

# Revising the Lighting Requirements of the New York State ATM Safety Act

The legal requirements of the ATM Safety Act are enforced by the New York State Banking Department using a team of inspectors, with the intention being to inspect every ATM facility once a year.



The results of these inspections show that many ATM facilities fail to meet the requirements of the ATM Safety Act—the most frequent cause of failure being inadequate lighting at 50 feet from the ATM. The outcome of this process of inspection has been a sudden increase of powerful floodlights on or around bank buildings. This in turn has resulted in a rash of complaints from neighbors about light trespass, from customers and drivers about visual discomfort at night, and from municipalities about the inappropriateness of the lighting.



There are 5928 ATMs in 3551 locations in New York State.

This does not include independent ATMs inside stores.

Source: NYS Banking Dept., April 2003



## Proposal

The LRC has proposed modifications to meet several objectives:

- To maintain the level of safety perceived by ATM users to that experienced at ATMs illuminated according to current lighting requirements
- To reduce the visual discomfort experienced by ATM users and drivers passing near the machines
- To reduce light trespass from ATM lighting onto adjacent properties
- To provide a set of lighting recommendations that can be enforced easily
- To provide a set of lighting recommendations that can be met using commercially available equipment

## Recommendations

- Modify the amount of light required by government regulations
- Change the locations where the light is measured

Such recommendations can be used in the design of a lighting installation, and the results can be measured easily on site.

## Sponsor

Independent Bankers Association of New York State



Lighting  
Research Center