

July 21, 2004

Line-voltage Socket and Ballast Housing Design Competition

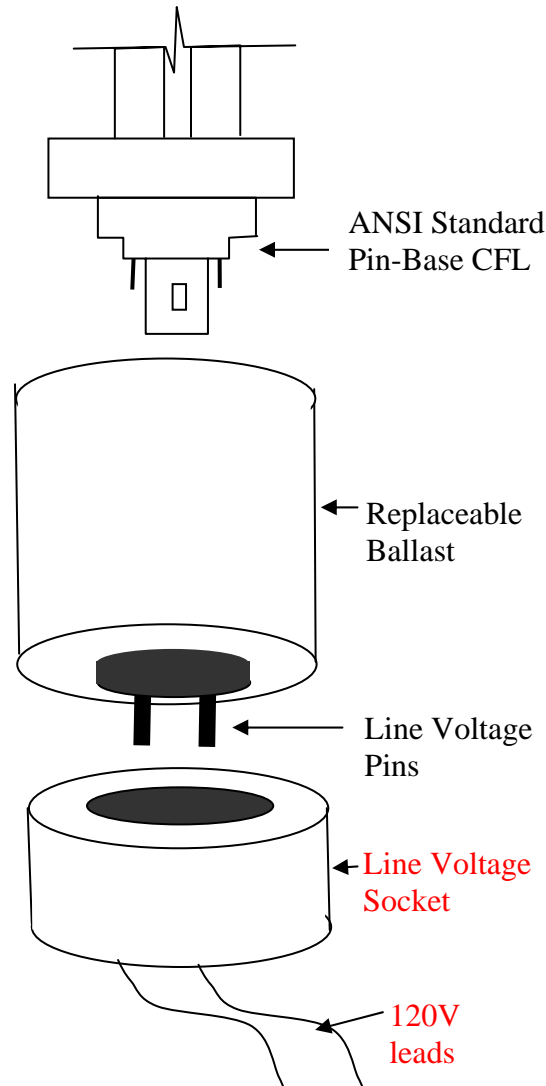
Competition Guidelines

Purpose of this competition

Replaceable electronic ballasts for ENERGY STAR[®] residential lighting fixtures are becoming more popular due to increasing demand from utilities, builders, and other market actors, as well as the need to provide this convenience for consumers.

Currently, there is no design standard for line-voltage sockets (i.e. what the replaceable ballast plugs into). The lack of a standard line-voltage socket, and thus a lack of a standard pin base on the replaceable ballasts, is a barrier to ballast interchangeability.

The purpose of this competition is to select one standard line-voltage socket and ballast holder, which will accept replaceable ballasts from different manufacturers within a category of luminaires. The replaceable ballast and lamps types are shown here for demonstration purpose only; they will not be included in the scope of the competition.



Scope of this competition

The goal of this competition is to promote innovative and high quality designs of a line-voltage socket and ballast holder primarily for the residential market. The proposed product should be appropriate for the following luminaire categories:

Technology wattage: 26 W or less

Applications: Portable (floor and table),
Wall
Chandelier style
Ceiling fans

Selection criteria

The full specification of the selection criteria is given in the attached “Selection Criteria” document.

Evaluation committee

The evaluation panel will be composed of seven individuals including representatives of luminaire manufacturers, ballast manufacturers, lamp manufacturers, energy efficiency organizations, and third party research organizations. Manufacturers represented in the evaluation committee will not be allowed to submit a design.

Competition timetable

August 16, 2004: Competition Announcement

August 27, 2004: Deadline for Intent to Submit Form

September 30, 2004: Deadline for detailed engineering drawing according to selection criteria

October 25, 2004: Notification of winners

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Competition Rules and Regulations

1. The competition is open to all lighting manufacturers, including manufacturers of lamps, ballasts, and luminaires. Student designs will be considered only if submitted in partnership with a manufacturer.
2. The evaluation committee reserves the right to exclude any design from the competition if received after the deadline for submission.
3. The deadline for submission of the “Intent to Submit” form is August 27, 2004. The “Intent to Submit” form should be mailed to Mariana G. Figueiro, Lighting Research Center, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, 21 Union Street, Troy, NY 12180. Each entrant will receive an entrant number within two weeks of submission of the “Intent to Submit” form. This entrant number will be used for their final submission.
4. All correspondence and written material shall be in English.
5. All material submitted to the competition shall be anonymous. The submitted material shall be identified by the entrant number only, and any indication of the name of the individual and/or company submitting the design shall be eliminated.
6. Three copies of Engineering Design Specification Drawings as specified in the Criteria Selection document must be submitted by September 30, 2004. These copies must include a completed label on the back clearly identifying the entrant number (see item 3). There must not be any name of address that could reveal the identity of the participant on the drawings or any submitted material.
7. All entries may be accompanied by a brief description (one or two paragraphs) of the proposed design, estimated production cost, intended target market, and an indication of price range.
8. Materials will not be returned to entrant.
9. Photographs and prototypes are encouraged but not required. These shall be in addition to the detailed engineering drawings.
10. The cost for submitting the designs and prototypes (if applicable) must be borne by the entrant. The competition organizers accept NO responsibility for any loss or damage to drawings, artwork, or any other submitted materials.
11. By submitting an entry in this competition, the entrant certifies that the design is original work of the entrant.
12. The awarded design should have an open protocol and must be available to the public after the competition is completed.
13. No organizer of this competition, evaluator, or any employee from the organizer’s and evaluator’s committee shall compete or provide design assistance to a competitor.
14. The evaluators’ decision on the competition is final, and they will not enter into any correspondence with entrants.
15. The competition organizers reserve the right to cancel the competition at any time for reasons outside our control, without obligation to the entrant, except to return the submitted materials.

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Intent to Submit Form

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

By signing this form I agree to abide by the competition rules and regulations.

Signature _____

Date _____