1130
29	0	13	0	18	1211	93	12	61	36	1139	271	25	180	37	962
31	0	0	6	0	1111	84	12	60	18	1084	110	0	68	19	934
33	0	13	0	18	1011	112	12	85	36	933	161	12	106	37	837
35	0	0	0	0	912	28	12	24	18	905	221	25	143	56	767
37	0	0	0	18	826	112	12	79	18	796	0	0	0	19	725
39	0	0	0	0	741	9	0	12	0	741	201	0	124	0	614

Table 10 shows the different power measurements recorded in terms of nominal lamp power, active power, apparent power, power factor, and average illumination level as well as the calculated installed, active, and apparent power density.

**Table 10.** Lighting setup installed, active, and apparent power density.

Lighting Setup	A	B	C	C1	D	E
Installed nominal power [W]	72	56	36	36	37	48
Measured active power [W]	84	51	38	38	40	52
Measured apparent power [VA]	92	57	131	72	44	165
Average illumination level [lx] measured inside the shed	474	570	361	369	459	430
Lighting installed power density [W/sq.m/100lx]—2 × 2.4 = 4.8 sq.m	3.17	2.05	2.08	2.03	1.68	2.33
Lighting active power density [W/sq.m/100lx]—2 × 2.4 = 4.8 sq.m	3.69	1.86	2.19	2.15	1.82	2.52
Lighting apparent power density [VA/sq.m/100lx]—2 × 2.4 = 4.8 sq.m	4.05	2.08	7.55	4.07	2.00	8.00

For the new C lighting setup, a new C1 setup was introduced because of the manufacturers and users installation guides about the simple replacing of the T8 36 W fluorescent lamps with the LED 18 W tube while just removing the starters—setup C. Taking the recorded measurements into consideration, a better retrofit solution would be to remove all the specific T8 luminaires equipment such as starters, ballast, a compensator, etc.—setup C1. This last solution gives a 45% apparent power reduction (C—from 131 VA to C1—72 VA) and improved lighting levels results, compared with the C setup. It is, however, true that the C1 setup needs a more specialized worktime (rewiring and extracting the specific T8 equipment).

Table 10 shows the different installed, active and apparent power densities calculated based on the power measurements. The difference between the three power densities is not so big for the A, B, and D lighting setups while for the C and E, the apparent density is around 3.5 times bigger than the installed power density.

#### 4. Conclusions

Even though in some cases the retrofit solutions of the existing T8 luminaires with LED lamps seems to be the best solution for a future lighting circular economy, there are still many problems regarding the power quality aspects. The retrofit process itself is a difficult one, takes a lot of time, and needs to be done by a more highly trained lighting endorser. The achieved luminaire characteristics are also far from those of the dedicated new LED luminaires in terms of efficiency, maintenance, design, etc. But this reuse approach is a first step to a circular lighting economy. Similar studies [15] show a reused materials percentage of over 60% from the total mass of a dedicated T8 luminaires. The equivalent CO<sub>2</sub> savings of about 9 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq could be achieved by reusing T8 luminaires components (steel case, aluminum reflector, copper cables etc.), taking into consideration the CO<sub>2</sub> emission factors from reference [22].

While the new retrofit lighting systems can use modern control systems and have the ability to be dimmed, in some cases they also lose the CE mark and the EMC certifications (setup C and E). In some cases, when replacing a component with a CE marked one in a CE marked luminaire can result in a luminaire that does not meet the CE requirements. The second part of the study involving power quality aspects reveals major problems regarding the low cost retrofit lighting solution setup C or even some budget dedicated dimmable LED luminaires, which is setup E. Therefore, the selection of the proper lighting gear is crucial during the retrofit design phase, not only for satisfying the requirements imposed by regulations on average illuminance and uniformity, but also for their energy performance and power quality.

The global environmental impact for incandescent, CFL, and LED lamps presented in reference [23] shows that the major impact is owned by the utilization stage, between 83.9% incandescent, 73.0% LED, and 70.9% CFL. The raw materials, production, transport, and end life stages are responsible for less than 30% of the global environmental impact of the lamps, even if this value goes higher for the new LED lamps. This utilization stage is mainly connected with the luminaire efficiency, but not necessarily in terms of a strict luminous efficacy but rather the ability of the luminaire to deliver a certain illuminance over the work plane, while also taking into consideration the power quality aspects. The tested luminaires show poor power quality indicators for some market refurbishment LED solutions (setup C) and even for dedicated LED dimmable luminaires (setup E). Similar studies marked the same problems. The [24] results obtained from the power quality meter and oscilloscope indicated that LEDs with external drivers caused severe harmonic distortion and power quality because the external driver can drive multiple lamps per driver. Large dispersion and high values of flicker perception have been observed for the modern lighting technologies using LED, even if they have a lower sensitivity than the incandescent lamps [25].

Regarding the lighting characteristics, compared with other similar studies [7,8], the electronic ballasts were able to provide a constant lighting output in every case (even for a larger voltage range, between 150 and 270 V). The setup A was the most lighting sensitive to power quality changes—lighting output variation presented in Table 7—with a maximum of 10% lighting output variation correlated with voltage values variation and 5.5% for the different assessed waveforms.

In terms of power quality—the dedicated luminaires operated much more effectively and passed the IEC requirements for a pure sinewave voltage (A, B, D). Setup C and E were the worst settings here and the IEC 61000-3-2, class C indicated harmonic limits were exceeded even for a 230 V pure sine waveform voltage. If the retrofit solution is the best one regarding time spending and waste management, then replacing a CE certified luminaire equipment with another CE certified one can result in a non-CE luminaire.

For future work, these studies should be repeated for a wider group of LED tube lamps available on the market as fluorescent T8 luminaire retrofit solutions. In order to investigate the effectiveness of the present study results, the most appropriate and low waste lighting retrofit solution of the T8 luminaires should be identified.

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