## Gain picture perfect lighting by upgrading your existing picture lights to LED by Iain McIntosh

o many people are unhappy with the performance of their existing picture lights but do not want to throw them away. Quick and easy solutions are now available to upgrade them to the latest LED Technology. When completed correctly you will experience the following immediate improvements:

### Before

- · Over illumination at the top
- No light coverage further down
- Damaging heat & UV from the light
- Frequent lamp changes
- · High running costs
- Broken or fixed arm positions

### After

- Uniform canvas coverage
- Rich colours & improved definition throughout
- Removal of the damaging heat & UV
- No lamp changes for over 10 years
- Running costs reduced by up to 93%
- New arms & swivel knuckles to gain a great coverage



Be careful though, not all LED upgrade solutions are the same. Here are a few things you will need to look out for and insist on:

### **COLOUR TEMPERATURE**

A warm white colour, ideally 2700K.

### COLOUR RENDERING INDEX (CRI)

Gain the highest level possible. From 0 (no light) – 100 (sunlight). Many LEDs are as low as 60 or 80. Do not accept anything less than 95. The higher the CRI the truer the colours viewed will be. This will also add to the depth and definition and bring out some hidden gems in your paintings.

### LED LENSING & SPACING

A good spacing between LEDs is 6" and the LEDs will need to be lensed to gain a high coverage across the whole canvas, especially further down.

### ARM LENGTH

In some instances, the existing arm will be sufficient, however a simple replacement arm with a swivel knuckle inserted will allow you to position the head correctly to gain the best coverage. This will also allow you to screen the light source from view so that there is no glare, with only the light coverage on the painting visible.

### LIGHTING LEVELS

To ensure the correct level of illumination is achieved, you will need to have a separate



Small Portrait - 30" x 25" with a 5" frame using an 8" picture light. Before and After Image.



Full Portrait -100" x 58" with a 5" frame using a 36" picture light with broken arm. Before and After Image.

dimmer for each picture light. Dimming together with the positioning of the head and the lensing of the LEDs will ensure an exceptionally good coverage across the surface of the painting.

### **EXISTING HEAD SIZE**

Modular upgrade kits are available now for easy installation. Size variations in these kits are essential to ensure the spread of light is maximised from the head size. Existing heads start at about 4" and can go up to 40", as standard, and you will need your lensed LEDs to be evenly spaced throughout the entirety of the head at 6" intervals.

### UPGRADING YOUR PICTURE LIGHTS

This process needs to be quick and easy so that it can be carried out at your property should you wish to complete the upgrade yourself or by the lighting company. A couple of these examples were upgraded at the customer's property by the customer themselves.

If you are considering upgrading your existing picture lights and need some further advice, please do make contact, I would be more than happy to advise and support you further if it would be helpful.





Large Landscape - 60" x 40" with a 5" frame using a 22" picture light. Double hang-Top (Halogen) and Bottom (LED) as a direct comparison.

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